

Special Olympics New Mexico

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NEWS RELEASE

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Community raises \$79,200 to support Special Olympics New Mexico at the first-ever Something Special Dinner & Auction

Albuquerque, NM – On June 27, almost 300 people gathered at Sandia Resort & Casino in support of Special Olympics New Mexico (SONM) at the first-ever Something Special Dinner & Auction. Sponsored by New Mexico Chevrolet Dealers, the event, which included a silent and live auction, raised a grand total of \$79,200 for the benefit of SONM's 3,100 athletes.

Attendees were lucky enough to witness a gymnastics routine performed by two Special Olympics World Games athletes and a speech made by an SONM Athlete Leader. Governor Susana Martinez and Lobo Women's Basketball Coach Yvonne Sanchez were among community members who attended the event.

"This event gave us an incredible opportunity to introduce 300 people to Special Olympics New Mexico's athletes and share what our programs do throughout the state," said SONM Executive Director Randy Mascorella. "We are thankful that so many members of our community joined us as we celebrated the abilities of SONM athletes as public speakers, as World Games participants and as productive members of our society."

The funds raised will go directly to SONM's three key initiatives of building inclusive communities, transforming lives through sport and improving quality of life for New Mexico's Special Olympics athletes.

SONM provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. Today, Special Olympics New Mexico serves over 3,100 athletes, offering training and competition in 13 sports. Across the world, more than 3.5 million children and adults with intellectual disabilities participate in more than 200 programs in 180 countries. SONM is sponsored year-round and statewide by New Mexico Knights of Columbus, New Mexico Law Enforcement Torch Run, French Funerals Cremations, Wells Fargo, Mark's Casa, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico, Comcast, New Mexico Chevy Dealers, 7-Eleven and ConocoPhillips.

For more detailed information about Special Olympics New Mexico visit www.sonm.org, or call (505) 856-0342.

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