

## ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR STATE SUMMER GAMES*** ***Join us, and "Leave A Mark"!***

(Springfield) Special Olympics Missouri (SOMO) is recruiting individuals to volunteer for the 2009 State Summer Games, May 28 - 30, at Missouri State University and Drury University.

The State Summer Games will bring more than 2,000 athletes and coaches from across the state to Springfield. Competition events include five summer sports: athletics (track and field), aquatics, powerlifting, soccer and bocce. The Games kick off on Thursday, May 28 with Opening Ceremonies at Plaster Sports Complex beginning at 7:30 p.m. Competition will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 28 at Practice Band Field, 7:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, May 29 at Plaster Sports Complex, Plaster Student Union Theatre and Drury University Breech Pool and 7:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Saturday, May 30 at Plaster Sports Complex. Special Events include Healthy Athletes Park and a Victory Dance on Thursday, May 29 at Freddy Quad.

Volunteers play an enormously important role in the success of this event. There are a wide variety of opportunities available including scorekeepers, awards announcers, athlete escorts, water crews, Victory Village booth workers, Opening Ceremonies set up and much more. Most volunteer shifts include a minimum four-hour commitment, and each volunteer receives a complimentary T-shirt along with a very rewarding experience. Go to [www.somo.org](http://www.somo.org) for a complete listing of volunteer jobs and shifts.

There are two ways to register for the State Summer Games: register online at [www.somo.org/fan](http://www.somo.org/fan), or call 1-800-846-2682 to register by phone. For questions regarding volunteer opportunities at the 2009 State Summer Games, please contact Ashley Dawson, Volunteer Coordinator, at 1-800-846-2682 or [dawson@somo.org](mailto:dawson@somo.org).

Opportunities are still available to sponsor this event, where more than 4,000 competitors and fans are expected to be in attendance. Sponsorships offer very valuable marketing benefits to companies and organizations. For a complete sponsorship package, please contact Susan Stegeman, 800-846-2682 or [stegeman@somo.org](mailto:stegeman@somo.org). Our presenting sponsors are: Cox Health, Southwest Dairy Farmers, Springfield News-Leader, KSPR, Clear Channel Radio and Knights of Columbus.

Special Olympics Missouri is a year-round program of sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with mental disabilities. More than 15,000 athletes participate in 21 Olympic-type sports throughout the state. Special Olympics provides people with mental disabilities continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with their fellow athletes, their family and friends, and communities across Missouri.

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