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## **2010 USA National Games for Special Olympics Reaches \$1 Million in Local Fund-raising through Rallied Community Support**

### **Companies Invest in Success of Nebraska's Largest Sporting Event**

Lincoln, NE – The 2010 USA National Games for Special Olympics has reached the \$1 million mark in local fund-raising, and members of the organizing committee say they are well on their way to financing the games. The 2010 USA National Games will showcase the State of Nebraska on the national stage July 18th through the 23rd, 2010.

The 2010 USA National Games will be the largest sporting event held in the history of Nebraska. Organizers expect 3,000 athletes, 1,000 coaches, 8,000 volunteers and 15,000 family members and friends to come to Lincoln and Omaha for the event. About 4,000 of the nation's 600,000 Special Olympics families live in Nebraska. The event is expected to have a \$40 million economic impact, including \$5 million in tax revenue.

"We are honored to be the host for this outstanding event and will do all we can to make it a success," said Lincoln Mayor Chris Beutler. "The Special Olympics touches so many lives, and I am pleased but not surprised that our community has rallied in support of the program."

Charles Cooper, President and CEO for the 2010 USA National Games, said a number of generous individuals and companies in Lincoln and Omaha have pledged to be members of the "Founders Club," which requires a financial investment of \$25,000. "We are actively seeking local companies to get involved by investing in the games or to serve as the presenting sponsor of a sporting competition," Cooper said.

Special Olympics offers year-round sports training and competition opportunities for both children and adults with intellectual disabilities. The program gives them the opportunity to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and become integrated and valued members of our society.

For more information, contact:  
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