

**Regional Executive Director**

**Department:** Programming

**Relationship:** Chief Operating Officer

**Location:** This position is based in the Three Rivers Region Office in Pittsburgh, PA.

**FLSA Status:** Full Time, Exempt, Salaried

Position Summary:

Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) is completing a multi-year reorganization that will allow us to better serve our athletes and volunteers. Through regionalization, we are looking to better support four areas: Sports/Competition, Development, Fundraising, Community Outreach and Program Administration. We are seeking an enthusiastic leader who is a team player, outgoing, adaptable, well-connected in the region, and experienced in leading change.

**Region 9 (The Three Rivers Region)** includes Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Lawrence, Indiana, Washington, and Westmoreland counties. The Regional Executive Director will be responsible for strategically elevating the presence and impact of Special Olympics by implementing strategies for growth in both school and community-based activities, community partnerships for funding, athlete and volunteer recruitment, quality of services, and overall community awareness. The director will be able to build relationships with our local programs and gain hands-on operational experience working with multiple departments and leaders across the organization.

Every day, we empower athletes to shatter stereotypes and exceed, and we empower athletes to achieve their personal best on the playing field and in life. Your work will raise awareness and strengthen local communities by promoting respect, acceptance, and inclusion for our athletes. As part of this team, you will make a difference.

**Principal duties and responsibilities:**

* Three primary accountabilities in this position:
  + Grow regional revenue from $1.9MM to $3.5MM by 2030.
  + Recruit, retain, and manage volunteers critical to delivering a quality experience.
  + Recruit and retain athletes, ensuring community integration between school and community programs.
* Lead and supervise the Three Rivers Region staff and volunteers serving on leadership teams.
* Manage finances by preparing and executing regional budgets and monitoring financial performance.
* Achieve regional budget targets by generating revenue through organizing special events and cultivating relationships with individual and corporate donors/sponsors in the region.
* Build strategic partnerships with various entities, such as, but not limited to:
  + Local School Districts, Universities and Colleges
  + Agencies and other Service Providers
  + Groups/organizations to support volunteer needs.
* Develop and implement strategies aligning with SOPA’s Strategic Plan and ensure the Region meets stated goals.
* Lead the conversation for public awareness within The Three Rivers Region to enhance the visibility of Special Olympics Pennsylvania as a whole and to meet the needs within the Region (i.e., volunteers, donor/sponsor marketing, etc.).
* Oversight of Athlete Leadership:
  + Incorporate input from the Regional Athlete Leadership Team and Athlete Representatives in regional goals development, implementation strategies, and objectives.
  + Communicate opportunities for input to regional ALT members.
* Community outreach focused on meeting or exceeding athlete and volunteer recruitment goals and identifying community partners to help support those.
* Adhere to and enforce SOPA policies and procedures.
* Other duties as assigned.

**4 Areas of Focus for the Region:**

**Sports**

The goal is to create more opportunities and better experiences through sport. The Regional Sports Director will lead this charge under the supervision of the Regional Executive Director and SOPA headquarters’ VP of Sports. The Sports Director will be responsible for the strategic growth of sports activities and will support recruiting new SOPA-eligible athletes, volunteers, and community partners to meet regional and state goals. This person will oversee The Three Rivers Region’s Sports Leadership Team. Responsibilities include but are not limited to Coach management and education, Region 9 competition and invitational management/coordination, and community partnerships to support program needs. This position will cultivate relationships with universities/colleges, regional schools, agencies serving athletes or potential athlete populations, UCS Schools, school districts, sports organizations, and volunteer groups to meet activity needs.

**Development**

The focus on development is to create strategic growth of the Three Rivers Region fundraising activities and to provide guidance and support for the program fundraising activities, ensuring revenue is generated to meet (or exceed) the Region’s annual budget. The Regional Development Director will lead this role under the supervision of the Regional Executive Director and SOPA headquarters’ COO. They will work with the Three Rivers Region Fund Raising Leadership Team to develop a Three Rivers Region fundraising plan. Additionally, this person will coordinate with SOPA leaders, develop sponsor/donor partnerships, and ensure fundraising efforts align with SOPA’s Strategic Plan.

**Community**

Regional staff will be responsible for the strategic growth of community activities and will support recruiting new SOPA-eligible athletes, volunteers, and community partners to meet regional and state goals. The Regional Executive Director will drive this area of focus. It will include volunteer and athlete management, recognition, community partner development, oversight of The Three Rivers Region’s Community Leadership Team, and Athlete Leadership opportunities to include, but are not limited to, Global Messengers, Health & Fitness Coordinators, Athlete Representatives, and Athletes as Coaches.

**Administrative Support for Local Teams**

Regional staff will work to centralize processes and reduce volunteers' current administrative work. This work will be led by Regional Administrative staff under the supervision of the Regional Executive Director. Our priority is to create great experiences for our athletes and volunteers as they renew their athlete medicals and volunteer clearances/certifications or as we welcome and onboard new athletes and volunteers.

**Ideal Candidate Qualifications:**

* Experienced in leading change.
* Successful fundraising and event planning experience.
* Nonprofit work or volunteer experience.
* Demonstrated ability to interact with children and adults with intellectual disabilities.
* Awareness of community resources to build relationships with businesses, sports teams, schools/colleges/universities, and other similar service providers.

**Required Qualifications:**

* Demanding a schedule of nights and weekends requires individuals to manage their work-life balance.
* Demonstrated leadership experience with positive operational results.
* Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with volunteers and other community or business leaders.
* Staff supervision and team building experience.
* Excellent oral and written communication skills.
* Budget development and implementation experience.
* Commitment to travel throughout the Region’s geographic area and evenings and weekend work as needed.
* Computer proficiency (utilizing office software programs, including databases, spreadsheets, and Microsoft Office programs).
* All SOPA employees are required to undergo a criminal history check and fingerprinting during their employment. Your employment is conditional, pending the results of the background check.
* Bachelor’s degree preferred.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Serious applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and salary requirement to [careers@specialolympicspa.org](mailto:careers@specialolympicspa.org).

No phone calls will be accepted. Resumes sent for positions other than this posting will not receive a response, and communications from recruiters will not be acknowledged.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania is proud to be an equal-opportunity employer.  We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, neurodiversity, age, parental status, socio-economic background, military service, or any other characteristic or status protected by applicable law.

We strive to create a workplace that reflects our communities and where everyone feels empowered to bring their whole, authentic selves and can do their best work.

**ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION**

Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) provides year-round training and competition in 21 Olympic-type sports to 15,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. For 50 years, SOPA and its nine regions have used the power of sports to transform the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and unite everyone by fostering community and building a more acceptable and civil society. SOPA is much more than a sports organization. Through its Athlete Leadership Programs, athletes assume meaningful leadership roles, influence change within the Special Olympics movement, and take on roles as Global Messengers (trained as public speakers for Special Olympics), athlete representatives, coaches, board members, and more. SOPA also addresses significant challenges facing its athletes, including healthcare. The Healthy Athletes program offers athletes free health screenings in the form of eye, ear, dental, and podiatry assessments. Athletes are also taught to live active lifestyles, eat healthily, and more. Additionally, SOPA strives to create a unified world by promoting inclusion, uniting communities, and changing attitudes. Through Unified Sports, SOPA brings together individuals with and without intellectual disabilities as equal teammates in training and competition, which promotes respect and acceptance and facilitates meaningful relationships between people of all abilities. For more information about how you can join “The Inclusion Revolution,” visit [www.specialolympicspa.org](http://www.specialolympicspa.org).