

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS PENNSYLVANIA RECOGNIZES HOUSTON RESIDENT FOR NEARLY 26 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE

**(Norristown, PA, December 17, 2019)** – Cherie Mazutis, a Houston resident, was recently recognized by Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) for her nearly 26 years of service as a volunteer with Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Washington County. As part of her recognition, Mazutis received a plaque, a letter from SOPA President & CEO Matt Aaron and a certificate of appreciation.

Mazutis first got involved with SOPA when she was 21 years-old and she volunteered to be Washington County's Track and Field coach. Just six months after becoming a coach, Mazutis was asked to assume the position of Washington County manager where she was responsible for supervising the program's management team and overseeing all aspects of administration.

Under Mazutis' leadership, Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Washington County flourished. The program added new sports, grew the number of athletes it served and enhanced its volunteer experience. Mazutis made it a priority to find new opportunities for the athletes in order to help them gain confidence.

"Cherie is known for always wearing a smile and being a great friend to every athlete that she meets," said Jim Binz, Western Field Director. "She has always worked hard to provide our athletes the best experience possible and grow Washington County into a well-run program with dedicated and strong coaches."

After serving as a program manager for 25 years, Mazutis has decided to step down and Jody Knight, who has served as Washington County's assistant manager, will be taking over the program.

"My passion is always to spend time volunteering with the athletes," said Mazutis. "I look forward to still enjoying good times and supporting Special Olympics Pennsylvania – Washington County."

If you are interested in getting involved with Special Olympics Pennsylvania and becoming a volunteer please visit <u>https://specialolympicspa.org/become-a-volunteer</u>.

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## About Special Olympics Pennsylvania

Special Olympics Pennsylvania 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.