



Special Olympics

Louisiana

Be a fan.



* See information about Mrs. Jindal's involvement inside

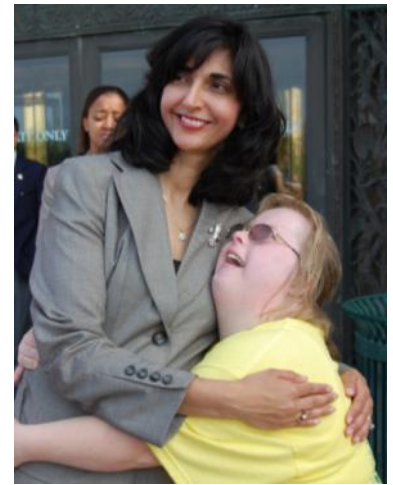
2008 Annual Report

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To receive copies of the 2008 Annual Report of Special Olympics Louisiana, please call 1-800-345-6644. You may also request current lists of staff, Area Directors, and Board of Directors when you call.

In 2008, First Lady of Louisiana, Mrs. Supriya Jindal became Special Olympics Louisiana's Official Spokesperson. Her commitment to Louisiana and the betterment of our youth was a perfect fit with our mission. She is very supportive of our athletes and our movement. Mrs. Jindal was involved with several events that happened in 2008 and look for many more in 2009.



MISSION

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for all 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 friendships with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

VISION

To transform communities by inspiring people throughout the world to open their minds, accept and include people with intellectual disabilities and thereby anyone who is perceived as different.

ATHLETE OATH

*"Let Me Win. But If I Cannot Win,
Let Me Be Brave In the Attempt."*

Official name Special Olympics Louisiana, Inc.
also known as SOLA

Special Olympics Louisiana, Inc.

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www.laso.org

*Created by the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation
Authorized and accredited by Special Olympics, Inc. for the benefit of
persons with intellectual disabilities.*

President's Remarks

To Our Special Olympics Family:

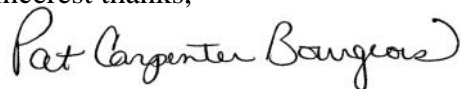
This year we celebrate our 40th year anniversary, we have seen many triumphs and tribulations. Who knew that when Eunice Kennedy Shriver started hosting a camp in her backyard, for those with intellectual disabilities, that 40 years later 2.5 million people with intellectual disabilities would benefit from sports participation? The world has changed quite a bit since 1968 and I am glad to say that we are still changing the public's perception of our athletes. We are a leader in educating, advocating, and providing for those with intellectual disabilities and opening people's mind to accept and embrace them. I believe we have surpassed the predictions of those individuals in the early days.

In 2008 we have had several outstanding achievements. We have strengthened our forces with other agencies serving the same population; these relationships are increasing our outreach potential and expanding resources. Our school programs are flourishing and thousands of students with and without disabilities are being approached about joining our program. We hosted four Camp Shriver and two Cheer Camps. We launched our Be a Fan and "I'm no fan of the R-word" campaigns. In this endeavor we have been joined by First Lady of Louisiana, Mrs. Supriya Jindal, New Orleans Saints Head Coach Sean Payton, Saints Defensive End Charles Grant, New Orleans Hornets player and Olympic athlete Chris Paul, to name a few.

The First Lady of Louisiana, Mrs. Supriya Jindal, agreed to serve as the official spokesperson for our organization. Mrs. Jindal hosted our first Leaders of Tomorrow luncheon, an inclusive event benefiting Special Olympics Louisiana, honoring youth with and without disabilities, who have been leaders in his/her community. Aaron Rhodes, an athlete from Acadiana, was among the winners. Our Law Enforcement Officers met their objective to raise over \$200,000 for Special Olympics Louisiana. The money they raise helps to offset expenses for games and events which showcase the athletes' abilities. We continue to gain momentum financially thanks to those we consider partners and friends, like Valero-St. Charles Refinery.

You will be pleased to learn that 2008 has resulted in changing the lives of 2,360 NEW athletes! With your help we have changed the lives of 537 young athletes, ages 2-7, by improving their motor skills and hand-eye coordination, through our Young Athletes Program. We have also had success in strengthening our volunteer leadership to build an infrastructure to offer additional opportunities for the 10,000 current athletes and new ones entering the program. We are dedicated to moving forward and changing minds, attitudes and lives. Wait until you see what we accomplish in 2009!

Sincerest thanks,



Pat Carpenter Bourgeois



Getting to know the CEO

Special Olympics Louisiana President and CEO, Pat Carpenter Bourgeois has been involved in Special Olympics for 36 years. She has a Master's Degree in Special Education and is certified in supervision. Pat became a staff member in September of 1982 after having served as volunteer for 10 years in various positions. As a staff member for 26 years, she had numerous accomplishments serving as Volunteer Director, Director of Sports Training & Competition, Vice President of Programs, and Vice President of Development. In January 2006, she took her current position as President and CEO where she has led the organization to new levels. Her experience and knowledge will continue to lead Special Olympics Louisiana as one of the top charities in the state.



40 years of Building Greatness!



1968-2008

Special Olympics has changed the world in the past 40 years and the best part is we are not done yet!

FROM

TO

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • 1 country's movement | - A global movement |
| • Sports | - More than sports |
| • Pity | - Empowerment |
| • "Nice" thing to do | - Important for society |
| • An occasional event | - Part of everyday life |
| • A charity | - A marketing partner |
| • About "those people" | - About all of "US" |

Special Olympics International

1968

1,000 athletes
2 countries
(USA & Canada)
2 sports
(athletics & swimming)

2008

2.5 million athletes
150 countries
Over 30 sports

Special Olympics Louisiana

1968

11 athletes
4 coaches
Few volunteers

2008

12,000 athletes
8,446 coaches
10,000 volunteers

SOLA's Five Founders:

- Billy Ray Stokes**, 1st State Director (1970)
Sharon Sofford, 1971 State Director
Ron Perry, 1972 State Director (not pictured)
Ernie Hill, 1973 State Director
Emmanuel Bourgeois, 1974 State Director (served until 2005)

Highlights

1968

- 1968 1st International SOGames, SOLA sent 11 athletes
- 1971 SOLA Incorporated
- 1975 1st SOLA Board of Directors formed
- 1977 1st International Winter Games, SOLA sent 5 athletes
- 1983 International Special Olympics Summers Games, hosted by Special Olympics Louisiana & LSU, SOLA invented huggers and they are now being used at all Special Olympics events
- 1985 1st Louisiana Law Enforcement Torch Run
- 1986 1st Special Olympics Louisiana Sports Award Banquet
- 1988 Special Olympics International recognized & endorsed by International Olympics Committee
- 1993 International Games in Austria, for 1st time games were held outside of the U.S.
- 1997 SOLA's website was launched (www.laso.org), Special Olympics Louisiana becomes the official chapter name, 1st State Unified Sports Competition
- 1998 SOLA's 1st Athlete Leadership Committee
- 1999 SOLA's 1st Healthy Athletes screenings
- 2002 SOLA's state office was purchased in Hammond, LA
- 2004 mental retardation changed to intellectual disabilities
- 2005 *The Ringer* was released about Special Olympics
- 2006 SOLA's 1st Camp Shriver
- 2007 SOLA's 1st Young Athletes Program
- 2008 SOLA implements Project Unify



SOLA 1968 Building



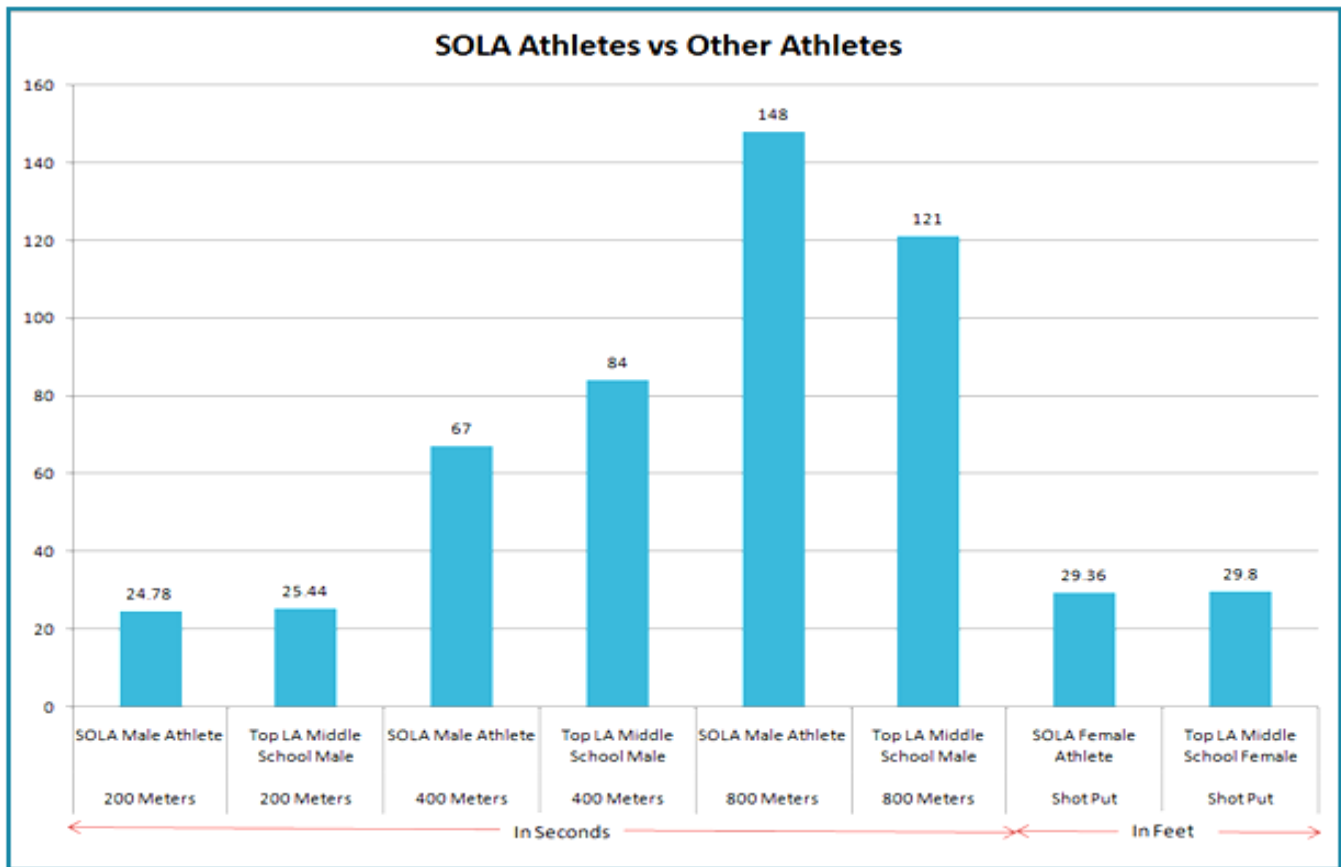
SOLA 2008 Building



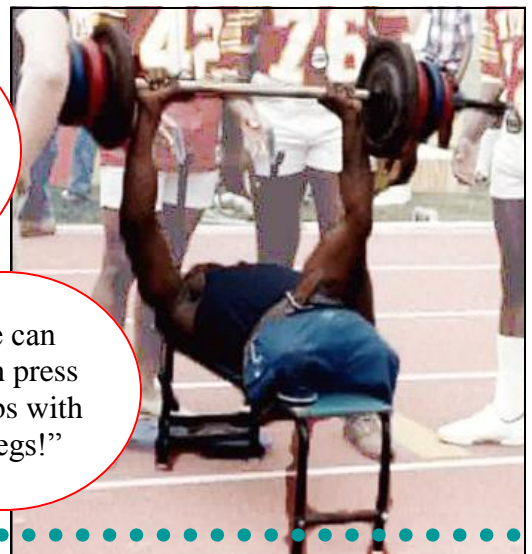
2008

SOLA

is our first name!



“Runs a quarter of a mile in 85 seconds!”



“He can bench press 380 lbs with no legs!”

Accomplishments

- ✓ Recognized by the International Olympic Committee
- ✓ Named 1 of the 100 Best Charities in America by Worth Magazine
- ✓ Most Creditable organization according to the Chronicles of Philanthropy Corporations
- ✓ Recognized as having the best coaches and volunteers training program in the nation
- ✓ Top Ten Charities in New Orleans voted on by Louisiana residents
- ✓ 97% brand recognition
- ✓ One of the top chapters to receive support from Department of Education for Project Unify

In 2008 we were able to accomplish the following:

- ✓ Recruited 563 Young Athletes.
- ✓ Reached almost 41,000 students through the Project Unify program.
- ✓ Increased the number of athletes and unified partners by 2,360.
- ✓ Conducted 7 successful state level events and more than 80 area and parish events.
- ✓ Conducted 7 Camp Shriver and cheerleading camps.
- ✓ Held our first Leaders of Tomorrow hosted by First Lady of Louisiana, Mrs. Supriya Jindal.
- ✓ Made great progress in technology including updated website, and e-newsletters.
- ✓ Exceeded 2007 Volunteers for State Events numbers by 174 volunteers – 10% increase.



In early October, Special Olympics Louisiana hosted the **2008 South Central Regional Conference**. This included entertainment and knowledge shared between all the states in this region, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas. The three day conference hosted over 320 people including 119 Louisiana representatives. Attendees enjoyed remarkable food, interesting conversation topics and lots of entertainment including Cajun dancing and joke telling.

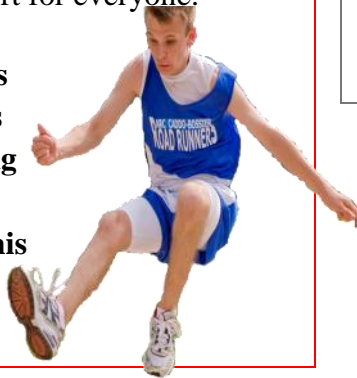
The First **Leaders of Tomorrow** Celebration was held on November 21, 2008. The event honored outstanding youth (under the age of 21) in Louisiana, as individuals, or groups who are “Building Greatness”, while promoting good citizenship, entrepreneurship, leadership and excellence. First Lady of Louisiana, Mrs. Supriya Jindal, was the host and Special Olympics Louisiana was the beneficiary. Those youth who were honored were: Sarah Willis, J. Robert Logan, Melanie Smith, Darin Moore, Brandon LeBlanc, Aaron Rhodes, Mary Stephens, Zachary Page, Mary-Brent Brown and Beverly Brown.



"We are MORE than sports -

Special Olympics offers **Training and Competition** opportunities for every athlete regardless of gender, age or ability. The rules accommodate all levels of athletic ability and enable participants to compete against athletes of similar skills so that all have a fair chance to win. No matter what the interest, there is a sport for everyone:

- Aquatics
- Athletics
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Bocce
- Bowling
- Cycling
- Equestrian
- Golf
- Gymnastics
- Horseshoes
- Powerlifting
- Softball
- Table Tennis
- Volleyball



Unified Sports

Brings together athletes with intellectual disabilities and their peers without intellectual disabilities on the same team for training and competition. Each year the summer sports program *Camp Shriver* is hosted to build and develop skills and relationships. The primary goal is to provide another level of challenge for higher ability athletes and promote equality and inclusion.



Athlete Leadership Program offers athletes the opportunity to take active leadership roles both on and off the playing field. Athletes are taught the proper governing functions of SOLA and all the rules and regulations through various workshops. Athletes serve on Board of Directors, officiate competitions, coach & make decisions about the organizations future.



"FIT" with SOLA helps athletes to improve their training and competition by focusing on overall health and fitness. This is achieved through basic health screenings, provision of preventative and treatment services, education and referrals for follow-up care. The program addresses six disciplines: *Health Promotion, Opening Eyes, Healthy Hearing, Fit Feet, Special Smiles & Fun Fitness*. Each discipline is designed to promote healthy lifestyles to athletes and in return educate and share experiences with the medical and dental staff who participate.



Small Steps, Big Leaps is a sports play program designed to introduce children 2 to 7 yrs. old to sports prior to competition for Special Olympics at age 8. The program utilizes physical activities to develop fundamental motor tracking and eye-hand coordination play. Children build skills through structured activities. The program concentrates on applying these skills in preparation for later sports competition.



SO Get Into It is a curriculum resource kit for, regular education classrooms grades K-12, students with and without disabilities. The kit provides the necessary materials to involve students in learning about those who are different, but who can nonetheless inspire the world with the lesson that we all have gifts to contribute no matter what our limitations. Program goals are positive youth development and character education.



we are BUILDING GREATNESS!"



Family Support Network helps families help each other. With the assistance of similar agencies families have a support system within Special Olympics. Families have the opportunity to mentor, learn and provide resources and emotional support to one another.

Project UNIFY is a movement developed by Special Olympics & the Department of Education to initiate inclusion in all schools. The purpose is to promote school communities that exercise all young people as agents of change - fostering respect, dignity & advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities. Its objective is to make a large impact across the state & offer all of our life changing programs to Louisiana schools. Project UNIFY incorporates several programs such as:

- Youth Forum
- Unified Sports
- Traditional Special Olympics
- Small Steps, Big Leaps
- Athlete Leadership
- R-Word Campaign
- SO Get Into It
- Be a fan Campaign



To increase engagement, we implemented the **“Be a Fan”** campaign which makes our movement relevant to the general population. Many people know about our organization but do not fully grasp the scope. This campaign sends a powerful message that resonates with the general public, using core values and attributes that all can appreciate – unity, acceptance, dignity, strength, fun, etc. If you are a fan of sports that create unity, athletes who inspire, and links that foster acceptance, then you are already a fan of Special Olympics!



Sponsors



Special Olympics Louisiana would like to thank our sponsors for their continued dedication! They have given numerous hours in planning, organizing and assisting with Special Olympics events for the athletes. Several have enhanced their commitment by choosing to make an even more significant impact and difference in the lives of these athletes through substantial financial contributions. We are excited about continuing the relationships with our long time friends and partners.

Program Partners

Louisiana Law Enforcement Torch Run
Valero

Olympic Torch Sponsors

AT&T
Knights of Columbus
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Smokin' Blues and BBQ Challenge

Gold Medal Sponsors

Capital One Contributions Program
Energy Charitable Foundation
Macy's

Silver Medal Sponsors

Tidewater, Inc.
Freeport-McMoRan
Gannett Foundation

Bronze Medal Sponsors

Collision Research
W & T Offshore
The Woldenberg Foundation
The Greater New Orleans Foundation-Cox Charities
The Fred B. and Ruth B. Zigler Foundation



Law Enforcement Torch Run

Special Olympics Louisiana partners with various law enforcement agencies in order to promote awareness and relationship building between officers and persons with intellectual disabilities. It has developed into the largest grassroots fundraising event and has become the most highly successful public awareness campaign in the history of Special Olympics. The goals of the **Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)** are **public awareness** and **fundraising**. Over 150 Agencies are devoted to raising money to support Special Olympics Louisiana. These dedicated “Guardians of the Flame” carry the Torch in a week long run to State Summer Games in May spreading the message of Special Olympics along the way.

In 2008 the Louisiana Law Enforcement Agencies celebrated their 27th year coordinating the single largest fund raising event and the most highly successful public awareness campaign in the history of Special Olympics Louisiana. In 2008 alone, the Law Enforcement Torch Run hosted over 30 fundraising events. This hard work and dedication raised more than \$170,000 for Special Olympics Louisiana!



2008 Louisiana LETR Sponsors

Medallion Level Sponsor

Wal-Mart

Gold Medal Level Sponsors

Louisiana Masons

Paragon Casino and Resort

Silver Medal Level Sponsor

Louisiana Wildlife Agents Association

Bronze Medal Level Sponsors

CLECO

Grand Casino Coushatta

Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police

Louisiana Union of Police

Treasure Chest Casino



Special Olympics Louisiana
Statement of Financial Position
 December 31, 2008

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$632,956
Certificates of Deposit	\$836,715
Accounts Receivable	\$223,074
Interest Receivable	\$5,953
Prepaid Expenses	\$50,104

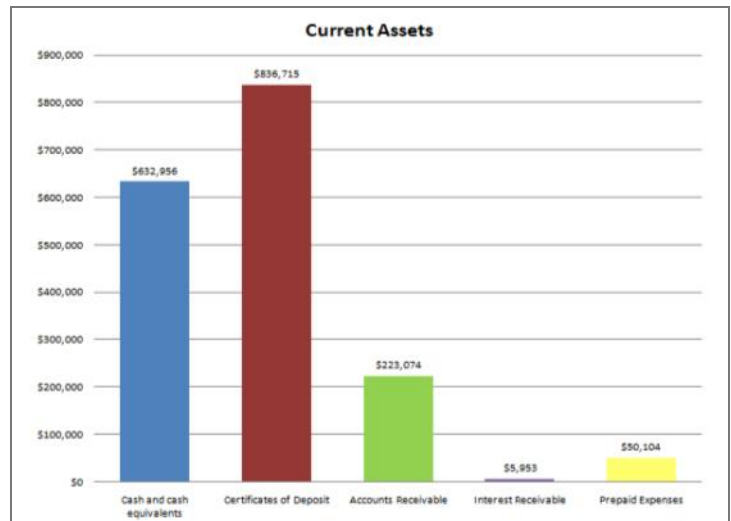
Total Current Assets \$1,748,802

Property & Equipment

Purchased Land	\$50,000
Building	\$190,000
Equipment	\$453,229
Capital Improvements	\$52,530
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$412,287)

Net Property & Equipment \$333,473

Total Assets \$2,082,275



Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$23,867
Accrued Vacation Payable	\$46,652

Total Liabilities \$70,519

Net Assets

Net Assets \$2,011,756

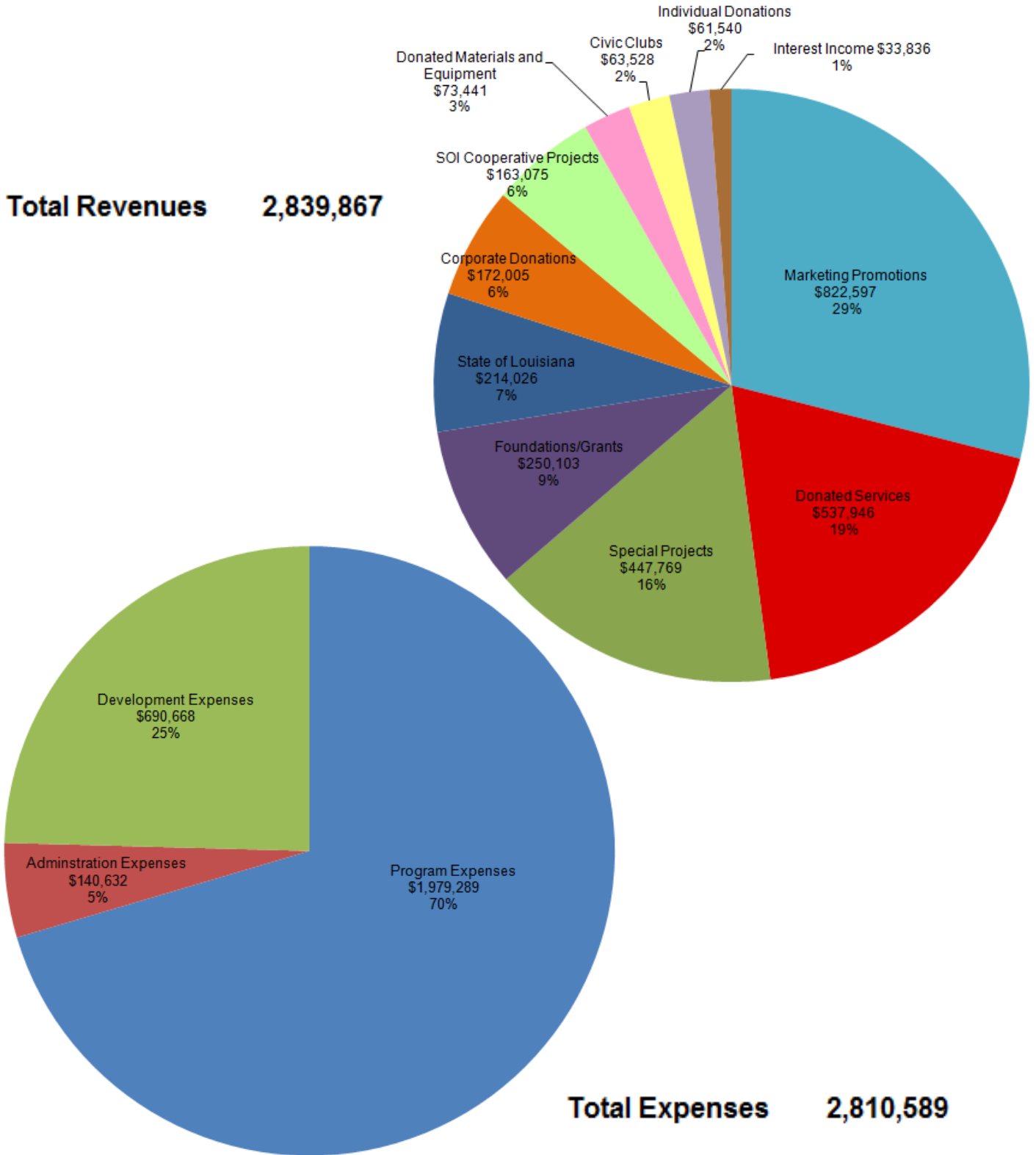
Total Net Assets \$2,011,756

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$2,082,275

Special Olympics Louisiana

Statement of Activities

For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2008



2008 Area Directors

Acadiana Area

Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette,
St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion

Curtis Chiles
(337) 280-4797
cchiles@lafayettegov.net

Bayouland Area

Assumption, Grand Isle, Lafourche, St. Charles,
St. James, St. John the Baptist, Terrebonne

Theresa Theriot
(800) 276-3195
santacruztee@msn.com

Capital Area

Ascension, East & West Baton Rouge,
East & West Feliciana, Iberville, Point Coupee

Darrell Johnson
(225) 291-4746
sola_capitalarea@cox.net

Cenla Area

Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides

Evelyn Crooks
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ecrooks@dhh.la.gov

Delta Area

Plaquemines, St. Bernard

Stewart Stanley
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sstanley@mail.ppsb.org

Florida Parishes Area

Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa,
Washington

Diana Brownlee
(985) 351-1615
dianabrownlee@hotmail.com

Jefferson Area

Jefferson

Pudge Doucet
(504) 393-7889
pudged@bellsouth.net

North Central Area

Bienville, Jackson, Lincoln, Union

Vacant - Robert Taylor (temporary)
W (318) 377-7553
rtaylor@laso.org

Northeast Area

Caldwell, East & West Carroll, Franklin,
Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland,
Tensas

Kenny Johnson
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Renee Starret

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Orleans Area

Orleans

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Southwest Area

Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron,
Jefferson Davis

Julie Montague
(337) 302-1848
solswarea@aol.com

2008 Staff

President & CEO

Pat Carpenter

Vice President of Finance

Sylvia Alaniz

Director of Outreach & Area Mgmt. SE

Charlie Courville

Director of Outreach & Area Mgmt. SW

Janette Burr

Director of Outreach & Area Mgmt. N

Sonny Taylor

Director of Special Projects SE

Tiffany King

Director of Special Projects SW

Bambi Casillas

Director of Special Projects N

Bridget Hebert

Director of Communications & Marketing

Tiffany Harvey

Director of Sports and Competition

Kevin Collins

Director of Volunteer & Program Mgmt.

Dana Hickman

Director of Program & Fund Development

Qwan Alford

Director of Individual & Corporate Relations

Amber Fleck

Assistant Accountant

Rita Drude

Executive Assistant

Cherisse Mathews

Office Manager

Sharon Lambert

Office Assistant

Glenn Drude, Jr.

Office Assistant

Fran Barrios

2008 Board of Directors

Chair

Michael Crawford
Baton Rouge

Vice-Chair

Ricky Ouber
Alexandria

Secretary

Dayle Guillory
Lafayette

Treasurer

James Bates
Bossier City

Athlete Representative

Rose Garrett
Baton Rouge

Brandon Black
Baton Rouge

Mona Brown
Lafayette

Steve Deist
Baton Rouge

Dr. A.N. Diodene
Plaquemine

John Paul Funes
Baton Rouge

Edward Gautier
Ponchatoula

Louis Griffin
Cut Off

Gayle Horaist
Carencro

Bill McDonald
Covington

Charles Trent
Lafayette





Be a fan of inspiration.



Be a fan of community.



Be a fan of friendship.



Be a fan of confidence.



Special Olympics

Louisiana

Be a fan.

www.laso.org



Be a fan of strength.



Be a fan of joy.



Be a fan of courage.



Be a fan of pride.



Be a fan of acceptance.



Be a fan of determination.



Be a fan of respect.



Be a fan of inclusion.



Be a fan of unity.



Be a fan of fun.