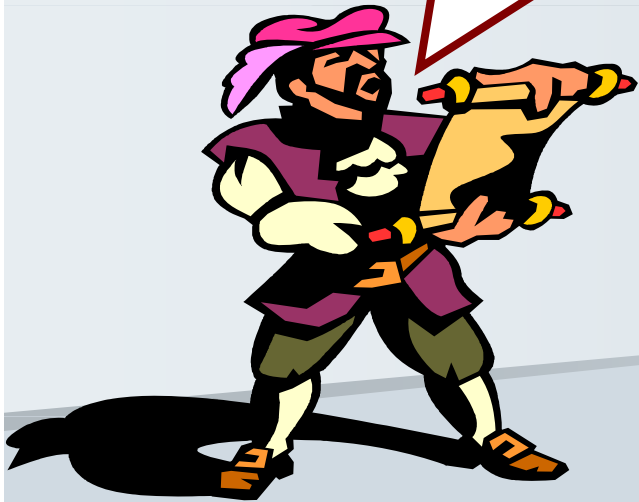


Welcome:

"Town Hall Public Open Forum"

Special Olympics Virginia Area 6"



Special Olympics
Virginia

Area 6

Information about...

1. What is “Special Olympics”
2. Who are “Special Olympics Athletes”
3. Who is eligible to be a “Special Olympics Athlete”
4. How is this program free to it’s Athletes and Volunteers
5. Where does the money to run the program come from
6. How the program can help you or someone you know
7. When and how can you or someone you know get involved;

As athlete, a volunteer or supporter

8. Why you or someone you know should get involved
9. How the program can change the lives of all those involved

A Penny for your Thoughts



Background

- It all began in the early 1960s,
- When [Eunice Kennedy Shriver](#) saw how unjustly and unfairly people with intellectual disabilities were treated.
- She saw that many children with special needs didn't have a place to play.
- She decided to take action.

Background

- “In 1962 She held a summer day camp for young people with intellectual disabilities in her own backyard.
- The goal was to learn what these children could do in sports and other activities –
- Rather than dwell on what they could not do”.

Background

- In her remarks at that first events Opening Ceremony, she said
 - “these inaugural Special Olympics prove
 - a very fundamental fact
 - children with intellectual disabilities can be exceptional athletes and that through sports they can realize their potential for growth.”
 - She pledged that this new organization, Special Olympics,
 - “would offer people with intellectual disabilities everywhere:
 - the chance to play,
 - the chance to compete
 - and the chance to grow.”

Her Vision Begins



Special Olympics Today

- Is a global movement
- Creating a world of inclusion and community,
- Every single person is accepted and welcomed
 - Regardless of ability or disability.
- Making the world a better, healthier and more joyful place
 - One athlete,
 - One volunteer,
 - One family member at a time

The Real Impact of our Program

- Acceptance
- Tolerance
- Diversity



Her son Tim Shriver is the chairman and CEO of the Special Olympics. A nephew of John, Robert and Ted Kennedy, one of the preeminent -- almost mythic -- families in modern politics.

The Scope of the Program

■ Global Program

- Special Olympics has active programs in over 170 countries
- More than 3.4 million athletes
- 30 sports offered by Special Olympics

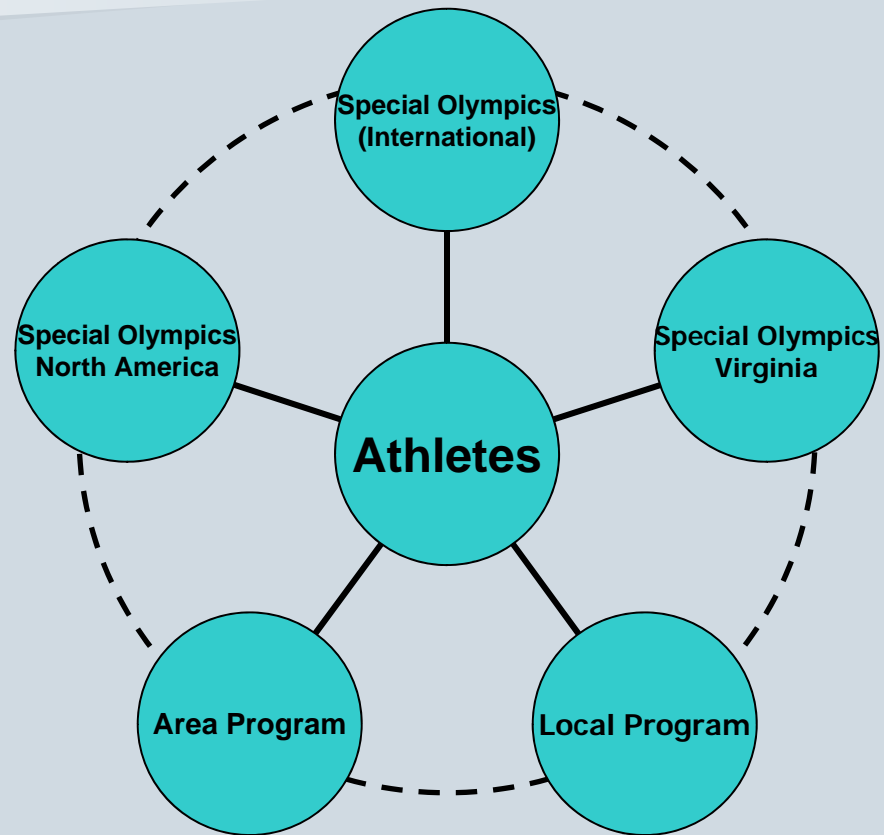
■ North America

- North America has 544,581 athletes
- Canada, the Caribbean and the United States

■ Virginia

- More than 10,000 athletes
- Seven regional offices
- 30 area programs

Circle of Support



KEY SOVA STAFF

- **Rick Jeffrey**, President
- **Dave Pawlowski**, Vice President of Program
- **Val Reinford**, Vice President Local Program Services
- **Tina Andes**, James River Region Director

Area 6 Program

1. Amelia County

2. Chesterfield County

- Community Based
- School Based

3. Powhatan County

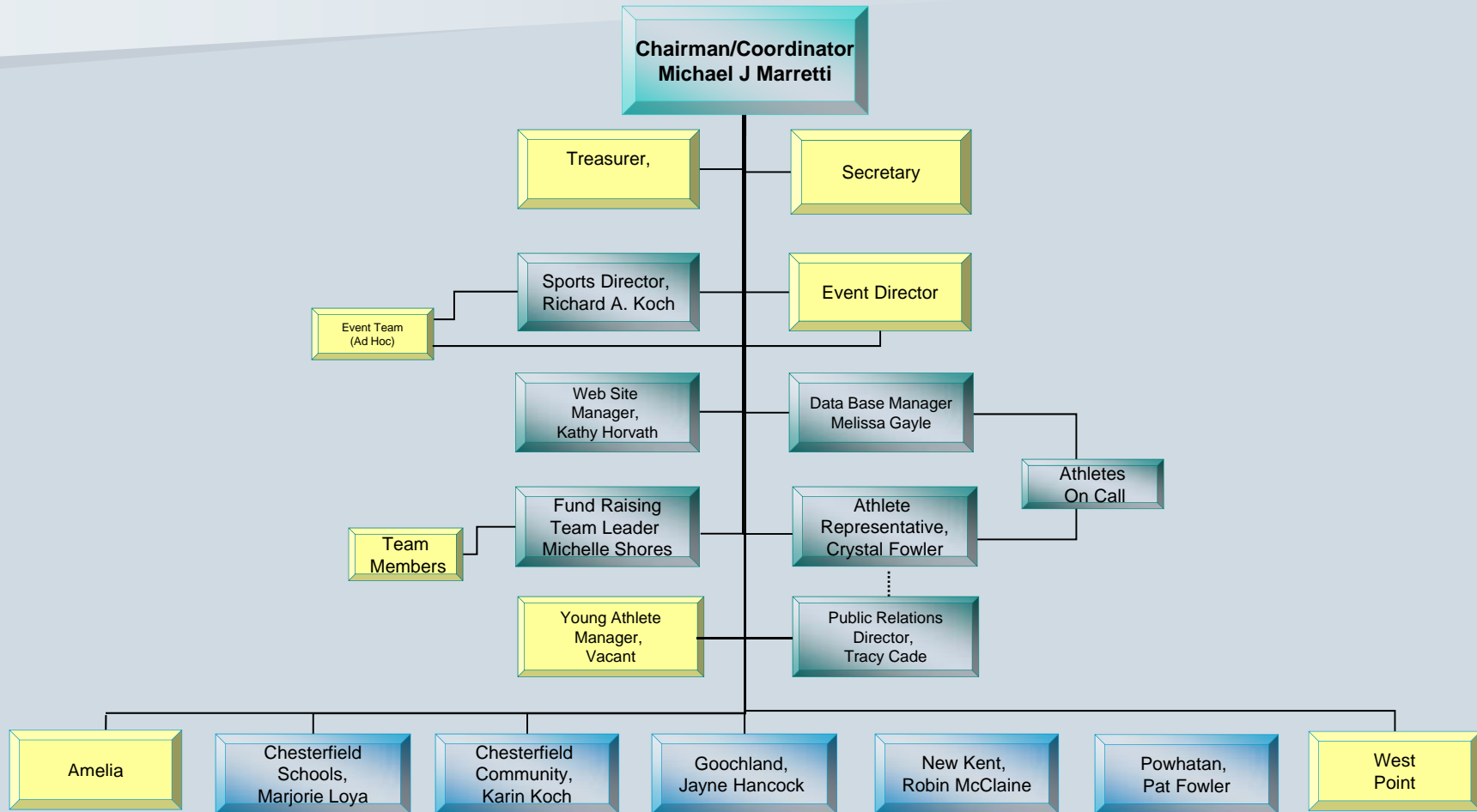
4. Goochland County

5. New Kent County

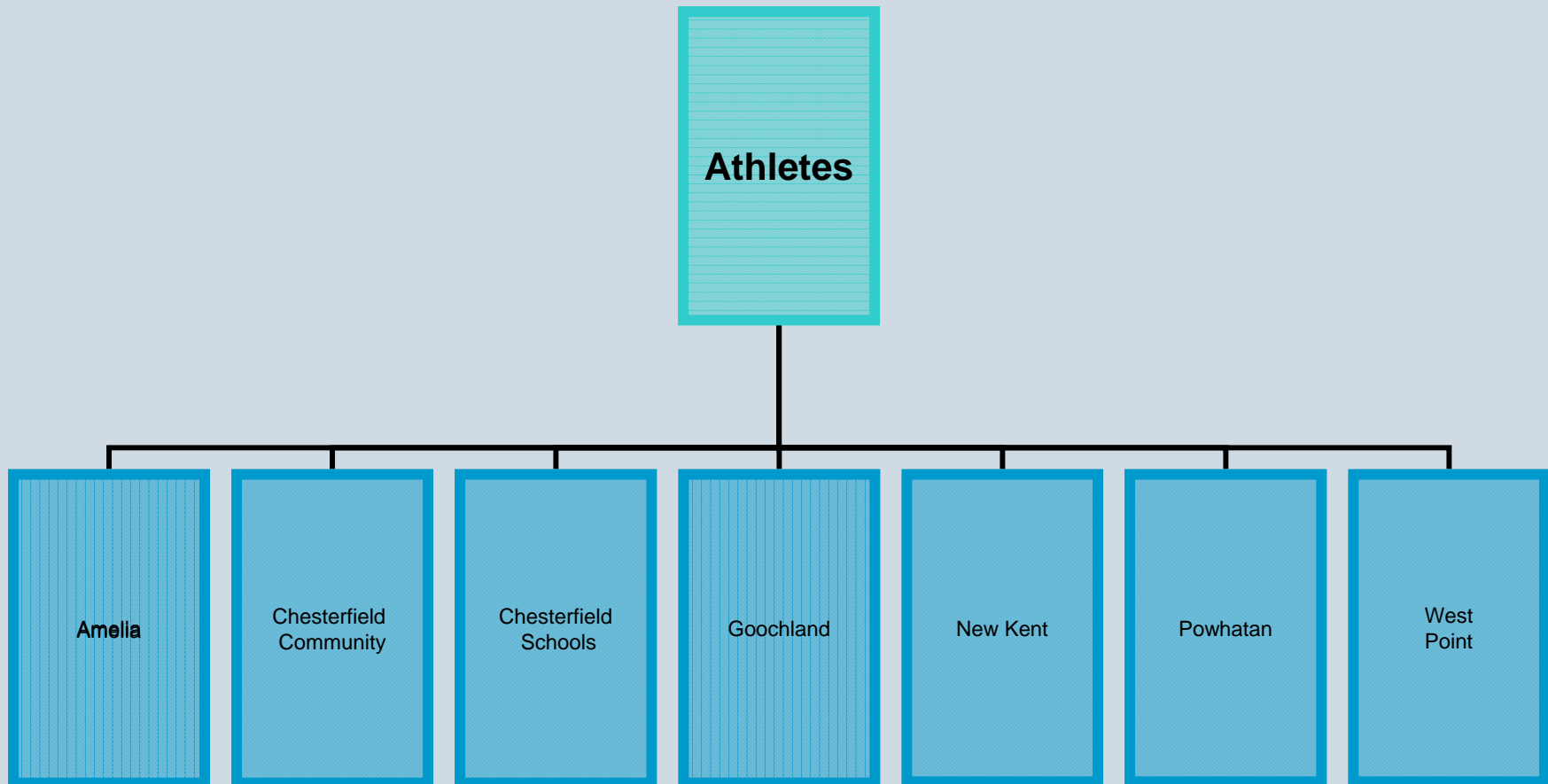
6. City of West Point



Area 6 Organization



Critical Relationship



A Question Often Asked

- Is Special Olympics...
 - A **Sports Program** for those with Intellectual Disabilities
 - A **Program for those with Intellectual Disability** based upon Sports

The Answer!!

- BOTH...
- Based on the level of skill and functioning
 - Athletic skills
 - Life skills

Who are “Special Olympics Athletes”

- **People with intellectual disabilities**

- **What is an intellectual disability?**

- **1. Intellectual functioning level (IQ) below 70-75**
 - **2. Significant limitations exist in two or more adaptive skill areas**
 - **3. The condition manifests itself before the age of 18**

Who is eligible

- Special Olympics training and competition is open to any person with an intellectual disability
 - Eight years of age or over
 - Eligible to train and Compete
 - Ages 6 – 7
 - May train but not participate in competitions
 - Ages 2 – 7 may participate in the Young Athletes Program,
 - BTW The Council position for the “Young Athlete Program” Vacant

Who is eligible

There is no maximum age or age limit for participation in Special Olympics.



How is the Area 6 program free to it's participants

- **Funded Totally By Donations**

- Business
- Groups
- Service Clubs
- Our Own Fund Raising Efforts
- Individuals

- **100 Percent of our Funds are spent to directly benefit our athletes**

- **No Overhead**

- Volunteer run program

How is this program free to it's participants

- **Area 6 Funds Pay For:**

- Sports equipment
- Uniforms
- Registration fees
- Transportation
- Facility Usage Charges
- Travel Accommodations
- Food, Snacks, Beverages
- Awards, Certificates, Medals, Ribbons

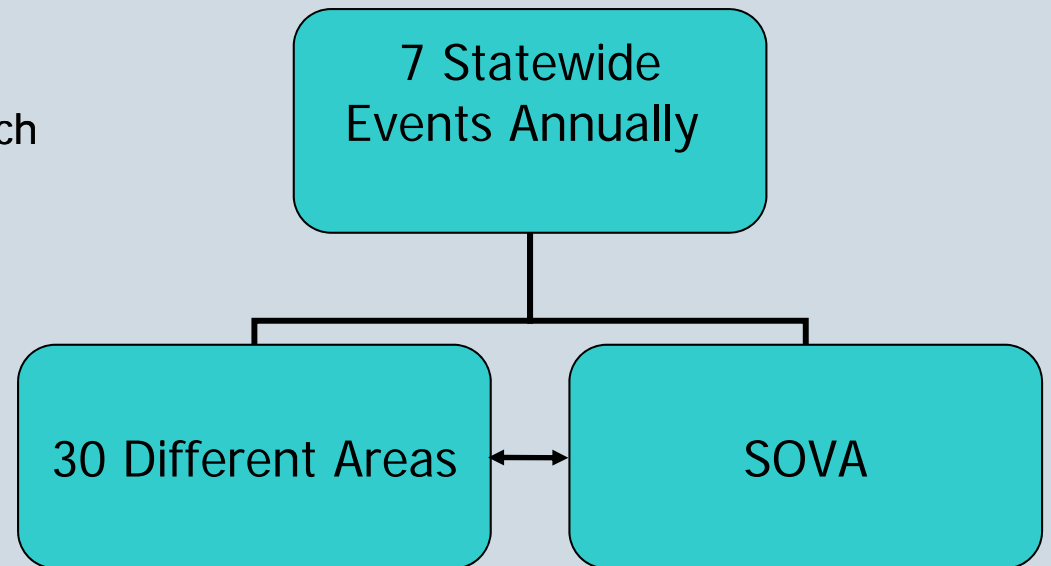
Where does the money to run the program come from

- **State Fund Raising Efforts**
 - \$5.9M in 2010
- **Area 6 Fund Raising Efforts**
 - \$40K Annual Average

Cost Sharing

SOVA & Areas

- Fall Games As An Example
 - 144 From Area 6 Attended
 - Virginia Beach Area
 - Overnight Lodging
 - Transportation
 - Meals,
 - Dinner, Breakfast, Lunch
 - Area 6 Contributed
 - \$7,984.00
 - \$55.44 PP



How the program can help you or someone you know

- Special Olympics: a vision to create a world where every person is celebrated and accepted
- Improve the lives of people with intellectual disabilities everywhere
- Transform the lives of everyone
 - A better, more accepting world for all of us.
 - Dignity,
 - Acceptance,
 - A chance to reach one's potential

Human rights worth promoting for everyone!

When and how can you or someone you know get involved; as athlete, a volunteer or supporter

■ AS an Athlete:

- If you or anyone you know has an intellectual disability and is 8 or over all they need to do is sign up and have a simple medical form completed and given to your local coordinator.

■ AS a Volunteer:

- You have already taken the first step,
 - Getting information
 - Take on a volunteer role

■ AS Supporter:

- Come and Cheer
- Make a donation
- Offer Discounts on products/services

Why you or someone you know should get involved

1. Volunteering connects you to others
2. Volunteering helps you make new friends and contacts
3. Volunteering increases your social and relationship skills
4. Volunteering can be done as a family
5. Volunteering is good for your mind and body
6. Volunteering increasing self-confidence
7. Volunteering combats depression
8. Volunteering helps you stay physically healthy
9. Volunteering can advance your career
10. Volunteering can provide career experience
11. Volunteering can teach you valuable job skills
12. Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life

Why you or someone you know should get involved

- When it comes to volunteering:
 - Passion and positivity
 - Are the only requirements needed

1. Contribute Big

2. Contribute small

A Dear Abby Story

- Trip to Holland
 - A story of a Vacation Plan
 - Vacation that goes wrong

“Trip to Holland”

- Couple Books a Vacation to Italy
 - Arrives in Holland
 - Unplanned
 - Unexpected
 - No way to have prepared
- Couldn't be changed

“Trip to Holland”

- Actually an Analogy
- A story about Opportunity

Intellectual Disabilities

- Unplanned
- Unexpected
- No way to have prepared
- Can't be changed

“Trip to Holland”

- The story tells of how the couple reacted, to the Vacation...in Holland!

“Trip to Holland”

- They could have spent the vacation
 - Remorseful
 - Unhappy
 - Wishing “things”... had been different
 - Wishing they arrived in Italy... as planned

“Trip to Holland”

- Or The Vacationing couple
 - Could seek out and explore Holland
 - Finding it’s wonders and it’s own intrigue
 - Making the moments all they could be
 - Seizing those unplanned opportunities

A Parallel

- The Story “Trip to Holland”
- Knowing Someone with an Intellectual Disability
 - Unplanned
 - Unexpected
 - No way to have prepared
 - Can't be changed

Very similar

The Parallel

- Through Special Olympics we can:
 - Seize Opportunities
 - Appreciate:
 - What we/you have,
 - Who we/you know,
 - Who we/you can be
 - What we/you can do
 - Help someone be all they can be
 - We can help ourselves be the kind of people we all want other people to be

**How does the
program change
the lives of all
those involved**

IT PUTS LIFE IN PERSPECTIVE

IT'S

