

THE BENEFITS OF WHAT WE DO

Community Impact. Positive transformation is catalyzed through local, grassroots law enforcement/ Special Olympics activities which ultimately result in a more inclusive, civil and just society overall.

Connectedness. Law enforcement, athletes, local governments, civic organizations, educators, business and volunteers come together in a unified manner to make a positive impact on all people -- with and without intellectual disabilities -- and on the community as a whole.

Pride. Law enforcement's partnering with Special Olympics and volunteering to make a difference create a heightened sense of merit, dignity, self-respect and self-esteem for law enforcement in general and for the participating individual officers in particular.

Gratification. Law enforcement participation at all levels provide a sense of achievement above and beyond the cornal call of duty as officers help champion opportunities for and showcase the capabilities of people with intellectual disabilities.

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To learn more about the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Torch Run or how to get your agency involved, email info@sook.org or visit www.sook.org



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LAW ENFORCEMENT
TORCH RUN
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS
OKLAHOMA

WHO WE ARE

The Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) is the largest public awareness vehicle and grass-roots fundraiser for Special Olympics. The Law Enforcement Torch Run of Oklahoma was started in 1986. There are currently over 183 participating agencies in Oklahoma who in 2019, raised more than \$500,000 for Special Olympics Oklahoma through merchandise sales and local fundraising events.

WHAT WE DO

LETR for Special Olympics Oklahoma engages law enforcement statewide championing acceptance and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities, starting first with their own communities. Over the years, the Torch Run has evolved and now encompasses a variety of innovative fundraising platforms to include Polar Plunges, Tip-A-Cops and more.

WHY WE DO IT

Through the partnership of LETR and Special Olympics Oklahoma, we provide opportunities for athletes to empower and transform themselves, their communities and the world. The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. LETR is changing the future for people with intellectual disabilities and lighting the way for acceptance and inclusion.



COMMUNITY POLICING

An ongoing challenge for law enforcement agencies is creating a positive image and developing working relationships within the community. Being a part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run is a great opportunity for your agency to promote community policing, and some of those benefits include:

- Improved agency image
- Positive media exposure
- Accomplish community goals
- Leadership development for personnel
- Increased employee morale



CLEET CLASSES

Oklahoma's Law Enforcement Torch Run offers free CLEET-certified continuing education classes for law enforcement agencies across the state. This class is a great way to learn more about the Law Enforcement Torch Run and Special Olympics Oklahoma, while also completing four mandatory education hours. Topics in the course will include the history of the Law Enforcement Torch Run, international and state program information, fundraising possibilities and tips on how to motivate your agency employees and community members to become more involved in Torch Run events.

OUR HISTORY

The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 when Wichita, Kansas Police Chief Richard LaMunyon conceived the Torch Run as a way to involve local law enforcement personnel in the community and to support Special Olympics Kansas. After three years of successful Torch Runs in Kansas, LaMunyon presented the program to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). With IACP's enthusiastic support and leadership, as well as the involvement of all facets of the law enforcement community -- sheriffs' association, police unions, state, county, municipal, military and federal law enforcement, and corrections officers -- the Torch Run is now active in 42 countries around the world.

