Special Olympics Utah

Winter Games 2013

Chelsea Wessman

Winter Games Director

Wessman (far right) With her GOC

What is Special Olympics?

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Personal Gains

Throughout my experience with the Special Olympics I have not only had the opportunity to interact with, coach, mentor, and gain relationships with the athletes, but I have also aquired useful communication skills, event management techniques, and vital leadership attributes that will enable my success in future academic and professional envdeavors.

Testimonials

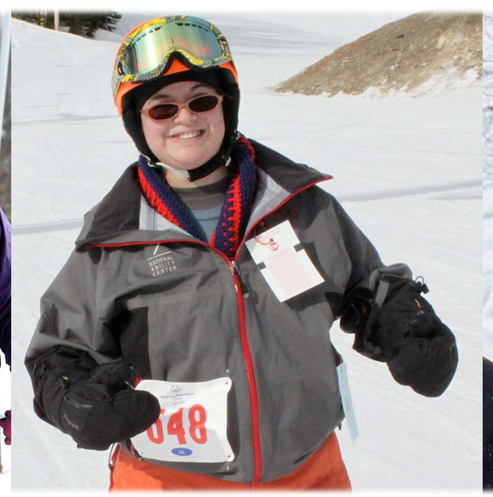
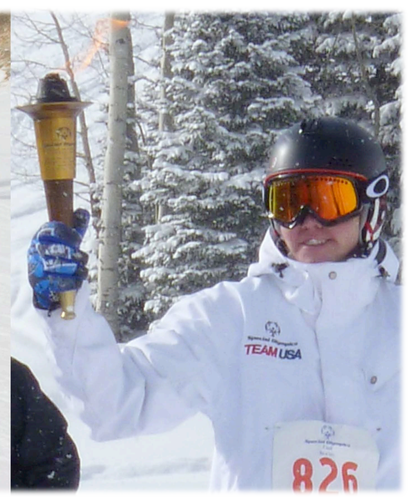
"Seeing the athletes light up with joy as they experience the magic of the special Olympics event is not comparable to any other success… Getting involved with Special Olympics is one of the best ways for college students to feel fulfilled with their service experiences. "

– Livvy,
Games Organizing Committee Member

"I learned to trust others, lend a hand and utilize my time for a great cause. I would definitely say that I'm a different person because of it."

– Kaitlyn
Games Organizing Committee Member

Organizational Gains

"Special Olympics Utah is so pleased with the 2013 Winter Games - not only did participation in the event grow by roughly **45% from 2012** but the event improved in quality as well. The Games Organizing Committee, made up of approximately 20 Weber State students, worked diligently to plan and produce this event successfully. Each student committed between 4 and 40 hours (roughly) of volunteer time to ensure the athletes arriving at the 2013 Winter Games had a great time from start to finish. "

– BobbiJo
SOUT Director of Program Services