

# MEDIA ALERT



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## ***Special Olympics Missouri Hosts West Regional Basketball Tournament***

**ST. JOSEPH** - Special Olympics Missouri (SOMO) is thrilled to host the West Regional Basketball Tournament on Saturday, March 1. The event will take place across multiple St. Joseph School District locations, including Spring Garden Middle School, Bode Middle School, Lafayette High School, The Rec Center, and Benton High School.

This tournament serves as a qualifying event for more than 900 SOMO athletes as they prepare for State Indoor Games in St. Charles, Missouri, March 28-29. Athletes, spectators, and coaches from the North Area, KC Metro Area, Southwest Area, and Central Area of Missouri will be in attendance.

### **Competition Details**

The event will feature a variety of basketball activities, including basketball skills challenges, half-court games, and full-court games, running from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Law enforcement officers from the community will participate by presenting awards to athletes throughout the day, making the event even more memorable.

### **Media Contact**

For media inquiries, please contact:

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### **Thank You to Our Sponsors**

The West Regional Basketball Tournament is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors. Special thanks to our year-round partners:

- Knights of Columbus
- Law Enforcement Torch Run
- Missouri Association of Student Councils
- Diamond Pet Foods
- University of Missouri System
- MU Health Care

### **Special Olympics Missouri**

Special Olympics Missouri (SOMO) is a year-round program of sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Thousands of athletes participate in 13 Olympic-type sports throughout the state. SOMO provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with their fellow athletes, their family and friends, and communities across Missouri.

SOMO is proud of our financial health, returning 83% of every dollar back to program services. We are privileged to be recognized with these honors: Better Business Bureau A+ Charity Accreditation, Guidestar Gold Level and Charity Navigator 4-star rating. Special Olympics was also recently named Morning Consult's No. 5 most trusted nonprofit.

Thank you for trusting us with your donations, volunteer time and your goodwill.

Visit Special Olympics Missouri at [www.somo.org](http://www.somo.org). Engage with us on [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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