



Targeting youth:

Special Olympics believes that young people with and without intellectual disability are both major human resources for leadership skills and key champions for social change and involvement. Enabling participation of young people through the youth summit, unified sports, implication, volunteering...derives the benefits of their energy, idealism, unique perspectives and innovative ideas.

Young people are the best to know the issues affecting them and therefore they are an integral part of the movement. Special Olympics believes that young people must be engaged in the decision making process as the program grows to over three million athletes by 2010. As a result, Young people are encouraged to make a commitment to spread SO messages so that the next generation will inherit a more socially aware and responsive world.

Special Olympics **believes** that youth can make a difference in friendships, schools and communities;

Special Olympics **recognizes** that through sports training and competition, people with intellectual disabilities inspire hope, dignity, and courage;

Special Olympics **invites** youth to understand and to value their peers with intellectual disabilities and empowers youth to create opportunities for and with them in friendships through sport.

How to involve your students:

Special Olympics counts on youth to make the world a better one. How they can be involved?



EDUCATE - MOTIVATE - ACTIVATE

- Stop the use of the R-word (retarded) and do research to propose alternative term (in Arabic language). [Spread the word to end the word \(retarded\) global campaign will be held on 3/10/10 next spring; contribute five minutes and sign the pledge to stop using "retard" as an insult;](#)
- Volunteer to coach, to train, to help in any way you found fit;
- Do awareness campaign on campus focusing on themes of acceptance, understanding and human dignity;
- Ask from your graphic designer students to do brochures, posters even documentaries on Special Olympics (SO) for the national program;
- Join the [unified sports](#) team: SO "Unified Sports[®]" program combines SO athletes and athletes from your university on sports teams for training and competition in football and basketball;
- Organize youth summit to tackle issues of acceptance and attitude change. [Special Olympics conducts Youth Summits with the belief that young people are not just the leaders of the future; they can be leaders today in their universities, their communities and around the world. Youth Summits provide opportunities to channel the energies of exemplary young people;](#)
- Encourage youth to join our fan community [and submit photos, video, blogs online](#), showing their involvement with Special Olympics; on the website www.specialolympics.org.
- Help us in the [fundraising](#) process to keep Special Olympics programs going;
- Even do research on youth perception for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and attitude change inside campus. Following research results, propose an action plan, very important step;
- Start a club at the university which will be the outcome of the here above listed calls to action. SO College utilizes the energy of young people, such as yourself, to create and enhance opportunities for volunteerism, advocacy and local fundraising activities on university campuses ([refer to SO College on our website](#)).

ACCEPTANCE
Be a fan of
PASSION **RESPECT** **UNITY**
HUMANITY