



## Special Olympics Local/School Youth Leadership Summits

### Overview

Special Olympics Youth Leadership Summits bring together Youth Leaders with and without intellectual disabilities (ID) at the global, Regional, National, and local/school-level. Through workshops and training, young people are given the tools and skills necessary to be leaders in their schools and communities. Since 2001, Special Olympics has been using Youth Leadership Summits as a platform to empower the newest generation of leaders to lead the Unified movement.

### Local/School Youth Leadership Summit

A Special Olympics local Youth Leadership Summit provides Youth Leaders with leadership development exercises and creation of on-going youth-led inclusive programming. A Local Youth Leadership Summit invites 10-100 students and 4-10 staff/teachers from the school and local community for a half-day or full day of activities. Some of the key takeaways of a local Youth Leadership Summit include:

- Understanding the importance of inclusion
- Developing leadership skills to educate others about Special Olympics
- Establishing Unified Schools (or supporting existing Unified Champion Schools) programming with inclusive student organizations
- Empowering other young people to make a difference in their schools and communities
- Leading initiatives that promote acceptance and respect

### Steps to Lead a Local Youth Leadership Summit



### Resources

For questions or more information about hosting a National Youth Leadership Summit, please contact [youthsummit@specialolympics.org](mailto:youthsummit@specialolympics.org) or visit [www.specialolympics.org/leadtoinclude](http://www.specialolympics.org/leadtoinclude).