



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Hailey Fuzak, 610-630-9450, ext. 219, hfuzak@specialolympicspa.org

Denise Thorne, dthorne@specialolympicspa.org

Special Olympics Pennsylvania's 12th Annual Eastern Polar Plunge Suspended Due to Health Concerns

(Norristown, PA – March 12, 2020) – Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) has made the difficult decision to suspend its 12th annual Eastern Polar Plunge until further notice due to concerns related to the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The Plunge was scheduled for Sunday, March 29, 2020 at Neshaminy State Park, located at 3401 State Road in Bensalem, PA. Plungers of all ages and abilities would have taken a dip into the Delaware River to support the nearly 20,000 athletes that SOPA serves.

With news about recently confirmed COVID-19 cases within Bucks County, the Philadelphia area and others across the state, Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) no longer believes that it can prudently proceed with the Plunge and be sure that it is providing a safe and healthy environment, regardless of what precautionary steps and/or preventative measures are implemented.

As SOPA navigates this constantly changing environment, it thanks its Eastern Polar Plunge supporters for their patience and understanding as it strives to make the best possible decisions with the safety and well-being of its constituents at the forefront.

A status update concerning the Eastern Polar Plunge will be provided in the coming weeks as SOPA continues monitor and evaluate the situation. For more information, please visit SpecialOlympicsPA.org/about-eastern-plunge.

About Special Olympics Pennsylvania

Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) provides year-round training and competition in 21 Olympic-type sports to more than 20,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities or closely related developmental disabilities. For more information about how you can join "The Inclusion Revolution," visit www.specialolympicspa.org.

###