



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Snohomish County, Washington**

**RESOLUTION NO. 22-037**

**HONORING SPECIAL OLYMPICS WASHINGTON AND RECOGNIZING ITS  
NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**WHEREAS**, Special Olympics is a global organization that serves athletes with intellectual disabilities working with hundreds of thousands of volunteers and coaches each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Special Olympics experience fills a critical need in the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for physical activity, social interaction, and the demonstration of competence to themselves, their families and community; and

**WHEREAS**, people with intellectual disabilities are often denied health services, despite severe need and higher health risks. Special Olympics Washington is the largest provider of healthcare to these athletes and have started health initiatives including: Fit 5, SOFit, and Healthy Athletes Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Special Olympics Washington would not exist today, nor be as successful as it is, without the thousands of volunteers who dedicate their time, talents, energy and especially their enthusiasms to making the world a more inclusive and accepting place; and

**WHEREAS**, volunteers are fundamental to every Special Olympics program and event, volunteer opportunities range from coaching and program management positions to event volunteers. There is a place for everyone to help at all types of events, times, and locations. This year the Spring Games will need 2,200 volunteers over the course of the weekend event; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2022 Washington State Spring Games will host more than 1,800 athletes, unified partners and coaches from around the state competing in Athletics, Soccer, Swimming, Powerlifting, and Cycling and be held at Pacific Lutheran University, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and King County Aquatics Center in Tacoma from June 17-June 19, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, Team Washington will be competing in the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, Florida, June 5-12, 2022, including the following from Snohomish County: a basketball team from Lynnwood, 5 Special Olympic athletes, 5 unified partners, 2 coaches, 5 individuals competing in Bowling, Golf, Powerlifting, and 2 in Swimming. Snohomish County Council recognizes their high achievement and wishes these athletes the very best; and

**WHEREAS**, registration is open for volunteering at Spring season competitions and a NW regional summer softball tournament held at Kasch Park by visiting [www.sowa.org](http://www.sowa.org). In most cases, experience is not needed, and training will be provided no matter what role you are in;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Snohomish County Council recognizes the positive impact of Special Olympics in our community and encourages residents to consider becoming involved and volunteering with Special Olympics.

**APPROVED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2022.**

**Megan Dunn**  
Council Chair

**Jared Mead**  
Council Vice-Chair

**Stephanie Wright**  
Councilmember

**Sam Low**  
Councilmember

**Nate Nehring**  
Councilmember

ATTEST:

**Debbie Eco, CMC**  
Clerk of the Council