



Hello,

2023 marks the 39th anniversary of the Maine Law Enforcement Torch run for Special Olympics. This grassroots campaign is the largest annual fundraising event for Special Olympics Maine. In 2022 over 600 members of Maine Law Enforcement raised close to \$300,000 to help support our program. 100% of monies raised stays here in Maine to benefit our over 5000 athletes!

Special Olympics is a year-round athletic training and sports competition program for adults and children with intellectual disabilities. In addition to sports, Special Olympics Maine also provides numerous social opportunities, inclusive health screenings, athlete leadership positions, self-esteem building, choice, a four season, lake front camp (Camp Tall Pines) for our athletes, and the chance to develop friendships that will last a lifetime. Hosting 18 “state level” sports competitions during the year and over 70 additional “Area” events, there is no off season.

With an annual budget of upwards of \$1.5MM, Special Olympics Maine relies on the generosity of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers. Without the Law Enforcement Torch Run, we could not offer all we do to those who depend on us.

As part of the Torch Run, the officers and participants are each given a shirt to not only wear during the actual run in June, but to also be worn at state and local events that they attend as volunteers. One example would be our tip-a-cop events. These events are held throughout the year at several well-known restaurants in Maine. Officers will wear the LETR shirts to events like these as we feel the shirts are an important public awareness tool for our program. When people find out that Police Officers support Special Olympic athletes, they in turn want to be part of that support. We typically give out 650-750 runner shirts each year. The shirts get a lot of exposure.

We are hoping that you will consider becoming a 2023 Torch Run-runner shirt sponsor. And we are asking businesses to sponsor our shirts at one of three donation levels listed below. In return, we would like to put your business name/logo on the back of our shirts.

Gold Level: \$2500-logo will appear across the top/back and be larger than other logos.

Silver: \$1500-logo will be mid-size and appear in the middle/back of the shirt.

Bronze: \$1000 logo will be smaller and will appear across the lower/back of the shirt.

Your generosity and support of the Maine Law Enforcement Torch Run and Special Olympics Maine would be greatly appreciated. On behalf of our more than 5000 Special Olympics Maine athletes and 700 members of our LETR, thank you for taking the time to read about our program and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phil

Philip R. Geelhoed
Pres & CEO
Special Olympics Maine