



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Special Olympics PA Announces 8th Annual Winter Games Polar Plunge Polar Plunge to kick off Annual Winter Games Celebration at Seven Springs

**Norristown, PA – January 25, 2019** –The eighth annual Winter Games Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at Canoe Creek State Park located at 205 Canoe Creek Road in Hollidaysburg, PA. Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. with a 12 noon “splash” time. The Plunge will welcome special guests Morgan Koziar of Central PA Live & Carolyn Donaldson of WPSU to serve as the plunge emcees.

The Winter Games Polar Plunge will precede SOPA’s winter sports competition being held at Seven Springs Mountain Resort from February 10-12. The plunge will welcome hundreds of individuals willing to brave the cold waters of Canoe Creek Lake in an effort to bring awareness to the athletes of Special Olympics PA. Funds raised will ensure that no SOPA athlete ever has to pay to participate in their elected sport. SOPA provides persons with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to participate in year-round sports training and competition.

The Polar Plunge invites participants of all ages (under 18 requires parent or guardian signature) to take a dip in the “cool” waters of Canoe Creek Lake. Plungers can register as an individual or, better yet, join a group of friends and form a Plunge Team. All participants are asked to raise \$50 in pledge support. With this minimum goal met, participants are then eligible to receive an official 2019 long sleeved Polar Plunge t-shirt (this year will be a special edition T-shirt since the plunge takes place on Groundhog Day). As pledges, increase plungers become eligible to earn additional prizes as incentives for their fundraising efforts. Additionally, since jumping into a freezing lake is not for everyone, participants can choose to register for the event as a “Too Chicken to Plunge” participant. This option allows “chickens” the opportunity to still support a worthy cause while staying on dry land.

Spectators can attend free of charge and will have the opportunity to have some fun at Plunge Town while waiting for friends and family to take the plunge. Activities and entertainment will include games, free refreshments, hot local DJ Beats & Beards spinning some tunes, sled dogs, and more. More than 400 costumed clad, energized plungers are anticipated to be “freezin’ for a reason” on February 2nd.

Winter Games Polar Plunge major event sponsors include the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics PA, Aerotek, GEICO, Sheetz, Harmelin Media, New Pace Productions, WTAJ, Forever Broadcasting, Hollidaysburg American Legion Ambulance Service, Geeseytown Community Fire Company & the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Every minute our plungers spend in the cold will warm the hearts of thousands of SOPA athletes, so we ask that individuals sign up and join the ones who are “freezin’ for a reason.” To register online or for more information, please visit [www.PlungePA.org](http://www.PlungePA.org), or call Jessica Kury at 724-375-7515, ext. 244.

### About Special Olympics Pennsylvania

Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) provides year-round training and competition in 21 Olympic-type sports and three emerging sports to nearly 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. For more information, visit our web site at [www.specialolympicspa.org](http://www.specialolympicspa.org).

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### Special Olympics Pennsylvania

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