

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Special Olympics Alaska****Federal Tax ID: 920057197****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

# Alaska Special Olympics, Inc. - Training Center and Campus Expansion & Development

**State Funding Requested: \$5,000,000****House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Build a 20,000 square foot addition, including full gymnasium and classrooms, to the existing Training Center.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$5,000,000***There is no other funding needed***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Special Olympics Alaska provides fully accredited, year-round sports training and athletic competition for individuals with intellectual disabilities in Alaska. Across Alaska there are more than 12 communities that serve over 2,000 athletes, and are empowered by hundreds of volunteers. Athletes train and compete year-round in 16 Olympic sports with the assistance of volunteer coaches.

The funds requested will be used to support the expansion of the Special Olympics Alaska Athlete Training Center and Campus. The current facility provides a place for individuals with intellectual disabilities throughout Alaska to train, socialize and interact. The facility also significantly increases the quality and range of services for athletes, family members, volunteers, and coaches statewide, and it serves as a powerful asset for future generations of Alaskans with intellectual disabilities. The increased public visibility and community access that the facility offers has significantly expanded volunteer participation, corporate sponsorships and public relations opportunities. The classroom and training space the facility provides allows Special Olympics Alaska to increase the quality of instruction and management of volunteer community directors, coaches and others statewide. The classroom space has also expanded overall programs and developed curriculum and credited instruction for the University of Alaska.

The next phase of developing the facility is to build a 20,000 square foot addition to include a full gymnasium along with more classrooms. The additional gym and classrooms will allow more athletes, volunteers and family participation. The addition will be the center of the Special Olympics Alaska Healthy Athletes Initiative that anticipates over 2,500 Special Olympics athletes and 5,000 volunteers and family members participating.

Included in the request are funds for property purchase costs.

**Project Timeline:**

Property purchase and construction are estimated to occur from Fall 2010 through construction season of 2011. Full completion should occur by 2012.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Special Olympics Alaska

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No