



Special Olympics St. Vincent & the Grenadines Plan 2014



Executive Summary

The mission of Special Olympics St. Vincent & the Grenadines 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.”

The organization has set out proposed plans for 2014 that would: develop the quality of the athletes, intensify awareness of how the movement can transform athletes’ lives and that of their families; enhance fundraising initiatives; and expand relationship with corporations, foundations, civic and service organizations and government agencies.

Athletes Growth and development

Special Olympics SVG athletes are the core of the organization. Therefore, the athletes’ growth and development are a fundamental part of the Special Olympics program.

Plans to enhance athletes’ opportunities include:

- An Increase in the number of athletes who are involved in the movement by tapping into institutions that cater for persons with intellectual disabilities, run a two-week campaign on how being a part of the Special Olympics movement could boost the life of someone with Intellectual disabilities (I.D)
- An increase in athletes’ participation in training and competition by providing coaching sessions in different geographical areas
- Providing the necessary resources needed to improve athletes sporting experience
- Launching a Young Athletes program (YAP): The YAP will target that cadre of persons with intellectual disabilities who have not reached the required age to participate in sports and competition. The YAP will set the paste by reaching out to young athletes and their families to join a movement that motivates, inspires and promotes inclusion.

Athletes Growth

Target Goal for 2014

Current active Athletes	175
Target Growth	250



Volunteers Training and Participation

Volunteers are the backbone of the Special Olympics SVG organizations and it is through the dedication and commitment of our men and women, that this organization can succeed in enhancing the quality of life for persons with intellectual disabilities.

Volunteers would be trained to understand the history and mission of the organization. Training will equip them with the necessary tools that will be needed to create an atmosphere of love, hope and opportunity for the athletes.

All volunteers training will be under the responsibility of the Volunteer Coordinator, Joy Cato, a former High School Principal.

A method of recognition would be established to motivate volunteers to continue to dedicate their time and commitment towards building the Special Olympics SVG movement.

Coaches Training and Certification

Athletes' experience depends on the availability of trained, certified and dedicated coaches who understand the needs of the athletes.

The goal for Special Olympics SVG coaches include:

- Providing coaches training and ensuring that 100% of the coaches are certified.
- Encouraging coaches to access Special Olympics online training
- Creating a model to track coaches performance
- Building a system to track coaches training schedule
- Recruiting and orienting persons who are coaches or who have an interest in being a Special Olympics coach.

Sports and Competition

Opportunities would be provided to athletes to participate in the different sporting disciplines offered such as athletics, Bocce and football, floor hockey, lawn tennis and table tennis.

Due to the absence or unavailability of sporting resources in some areas different sporting disciplines would be focused in different institutions and geographical areas. **(See table)**



Institutions/Areas	Sporting Disciplines
Bequia	Athletics, Aquatics, Bocce
Georgetown	Athletics, Bocce
Chateaubelair	Athletics, Bocce, Football
Athletics, Bocce, Floor Hockey, Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis	Kingstown

- **2014 SOSVG National Games**

The 2014 National Games will aim for continued participation in all the sporting disciplines. The Games will act as a trial to showcase the ability of persons who may be selected for the 2015 World Games in Los Angeles, California.

- **2015 World Summer Games**

Initiative taken in 2014 would be in preparation for the 2015 World Summer Games that would be held in Los Angeles, California from July 25th to August 2nd, 2015.

A contingent of thirty-eight persons, who include Special Olympics athletes, coaches and delegates, is expected to be part of the World Games. There will be participation in Bocce, Football, Athletics, Tennis and Aquatics.

Special Olympics 2015 World Summer Games

Athletes: 28

Coaches: 5

Delegation: 2



Special Olympics SVG Programs

➤ Healthy Athlete

Healthy Athletes is a Special Olympics program that provides free health screenings to Special Olympics athletes in seven different health areas (Vision, hearing, oral, health lifestyles, general fitness, podiatry, and sports physicals).

Two clinicians would be trained and certified as Healthy Athletes Trainers of Trainers, to allow the launch of a Healthy Athletes Program in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

In the absence of the Healthy Athletes Program, Special Olympics SVG intends to provide health screening to athletes in the seven different health areas. The Rotary Club St. Vincent a supporter and affiliate of Special Olympics SVG would make this screening possible through their Rotary Village Doctor Outreach Program in May 2014. This would serve as a provisional start of Special Olympics SVG Healthy Athletes Program until Clinicians are trained.

➤ Athlete Leadership Program (ALPs)

The Athlete Leadership Program which commenced in September 2013 will continue with a series of workshops focusing on areas that would:

- Enhance leadership skills
- Exhibit issues that affect persons with Intellectual disabilities
- Promote teamwork

➤ Young Athlete Program (YAP)

Young Athletes is an innovative sports play program created to reach out to children with intellectual disabilities. The program includes active games, songs and other play activities that help children develop motor, social and cognitive skills.

A Young Athlete workshop will be conducted so that volunteers could be equipped with the necessary information and tools to create the opportunity for children with intellectual disabilities to learn, grow and have fun.



➤ **Families Program**

Special Olympics International websites states that Families are the No. 1 fans of our Special Olympics athletes. They give the type of love, support and encouragement that no one else can. Special Olympics SVG concurs with this statement, hence the reason why we endeavor to create a families program that will envelop all those qualities.

Financial Sustainability

Special Olympics training, competitions and programs require financial funding in order to achieve longevity. As the program grows, so will the financial needs.

The aim is to increase our pool of financial sources by identifying and capturing new sources of funding in order to have a continuous sound financial base.

The Survival of the program was based on the commitment and dedication of our two multi-year sponsors, Digicel St. Vincent Ltd and Bank of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and also the sponsorship whether in kind or cash from other organizations, institutions and individuals.

Initiatives to obtain financial sustainability would include:

- ✓ Increasing organizational sponsorship
- ✓ Creating online donation opportunity
- ✓ Seeking grants to support training and program initiatives
- ✓ Organizing and executing fundraising events

Fostering Relationship

Special Olympics St. Vincent and the Grenadines would initiate long lasting and committed engagement with individuals, corporations, foundations, civic and service organizations, government agencies with an aim of increasing support and funding. The organization will also enhance partnership with sporting organizations through memorandum of understanding to create a stronger bond, share resources and increase support for the Special Olympics athletes.

Public Relations

Develop an efficient and effective public relations model to increase awareness of the Special Olympics SVG movement and its mission in providing year-round sports training and athletic



competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Forge a closer relationship with media personnel. Use social media effectively to heighten awareness and encourage support from fans. Develop other marketing tools such as quarterly newsletter to reach out to fans and supporters.

Leadership Growth

The Board of Directors of Special Olympics St. Vincent and the Grenadines are volunteers who give of their time, effort and expertise.

In 2014, persons would be identified, recruited and oriented as Directors on the Board of Directors of Special Olympics St. Vincent and the Grenadines. They would get the opportunity to fully learn the dynamics of being involved in the Special Olympics movement through an informative and energetic Board training conducted by Special Olympics North American and Special Olympics New Hampshire representatives.

Conclusion

Special Olympics St. Vincent and the Grenadines would fortify its program, create opportunities and promote inclusion and acceptance for persons with intellectual disabilities, widened the training scope, increase competition and promote inclusion for the organization through the achievement of the goals set out in the plan.



Calendar of Events

EVENTS	DATE
Floor Hockey and Bingo	29 March
Special Olympics Board Training	16-17 May
Special Olympics Coaches Training	17 May
Rotary Village Doctor Outreach Program	25 May
Back in Time Dance	7 June
Annual Barbeque	2 August
Aquatic Meet	16 August
Lawn Tennis Competition	13 September
Eunice Shriver Day Bocce Tournament	27 September
2014 National Games	14-15 November
Week of Activities to Mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities	1-4 December
Special Olympics Annual Raffle	15 December



SPECIAL OLYMPICS ST.VINCENT & THE GRENADINES TEAM

Board of Directors

Sir Errol Allen	Chairman
Anthony Yorke	Vice Chairman and Public Relations Officer
Cuthbert James	Treasurer
Joan Anderson	Assistant Treasurer
Cecily Norris	Secretary
La Fayette Johnson	Families Coordinator
Michael Ollivierre	Sports Coordinator
Terrence Davis	Athletes Representative
Joy Cato	Volunteers Coordinator
Jonathan Nichols	Law Enforcement Torch Run Coordinator
Dr. Lennox Adams	Medical Doctor
Camille Jacobs	Intellectual Disabilities Expert
Barbara Robert	Peace Corp Representative
Earl Tash	
Lynette Glasgow	
Anthony McKenzie	

Administrative Staff

Janice McMaster – National Director
Brianna Jacobs - Secretary
Lucinna Poyer Newsletter Editor

Multi-Year Sponsors

Bank of St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Digicel St. Vincent Limited

Fundraising Committee

Anthony Yorke-Chairman
La Fayette Johnson
Lynette Glasgow
Terrence Davis
Christopher Grant



Coaches

Helen Ashton	Athletics, Bocce, Aquatics
John Hinds	Athletics
Michael Ollivierre	Athletics
Onike Span	Lawn Tennis
Ornoro John	Bocce
Phedra Samuel	Athletics
Ricky Dean	Aquatics
Terrence Davis	Bocce, Football
Winston Charles	Athletics
Woodrow Williams	Athletics, Football

Affiliate Organizations

Caribbean Youth Environment Network
Ministry of National Mobilization....
Ministry of Tourism, Sports & Culture
National Sports Council
Royal St. Vincent & the Grenadines Police Force
The Rotary Club of St. Vincent
St. Vincent & the Grenadines National Olympics Committee

Institutions

Helping Hands Centre
School for Children with Special Needs-Georgetown
School for Children with Special Needs-Kingstown
Sunny Vale Primary School
The Sunshine School for Children with Special Needs

Special Olympics St. Vincent and the Grenadines is partnered with Special Olympics New Hampshire