

For Immediate Release

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS MONTANA SELECTED TO COMPETE IN WALMART ASSOCIATES CHOICE PROGRAM FOR \$100,000

[June 21, 2011 – Great Falls, MT] Special Olympics Montana announces that it has been chosen as one of five Montana nonprofits to participate in the Walmart Associates Choice Program. Walmart Associates (employees) vote for the nonprofit of their choice with the winner receiving a \$100,000 grant.

Special Olympics Montana would utilize the revenue to offset the costs of continued expansion to serve more children and adults with intellectual disabilities within the state of Montana.

There are many more athletes with intellectual disabilities who would like to be all they can be by participating in Special Olympics. The primary goal of Special Olympics Montana over the next ten years is to create sustainable quality growth, delivering sports training and competition opportunities for 3000 athletes by 2020. Because Special Olympics Montana provides athletes and families much-needed opportunity for inclusion, acceptance, dignity and respect, the urgency is great. The organization currently serves approximately 2000 athletes statewide.

“The Walmart Foundation strives to meet the unmet needs of underserved populations and support organizations that give individuals access to a better life. We encourage our associates to support programs that make a positive difference in their communities through volunteer efforts and financial contributions. We involve our associates in determining how Walmart Foundation dollars are used to support causes that are important to them.” (The Walmart Foundation)

Special Olympics Montana values and appreciates the long term support and generosity of Walmart and Walmart Associates.

Special Olympics Montana, a 41-year-old movement that enables children and adults with intellectual disabilities to train for life through sports, is honored to be selected for consideration of the grant by Walmart on behalf of nearly 2,000 children & adults with intellectual disabilities throughout the state of Montana.

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