



ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2019 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Special Olympics is pleased to announce the 2019 Inclusive Health Innovation Grant recipients. These grants, awarded to nine leading organizations, reflect our commitment to inclusive health and to improving access to mainstream health services in the U.S. for people with intellectual disabilities (ID).

With support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these grants are intended to support mainstream organizations to take on inclusive health practices and contribute to the overall effort to reach the tipping point whereby inclusion of people with ID in mainstream services and programs becomes the norm, not the exception.

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Preparing Nutrition Professionals to Provide Inclusive Health Nutrition Care

The Academy will develop an online certificate program for food and nutrition professionals focused on inclusive health and nutrition initiatives designed to advance practitioner knowledge and skills beyond entry-level competency.

America Walks

Mobility Independence for All: Participatory Planning Tools for People with ID

America Walks will develop tools and identify models for including people with intellectual disabilities in community efforts to increase walking, create walkable places, and develop integrated mobility systems designed to put people first.

CATCH Global Foundation

CATCH Afterschool Training Videos for Inclusion of Youth with ID

CATCH will create and promote short training videos for out-of-school time instructors that demonstrate basic principles for including youth with intellectual disabilities in CATCH activities. The CATCH Program brings together health education, environmental change, and family and community involvement to support children in learning and practicing a healthy lifestyle.

Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI)

Leveraging Partnerships to Encourage Food and Nutrition Leaders to Support Inclusive Health

CSPI plans to leverage its extensive partnerships to encourage more thoughtful integration of people with intellectual disabilities in nutrition policies and practices. These efforts will be centered on CSPI's management of the National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity, the largest nutrition advocacy coalition in the U.S.

Geauga Public Health

Examining Intentional Inclusion in Local Public Health Agencies and Public Health Academic Curricula

Geauga Public Health will identify and disseminate successful strategies of intentional inclusion of people with ID in public health departments, and also assess the degree to which accredited public health academic programs include an intentional focus on people with ID in their curricula.

Indiana University School of Medicine

Health and Wellness: Partnering Special Olympics Athletes with Interprofessional Healthcare Learners

Indiana University will advance the communication skills of students working with people with intellectual disabilities by engaging Special Olympics athletes as trained actors in case simulations within the interprofessional curriculum. Indiana University will also develop health and wellness workshops pairing health profession students and people with ID.

United Way

Enhanced 211 Access to Inclusive Health Services for People with ID

United Way will develop and implement inclusive and accessibility features into the National 2-1-1 Data Platform. This will be a single, authoritative source of community resource and services information which will increase access to health resources for people with ID. United Way also plans to develop a toolkit incorporating techniques for local 2-1-1 call centers to effectively respond to people with ID seeking services, as well as best practices in including people with ID to staff trainings, quality assurance evaluations, and more.

YMCA of Greater Rochester

Connecting All Abilities

The YMCA of Greater Rochester will utilize inclusive health resources to develop policy and environmental changes that increase opportunities for physical activity and social engagement for people with ID. YMCA will also identify solutions and tools to support individuals with ID that can be replicated to make sustainable changes supporting inclusive health. This work will then be put into practice by participating in YMCA of the USA's Diverse Abilities in Aquatics pilot program.

UCLA School of Medicine

Education for Inclusive Health Care for People with ID

UCLA will develop media products to improve communication between healthcare professionals and adults with ID, to ensure participation in medical decisions and access to supported decision-making as an alternative to guardianship/conservatorship.

For questions about the Inclusive Health Innovation Grant Program, please contact inclusivehealth@specialolympics.org.