SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (SOSC) is seeking a dynamic President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to lead this long established and successful organization. The SOSC CEO’s primary responsibility is to champion a powerful mission of inclusion through a world-class sports organization. This requires strategic leadership, operational management, fundraising, outreach and advocacy, all designed to bring out the best in our athletes. This passionate community includes over 38,000 athletes and their families, 80+ employees, thousands of volunteers, and our valued partners and donors. The CEO will guide and direct the program in accordance with the standards, policies and procedures set forth by Special Olympics Inc. and the SOSC Board of Directors, and report to the Board of Directors and the Board Chair.

Candidates should have a genuine passion for our mission; empathy toward our athletes and our community at large; the vision to determine “what’s next” for the organization; a leadership style which empowers staff and recognizes top talent; experience with financial oversight and budgeting; and an ability to represent SOSC as a sincere media spokesperson/advocate.

BACKGROUND

Special Olympics, Inc.
Eunice Kennedy Shriver started the concept of Special Olympics in 1962 as a day camp for people with intellectual disabilities to provide them with the benefits of physical fitness and sports. In 1968, the first International Special Olympics Games were held, where 1,000 athletes from the United States, Canada and France competed. That same year, Special Olympics, Inc. (SOI) was founded as a nonprofit organization and currently serves more than 6.3 million athletes and Unified partners in 193 plus countries.

Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC) was founded in 1969 as a nonprofit organization. It is one of 52 Chapters within the United States and has presence from Kern/San Luis Obispo Counties to San Diego County. We currently offer 13 sports across 4 seasons, serve over 38,000 athletes in our community and school-based programs and utilize the talents of over 13,500 volunteers. We also offer opportunities for athletes to improve their overall health and wellness, gain leadership skills and much more. Our next 5-year strategic plan will be developed in 2021, making this a great time to join us and make an impact.
The mission of Special Olympics Southern California 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.

Our vision is to promote acceptance, inclusion, and well-being for people with intellectual disabilities through sports.

Our Core Values are:
- Be ATHLETE centric
- Be a TEAM player
- Be a CHANGE agent
- Be a LEADER

Leadership Qualities:
- Empathetic and inspirational, leads by example
- Passionate, mission-driven individual
- Visionary, strategic thinker and experienced strategic planner and executor
- Proven ability to increase revenue and excel at developing and maintaining relationships with current and future donors
- Strong communication skills: ability to represent SOSC as the public face of the organization with media, stakeholders, partners and the public
- Ability to make people feel valued; encourages input at all levels of the organization

Specific Responsibilities include:
- Serves as Chief Executive Officer of SOSC with powers specified in the Organization’s Bylaws, enabling SOSC to meet all organizational goals as established by the Board.
- Provides leadership to the planning process for and development of all SOSC programs and services provided.
- Carries overall responsibility for fiscal management and assures the future of SOSC through the initiation and completion of long-range financial planning processes.
- Assures that SOSC and its mission, programs, products and services are strong and recognized as a valued human service organization for persons with intellectual disabilities.
- Assures that Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC) operates a movement of volunteers working together to implement organizational program goals.
• As agent of the Board, carries responsibility for the employment practices, administration of personnel policies, and organization of the staff to carry out the programs of the organization.
• Travel within Southern California and to national meetings required.

Qualifications:
• 15 or more years increasingly responsible professional experience, including 10 years in senior management position; experience in non-profit management preferred and minimum 5 years’ experience in development and/or fundraising capacity or sales.
• Executive level knowledge required to make policy decisions that impact the entire organization.
• Experience working with dynamic and very engaged Board members and a large volunteer workforce.
• Financial, business, management acumen and sound problem-solving analysis and decision-making skills
• Bachelor’s Degree required.
• Ability to pass criminal and driving history background screening.

Compensation
We offer a competitive salary and benefits package. Benefits include paid holidays, vacation and sick leave as defined by Special Olympics Southern California personnel policies, medical, dental, vision life and ADD insurance, and a 403(b) retirement plan with an employer match.

Special Olympics Southern California is an equal opportunity employer and is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse staff committed to working in a multicultural environment. We encourage all qualified individuals to apply for open positions regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, qualified disability, marital, veteran or any other legally protected status. Employment with Special Olympics is “at-will.”