



Special Olympics
New Mexico



Annual Report 2021

Who We Are

Our Mission

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide 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.

Special Olympics New Mexico continually strives to build inclusive communities, transform lives through sport, and improve the quality of life of our athletes.

Core Values

Unquestionable Integrity

Unwavering Excellence

Unbelievable Fun

Undeniable Respect

Unlimited Family

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Through the power and joy of sport, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are at the heart of all that we do at Special Olympics New Mexico, as we strive to promote unity and create a world where everyone belongs. We value, celebrate, and respect all differences, backgrounds, and perspectives and understand that greater diversity, equity, and inclusion creates a stronger and more innovative organization that delivers better results as we work with our athletes in all communities.

Letter from our Executive Director



In 2021, picking up where we left off in 2019 wasn't as easy as we thought it would be. However, once we were back on the playing fields, it didn't take long to figure out that being together again as Special Olympics New Mexico outweighed the challenges that happened along the way.

Scripture tells us that "whoever brings blessings will be enriched," and for the past 27 years, our organization has witnessed that truth as we have recognized New Mexicans who have made significant contributions to the Special Olympics movement. In 2021, in partnership with the French Family of Companies, we made the decision to honor our award winners in a very special way, hosting our first ever Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon. Despite the limitations due to impacts of the pandemic, the award recipients rose well above the circumstances to move our mission forward in remarkable

ways. It was a meaningful celebration of the power and resiliency of the human spirit, driven by a depth of care and love for Special Olympics New Mexico athletes and families. The Awards Luncheon was memorable and showcased the meaning of serving with tenacity and excellence despite unforeseen circumstances and challenges.

After great anticipation, Special Olympics New Mexico announced the athletes and coaches selected to compete in the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, Florida. With the loss of legislative funding in 2018, New Mexico was not able to participate in the last Special Olympics USA Games, making the announcement even more exciting! The SONM Program staff announced the plan to send four track athletes, four golfers, four swimmers, four bowlers, and four bocce athletes to compete in June 2022. The dreams of each athlete became real when the team met together in Albuquerque to be fitted for their TEAM NEW MEXICO uniforms. At the Team New Mexico meeting in October 2021, SONM athletes learned more about what to expect--including a once in a lifetime experience at Disney World--and the excitement and joy was palpable as Special Olympics USA Games planning and team practices began.

We wrapped up 2021 with a SONM Board of Director's meeting and retreat that was educational and served to articulate our organization's strength of leadership and culture. With several new board members attending, each member shared why they joined and what Special Olympics means to them. The afternoon retreat gave staff the chance to step away from their daily work to depict their roles and responsibilities to the Board. Our mission and a passion for Special Olympics athletes shined through as each person explained their role within the organization. We left the meeting proud of 2021 accomplishments and looking forward to a strong year ahead in 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy L. MASCORELLA".

Randy Mascorella

Sports and Competition

By the Numbers

In 2021, **3737 Special Olympics athletes** participated in Special Olympics New Mexico sports programming.

395 coaches supported Special Olympics New Mexico throughout the year and **827 Unified partners** participated in Unified sports.



2021 Statewide Competition Seasons

Virtual Winter Games: January–February

Virtual Summer Games: May–July

Four Corners Invitational: June – August (First in-person event)

Fall Sports Virtual Games: August–October

State Equestrian: September–October. Area Competitions were held but State Equestrian was cancelled due to a Covid outbreak in Curry County.

State Bowling Tournament: September–November (Second in-person event)

Sports and Competition

Due to ongoing restrictions and Covid protocols, the 2021 competition season began with the Virtual Winter Games, followed by the Virtual Summer Games. The 2021 SONM Four Corners Invitational was the first in-person event hosted since early 2020. This competition traditionally features aquatics, golf, and softball. Aquatics was not offered in 2021 due to Covid protocols. Instead, SONM offered doubles bocce in its place. Even with the differences, this was our first attempt at offering in-person training and competition and by all accounts, it was a success. In October, Special Olympics New Mexico announced the team of Special Olympics athletes who would attend the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, Florida. We announced a total of 18 athletes—including 4 athletics athletes, 4 bocce athletes, 4 bowling athletes, 4 swimming athletes, and 2 golf athletes—to make up Team New Mexico. To round out the end of 2021, we offered a Fall Sports Virtual Games followed by the State Bowling Tournament—our second in-person event. Though 2021 looked different than a typical year at Special Olympics New Mexico, we found success in continuing to serve more than 3,700 athletes throughout the year as well as offering competition seasons year-round despite the continued challenges of the pandemic.



Athletics



Basketball



Bocce



Bowling



Equestrian



Fitness



Golf



Poly Hockey



Softball



Volleyball



Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools®

2021-2022

As schools in New Mexico shifted back to in-person learning, we were able to get back to playing Unified Sports equipped with the knowledge and skills acquired while teaching students virtually. Unified Sports have always been the backbone of Unified Champion Schools® (UCS) programming, but virtual learning allowed us to focus on the Unified Leadership component of the program as students were able to take ownership of portions of virtual programming. We went back to in-person learning meeting the needs of the whole student (social, emotional, and physical) within the program.

This year we celebrated a lot of big accomplishments, especially considering the circumstances. We recognized Mayfield High School as one of the ESPN Top 5 Programs in the nation out of more than 9,000 participating schools. We saw more schools across New Mexico create a club structure for the program, as well as more Unified PE classes that students could enroll in. More school districts are seeing the benefits that Unified Champion Schools brings to all students. As schools get more comfortable with UCS programming and invest more into it, we hope to eventually reach every school in our state.

UCS Data 2021-2022

36 total schools:

16 elementary schools,
including 1 preschool
8 middle schools
9 high schools
1 college
2 alternative schools

5 school districts:

Farmington
Bloomfield
Rio Rancho
Albuquerque
Las Cruces

Total number of people:

273 athletes
335 Unified partners



About Unified Champion Schools®

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools® is a strategy for schools Pre-K through university that intentionally promotes meaningful social inclusion by bringing together students with and without intellectual disabilities (ID) to create accepting school environments. This 3 component model includes: Special Olympics Unified Sports®, inclusive youth leadership, and whole school engagement.

Special Olympics Health

In 2021, our health programming focused on inclusive health and Athlete Leadership, empowering Special Olympics athletes to become Health Messengers and Fitness Captains.

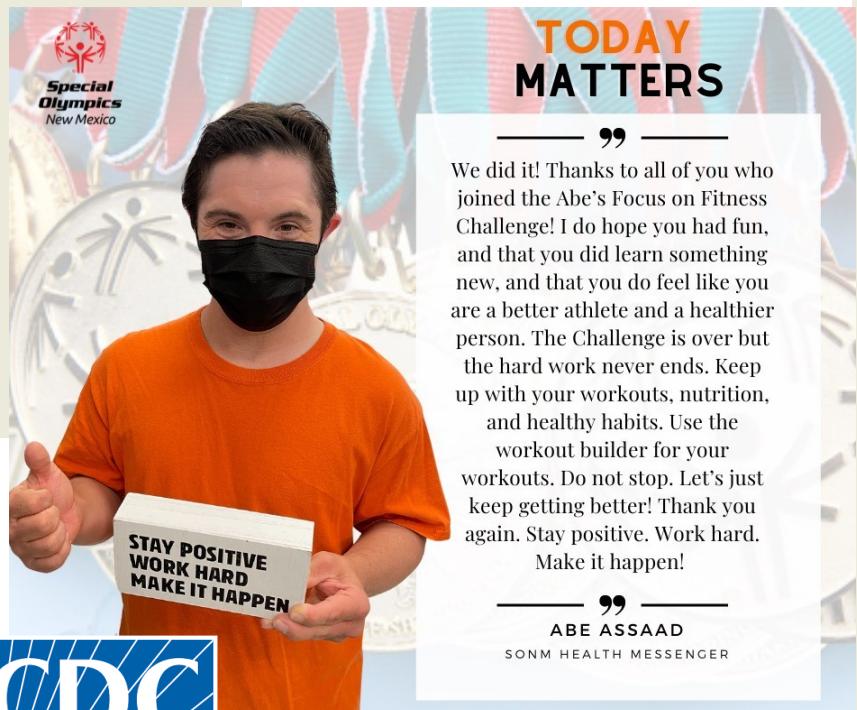
SONM Health Messengers were trained to write articles for the SO Brief and to manage the SONM Health and Wellness Facebook Group. Health Messengers shared information throughout the year regarding healthy choices while eating, Covid immunization, preventative health tips, and fitness activities. In 2021, we offered our first fitness challenge created by a Health Messenger! Abe's Focus on Fitness Challenge lasted 6 weeks, and Abe created and presented videos throughout the challenge to keep Special Olympics athletes motivated and inspired.

We continued to offer stimulating information and activities via our Health and Wellness Facebook Group, including monthly Bingo and Craft Nights throughout most of the year.

As we returned to in-person Special Olympics training and competition for our softball and bowling seasons, we trained Special Olympics athletes to become Fitness Captains. Fitness Captains are athlete leaders trained to offer health and fitness motivation and help lead their team through warm-up exercises.

Health & Wellness Highlights

- 2 Health Messengers trained and activated.
- SONM Health and Wellness Facebook Group active and managed by Health Messengers.
- Abe's Focus on Fitness 6 week challenge, created by Health Messenger Abe Assaad.
- Over 400 Special Olympics New Mexico athletes engaged in Health and Wellness activities.



New Mexico Law Enforcement Torch Run

A year after the initial impact caused by COVID-19 that cancelled the majority of our Law Enforcement Torch Run community policing and fundraising activities, our agencies had almost an immediate bounce back to in-person events that navigated around softer restrictions in their respective communities.

While remaining in compliance with local and state health orders, LETR agencies raised our Flame of Hope even higher to not only surpass our fundraising outcome in 2020, but to carry our program past the \$200,000 mark—earning the LETR International Sapphire Award for fundraising excellence by a state program.

From parking lot drive-thru Krispy Kreme sales in Farmington to statewide golf tournaments in Rio Rancho and Carlsbad, agencies planned and organized both traditional and non-traditional fundraising events to help prepare Special Olympics New Mexico's sport program for a tip-toe return to in-person sports training and competition. A major fundraising highlight came from our Southeastern New Mexico LETR Region where program-newcomer Lea County Sheriff's Department hosted their first annual Lea County Family Festival in Hobbs. Working alongside multiple local municipal, state, and tribal agencies in their county, LCSD offered a fun-filled day raising funds and awareness for Special Olympics New Mexico featuring a 5K race, dunk tanks, BBQ, and plenty of LETR merchandise to sell to locals. In just its first year, the event raised over \$18,000 with promises from participating law enforcement agencies to come back bigger and better next year.



2021 NMLET R By the Numbers

- **70** NMLET R agencies
- **20** Annual agency fundraising activities
- **\$203,417** Agency Fundraising Revenue
- **\$7,000** Sponsorship Revenue
- **\$210,417** Total funds raised

"2021 gave us so much to be thankful for coming off a hard year prior due to the pandemic. Our returning LETR agencies led by our tireless Regional Coordinators and LETR staff rebounded from a struggling fundraising year with limited activity to over \$200,000 raised last year from over 20 LETR agency activities. We lost a few agencies due to normal leadership changes, but we added even more agencies thanks to the success and positive impact of LETR within the active agencies and our local communities. This earned us a return to receiving the Sapphire Award for fundraising excellence presented by our LETR International Council, which is a symbol of our devotion to our athletes here in New Mexico."

--Ben Sanchez (retired), LETR State Director
Rio Rancho Police Department



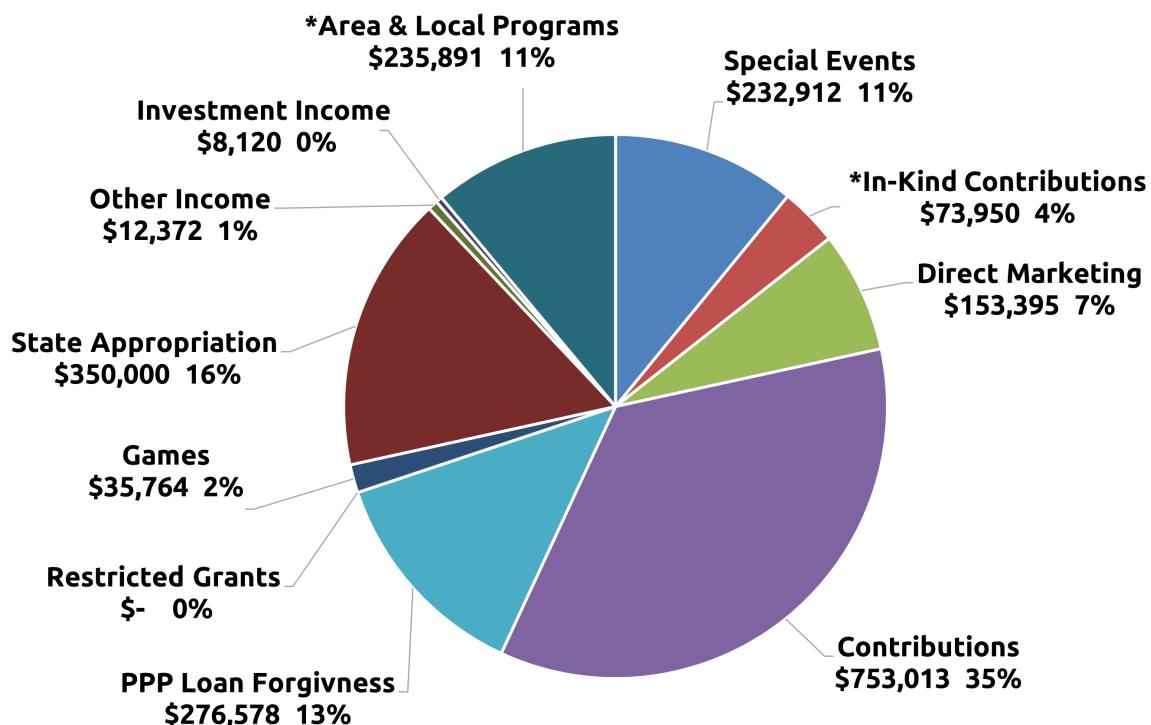
2021 Financials

"Special Olympics New Mexico continued to have good controls and maintain financial stability during another unpredictable pandemic year. With the help of the federal government's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), we were able to keep all of our staff employed. In 2021, program expenses continued to be unusually low, as face to face training and competition was not available for much of the year. We remain grateful to our staff, board of directors, donors, and key volunteers throughout the state who remained creative in continuing their commitment to the athletes and families of SONM."

- Dacia Card, Treasurer, SONM Board of Directors



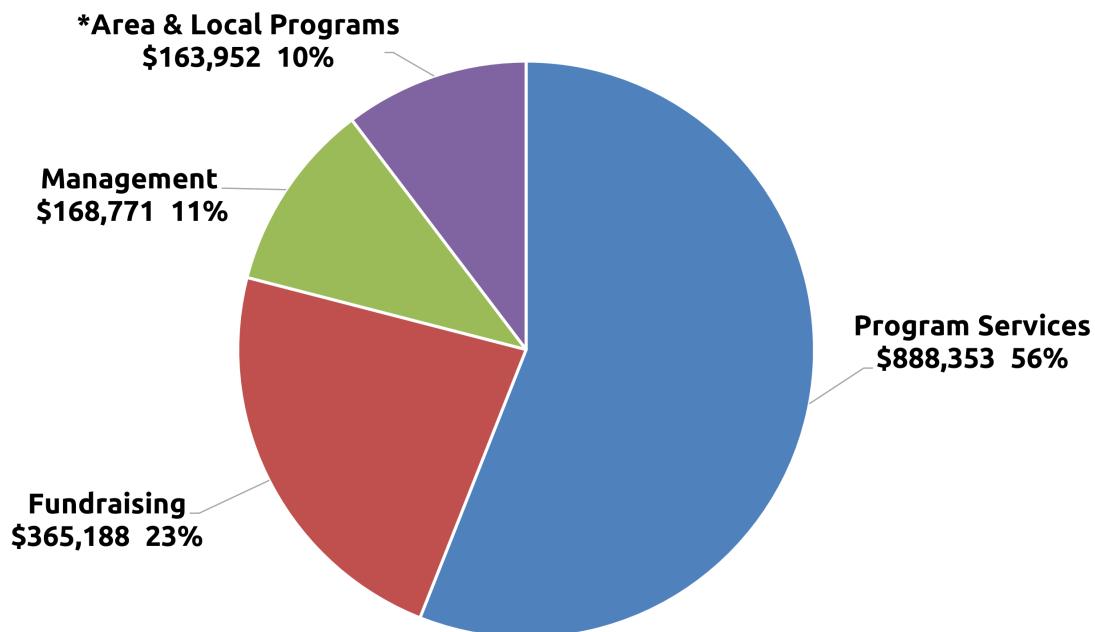
2021 Funding Sources: \$2,131,995



*In-Kind Contributions include donated services and products

*Area/Local Revenue - Dollars raised by 76 Local and Area Programs

2021 Expenses: \$1,586,254



*76 Area and Local Programs Statewide

Assets

Current Assets

Cash & Cash equivalents	\$1,707,787
Investments	\$935,898
Accounts Receivable	\$89,758
Inventory	N/A
Prepaid Expenses	\$10,353
Property & Equipment	\$20,312
Assets held for sale	N/A
Total Assets	\$2,764,108

Liabilities & Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$2,646
Accrued Liabilities	\$11,291
Deferred Revenue	\$29,565
Lease Payable	\$4,715
Paycheck Protection Program (PPP Loan)	N/A
Capital Lease Obligation (Long Term)	\$10,758
Total Liabilities	\$58,975

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$2,029,753
Permanently Restricted	\$675,380
With Donor Restrictions	N/A
Total Net Assets	\$2,764,108

2021 Sponsors

Hall of Fame Sponsors contributed \$20,000 or more in 2021



**BlueCross BlueShield
of New Mexico**

A Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company,
an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Victory Sponsors contributed \$10,000 or more in 2021



2021 Special Olympics New Mexico Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Chairman, Dub Girand

President, Highway Supply, LLC

Vice Chairman, Warren Ellis

Managing Partner, Mass Mutual Financial Group

Second Vice Chairman, Ryan Danoff

Attorney, Michael L. Danoff & Assoc. P.C.

Treasurer, Dacia Card

Business Manager, Sandia Preparatory School

Secretary, Kari Harnick

Orthodontist, Harnick Orthodontics

Board Members

Steve Pino

Chief Financial Officer, Century Service Corporation

Consuelo Bolagh-Cowder

Community Relations, BlueCross and BlueShield of New Mexico

Blake Brown

Past President, Rudy's BBQ & Country Store

Sarah Friedman

Special Olympics Athlete, Academy Chargers

Ryan Garcia

SVP, Sr. Commercial Loan Officer, Century Bank

Board Members Continued

Nikki Hooser

Retired Rancher

Connie Johnson

Retired Residential Realtor

Art Montoya

Owner, Dr. Art Montoya Jr. DDS

Mark Wiggins

Retired Business Owner

Honorary Board Members

Tom Padilla

Senior VP, HUB International

Jack Eichorn

Owner, The Eichorn Company

"As our community learned to live in the pandemic, Special Olympics New Mexico continued to focus on how and when to return to in-person competition. Although smaller in number and with safeguards and protocols in place, we returned to Farmington in August for the Four Corners Invitational, our Unified golf and Unified softball competition. The level of enthusiasm was palpable. Everyone was elated to finally be back together again. We remain thankful to our coaches, community partners, and staff for standing shoulder to shoulder during what was a difficult two years. Thanks to everyone who has helped Special Olympics New Mexico emerge more grateful than ever."

- Dub Girand, Chairman, Special Olympics New Mexico Board of Directors

2021 Champions Together Giving Society

The Champions Together Giving Society was created in November of 2014 and is made up of individuals who have invested in the vision of Special Olympics New Mexico by pledging their support over a five-year time period. We are profoundly grateful for the commitment the following donors have shown as we strive to transform lives through sport, build inclusive communities, and improve quality of life for our athletes.

Marc Arellano	Nikki Hooser & Kathy Longinaker	Susan Jane Schuman
Kirsten Beach & Camille Armijo	Tommy & Karen Hudson	Stan & Karen Sluder
Cris Beck	Terry & Connie Johnson	Andrew & Linda Spangler
Steve & Jolene Benoit	Erick & Leah Johnson	Kumiko & Jay Styes
Ann Cadier Kim & Patrick Magee	Thad & Andrea Johnson	Duffy & Jean Ann Swan
Bret & Consuelo Bolagh-Cowder	Chris & Julie Keller	Alan & Jill Tatz
Donald & Gustenia Bonner	April & Juan Leon Guerrero	Andrew & Heather Van Luchene
Blake Brown	Gary & Thoula Mallory	Mark & D'ette Wiggins
Rob & Chris Butler	Randy Mascarella	Marcus Wiggins
Jack Eichorn	Marc McGranahan	Miguel & Gabby Wiggins
Warren & Julia Ellis	Dale & Norma McLaughlin	Joe & Cindi Wittenbrink
Cole & Kelcy Flanagan	Bob & Sarah McMahon	
Dub & Robin Girand	Millie McMahon	
Kari Graeber	Art, Marilyn & Addy Montoya	
Martha Greenleaf	Bob and Betsy Murphy	
David Harnick	Pat & Norma Nye	
Keith & Jeannie Harris	Terry & Sissy Othick	
Scott & Suzie Havemann	Karen Pace	
Scooter Haynes & Julia Maccini	Tom & Kimberly Padilla	
Jim Hering & Janice Honeycutt Hering	Randy & Laurel Perkins	
Freddie & Christine Hidalgo	Steve & Cara Pino	
Dave & Rhonda Hill	Steve & Julie Potter	
Sam & Judy Honegger	Jon & Karen Rau	
	Judy Rowley	
	John & Susie Sandager	

State Office Staff

Randy Mascarella

Executive Director

Brittany Scanlon

Corporate Relations & Events Manager

Chris Page

Director of Sports Competition & Program

Oscar Solis

Director of Operations, Law Enforcement Torch Run

Jena Waddell

Assistant Sports Director

Barbara McRae

Agency Manager, Law Enforcement Torch Run

Victoria Martinez

Director of School & Community Initiatives

Rebecca Rainsberger

Marketing & Communications Manager

Rebecca Evans

Unified Champion Schools Program Manager

Scott Hardy

Information Resources & Office Manager

Christine Hidalgo

Director of Development & Individual Giving

Kumiko Styes

Director of Finance

Area Directors

Debra Lisenbee

Area 1 Director, Farmington

Carolyn Olson

Area 4 Director, Carlsbad

Anna Silva & Cindy Varela

Area 2 Directors, Santa Fe

Jena Waddell

Area 5 Director, Albuquerque

Ronda Norfleet

Area 3 Director, Las Cruces

Janie Lee Hall

Area 6 Director, Gallup

Printed by:

GREETINGS, ETC. INC. DESIGN | PRINT | MAIL

