



Special Olympics and DC Lion's Heart Foundation Empower a "Unified Generation" as part of Special Olympics 50th Anniversary

The DC Lion's Heart Foundation is proud to partner with Special Olympics to celebrate the movement's 50th Anniversary - marking a half century of concerted action to forge increased social inclusion through the power of sport. Together, DC Lion's Heart Foundation and Special Olympics are deeply committed to creating meaningful and sustained positive impact in the lives of marginalized populations worldwide by challenging the world to think differently about ability and encouraging an acceptance of difference.

The transformation of Special Olympics

Over in the past half century, Special Olympics has transformed from being a movement *for* people with intellectual disabilities to becoming a movement *from* them. Special Olympics athletes are now the ones who are extending their hands of inclusion to a wider community of citizens through inclusive youth development and inclusive, Unified Sports programming.



2018 Special Olympics Global Youth Leadership Forum Baku, Azerbaijan – 24-28 September



As part of Special Olympics 50th anniversary celebrations, Special Olympics and the DC Lion's Heart Foundation will partner to implement the **2018 Special Olympics Global Youth Leadership Forum**, representing a dynamic opportunity to formally engage the DC Lion's Heart Foundation in a premier global convening of the Special Olympics movement. Supported by the national government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Forum will bring together youth leaders from across the world to design and implement social impact projects focused on

inclusive programming and advocacy in their home countries. The Forum is positioned to propel scaled action by youth leaders of all abilities that breaks down barriers of exclusion and replaces them with core values of acceptance, solidarity, and a celebration of diversity.

Special Olympics is grateful for the ongoing support of the DC Lion's Heart Foundation, and welcomes the opportunity to collaborate on this special event which will empower a truly Unified Generation!