

Special Olympics Kansas

www.kssso.org



**Special
Olympics**
Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

DATE: December 27, 2016
CONTACT: Donna Zimmerman
PHONE: 913.236.9290 ext. 112
E-MAIL: pr@kssso.org

SPECIAL OLYMPICS KANSAS RECEIVES WALMART FOUNDATION GRANT TO PROVIDE HEALTH SCREENINGS

Mission, KS - Special Olympics Kansas announced that the Walmart Foundation Kansas State Giving Program has provided a \$30,000 grant to help fund the Healthy Athletes program. Chris Hahn, President & CEO of Special Olympics Kansas stated, "We are extremely pleased to announce the grant from Walmart to assist with this particular program of Special Olympics Kansas. Walmart has recognized the value of this initiative and funding will greatly enhance our ability to impact athletes statewide".

Special Olympics Healthy Athletes helps athletes to improve their training and competition by focusing on overall health and fitness. This is achieved through basic health screenings, provision of preventative and treatment services, educational information and referrals for follow-up care. Athletes have enhanced sports experiences and improved well-being as a result of receiving critical health services through Healthy Athletes programming

Healthy Athlete programs will also include curriculum such as proper exercise, nutrition and lifestyle choices for athletes. The target population of SOKS is people with intellectual disabilities, which range in age 8-80, across all socioeconomic backgrounds in each county in Kansas, plus their supporters, including parents, guardians and community organizations.

"Walmart and the Walmart Foundation understand that local nonprofits are vital to building stronger and more vibrant communities," said Terry Nannie, Walmart vice president regional general manager. "We are proud to support Special Olympics Kansas and their mission to provide athletic opportunities to individuals with developmental disabilities, and we look forward to their continued good work with the Healthy Athletes program."

For more information about the Healthy Athletes program, contact Terri Price at Special Olympics Kansas, pricet@kssso.org Additional information about Special Olympics Kansas and programs are available at www.kssso.org

About Special Olympics Kansas:

Energized by the pride and power of teamwork, Special Olympics Kansas provides individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to be an athlete, and more, through achievement, acceptance, inclusion, physical fitness, health and nutrition programs and leadership development.

About Philanthropy at Walmart:

By using our strengths to help others, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation create opportunities for people to live better every day. We have stores in 28 countries, employing more than 2.2 million associates and doing business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. We are helping people live better by accelerating upward job mobility and economic development for the retail workforce; addressing hunger and making healthier, more sustainably-grown food a reality; and building strong communities where we operate and inspiring our associates to give back. Whether it is helping to lead the fight against hunger in the United States with \$2 billion in cash and in-kind donations or supporting Women's Economic Empowerment through a series of grants totaling \$10 million to the Women in Factories training program in Bangladesh, China, India and Central America, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are not only working to tackle key social issues, we are also collaborating with others to inspire solutions for long-lasting systemic change. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit www.foundation.walmart.com.

###