

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## WASHINGTON/GREENE COUNTY PROGRAM COACH HONORED BY SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA AS COACH OF THE YEAR

(Norristown, PA, September 22, 2020) – Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) recently honored Andy Knight, a Washington/Greene County Local Program volunteer, during its Virtual Leadership Awards on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

Each year, this award is presented to the Certified Coach who in the previous program year demonstrated outstanding commitment to the principles of Special Olympics sports training and competition. A coach who exhibited excellent athletic training skills, worked tirelessly to promote the best interest of athletes in his/her charge, and unselfishly contributed to his program's sports development in a sportsmanlike manner.

Knight is a coach who is there for his athletes on and off of the court. He coaches for a variety of sports within Special Olympics including basketball, bowling, floor hockey, golf and flag football. Coach Knight never misses a practice and is always there to support his fellow coaches and athletes anyway that he can.

As a volunteer, his dedication to his athletes shines through the bonds that he forms with each and every one of his players. He regularly keeps in touch with all of his athletes and supports them through whatever they have going on off of the court. To Knight, the athletes are his family and he treats them as such. He starts every practice off by greeting each athlete and talking to them before they begin their warmups.

In the words of a fellow volunteer, "Ask any of our athletes who their favorite coach is and they will say 'Coach Andy (Knight)."

## **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 <a href="https://www.specialolympicspa.org">www.specialolympicspa.org</a>.