

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## BETHLEHEM CITY LOCAL PROGRAM VOLUNTEER HONORED BY SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA AS MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBER OF THE YEAR

(Norristown, PA, September 22, 2020) – Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) recently honored Fred Knauss, a Bethlehem City Local Program volunteer, during its Virtual Leadership Awards on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

Each year, this award is given to the individual whose efforts and leadership in the previous program year had a particularly notable impact on the quality of the local program that he/she served. The nominee serves on a local management team and is responsible for a specific area of management (outreach, public relations, finance, fundraising, competition, training, etc.).

Knauss has stepped up for Special Olympics Pennsylvania time and time again. He is always willing to go above and beyond fulfilling any role that the SOPA – Bethlehem City program needs. In the past year, he has served as Interim Co-Manager, Athlete Leadership Team Mentor, Health & Fitness Mentor and many more. In addition to his roles, Knauss is always working to bring new volunteers into the mix.

Knauss is deeply committed to the success of SOPA athletes – both on and off the court. His passion is serving as the Athlete Leadership Team mentor, where he always encourages athletes to participate in Athlete Leadership University and helps them to complete all of their courses. He is constantly looking for ways to expand the Athlete Leadership Team's responsibilities.

According to a volunteer, "Fred is a problem solver -- he seeks ways to make things run smoothly and is willing to hear different perspectives so that all ideas are valued. He definitely is a huge benefit to our program and our Management Team."

## About The SOPA Leadership Awards

SOPA Leadership Award recipients were chosen by a statewide panel of business and community leaders representing both the private and nonprofit sectors. Nominations come from local Special Olympics programs throughout Pennsylvania. The event is part of a yearly Leadership Conference designed to provide ongoing training and recognition for Special Olympics athletes and volunteers.

## About Special Olympics Pennsylvania

Special Olympics Pennsylvania provides year-round training and competition in 22 Olympic-type sports to more than 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities. For more information on how the movement inspires greatness, visit our Web site at <u>www.specialolympicspa.org</u>.