

# Special Olympics: Inclusive Sports Starts Here



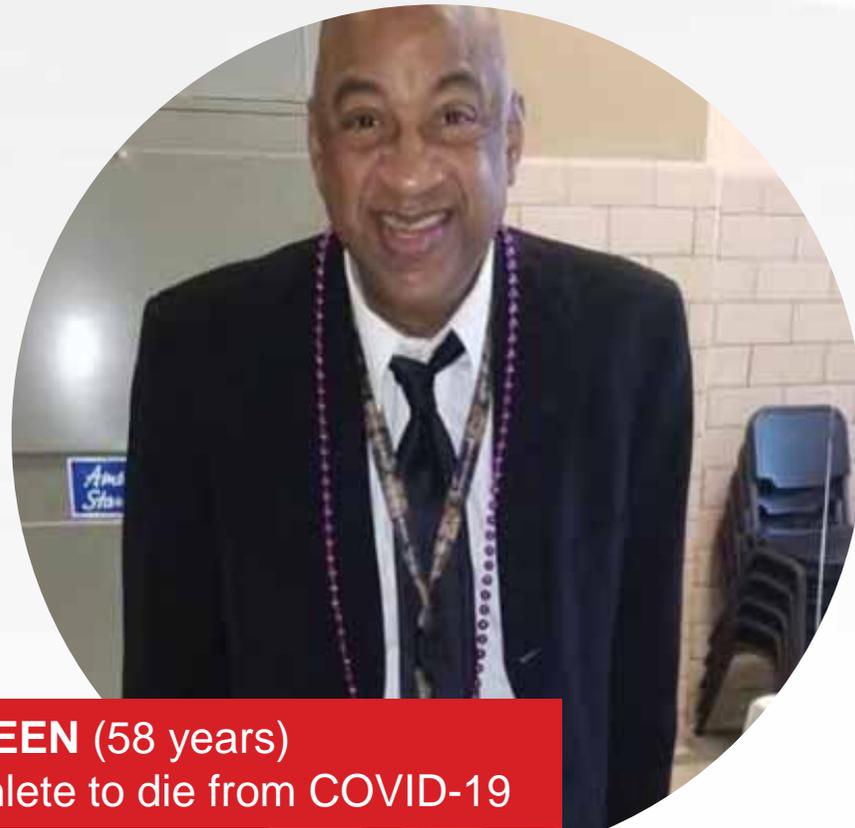
**Special Olympics**





## Why does a sports organization claim to be a social and spiritual change organization?

People with intellectual disabilities are a ***forgotten population*** creating enormous injustice, intolerance and inactivity.



**IVES GREEN** (58 years)  
1<sup>st</sup> US athlete to die from COVID-19

**“Ives had a lot more living to**

On Average, in the United States...





## On Average U.S. Special Olympics Team of 10 Athletes...

 **8** are overweight  
or obese

 **7** have significant  
problems with  
flexibility

 **4** need a new  
prescription  
for eyeglasses

 **2** have some kind  
of eye disease

 **3** will fail a  
hearing test

 **3** have untreated  
tooth decay

 **3** have low  
bone density

 **1** needs an urgent  
referral to a  
dentist



# In 2019, The Missing Billion report was launched

"That 1 billion people worldwide with disabilities are being failed by current health services is a travesty. As we advance the universal health coverage agenda, people with disability must not be forgotten"  
*The Lancet, July 2019*

The authors argue that a greater focus on the accessibility and quality of health care for individuals with disabilities must be a central goal and foundational metric for assessing SDG 3. The authors' defense of this argument, using personal stories and population data, makes The Missing Billion a major accomplishment.  
*American Journal of Public Health, February 2020*

## The Missing Billion

> ACCESS TO  
HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR 1 BILLION  
PEOPLE WITH  
DISABILITIES





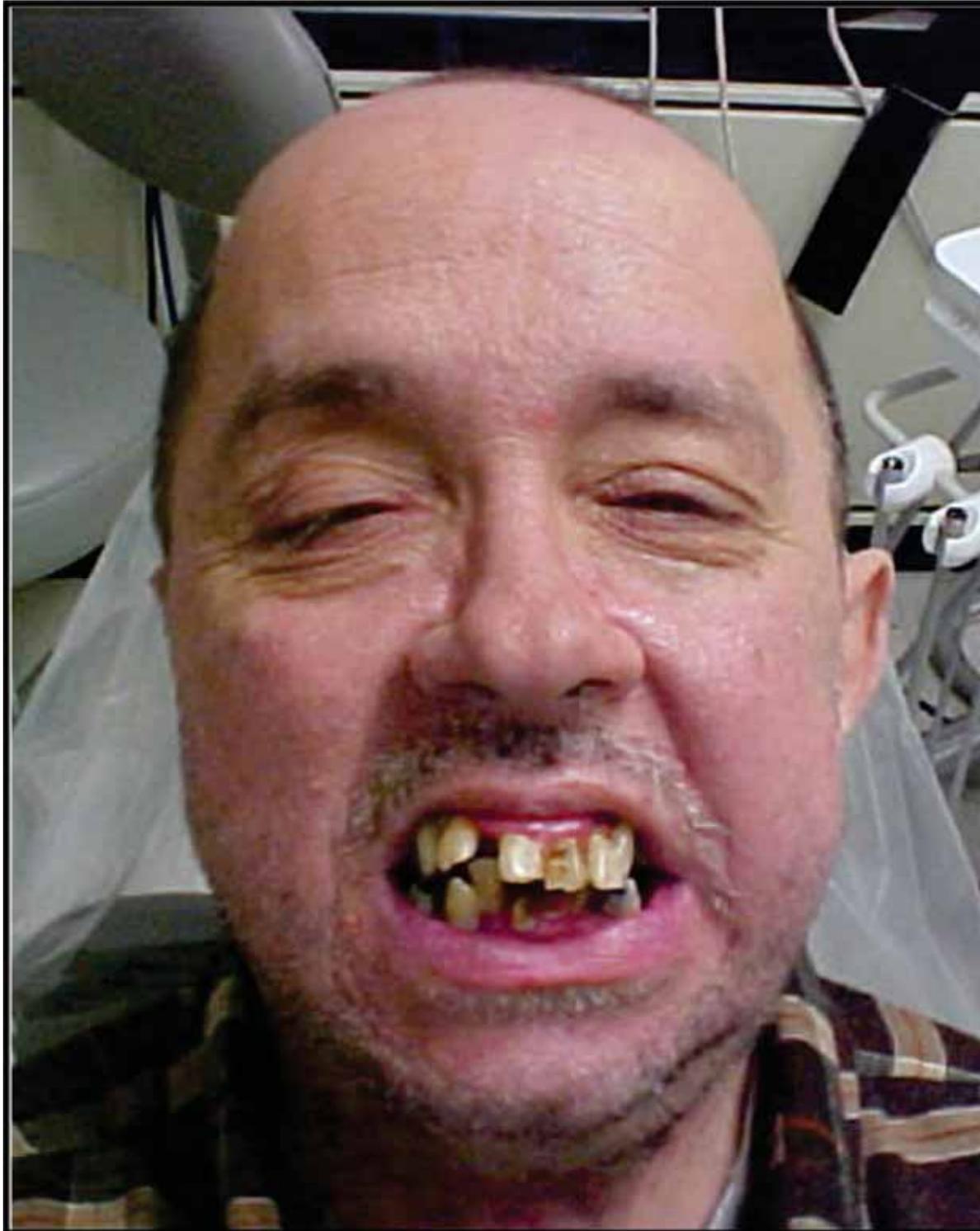
## Multiple Barriers to Achieving Health Equity

- **Inadequate education** for health professionals
- **Low levels** of health promotion and screening
- **Ineffective communication** and inaccessible materials
- **Lack of user-friendly** health systems and follow-up care
- **Lack of inclusive** policies



# Niyibikora Malachie –June 2017





# SPORT

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS  
(ATHLETES & UNIFIED PARTNERS)

**6,724,012** 2018-2019 CHANGE +5%

**ATHLETES** 5,755,056

(PEOPLE WITH ID)

2018-2019 CHANGE +5%

ATHLETE GENDER: 40.7% FEMALE, 59.2% MALE, 0.1% OTHER

## UNIFIED SPORTS

UNIFIED ATHLETES  
(PEOPLE WITH ID)

**909,142**  
2018-2019 CHANGE +7%

UNIFIED PARTNERS  
(PEOPLE WITHOUT ID)

**968,956**  
2018-2019 CHANGE +5%

YOUTH UNIFIED ATHLETES  
(PEOPLE WITH ID AGE 8-25)

**384,285**  
2018-2019 CHANGE +13%

YOUTH UNIFIED PARTNERS  
(PEOPLE WITHOUT ID AGE 8-25)

**305,744**  
2018-2019 CHANGE +12%

**COMPETITIONS** 114,888

2018-2019 CHANGE +8%

315 / DAY

13 / HOUR

UNIFIED 31,367

2018-2019 CHANGE +19%

**COACHES** 524,506

2018-2019 CHANGE +3%

CERTIFIED 379,874  
2018-2019 CHANGE +4%

CERTIFIED COACH TO 1:15  
ATHLETE RATIO

## PARTNERSHIPS

SPORTS PARTNERSHIPS **747**

# 2019 GLOBAL REACH REPORT

Special Olympics



## HEALTH

Health data were reported on an April 2019 - April 2020 cycle.



HEALTHY ATHLETES SCREENINGS

**157,319**

2018-2019 CHANGE -11%

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

**45**

2019-2020 CHANGE +32%

INCLUSIVE HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS

**747**

2019-2020 CHANGE +4%

FAMILIES, CAREGIVERS & ATHLETE LEADERS ACTIVATED AS HEALTH ADVOCATES

**7,107**

2018-2019 CHANGE +206%

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TRAINED ON ID

**36,258**

2018-2020 CHANGE -12%

## LEADERSHIP



ATHLETE LEADERS

**58,725**

2018-2019 CHANGE +24%



VOLUNTEERS

**1,194,337**

2018-2019 CHANGE +4%

YOUTH LEADERS (AGES 8-25)

**99,747**

+33%

YOUTH (AGES 8-25) 427,689 +7%

REGISTERED FAMILY MEMBERS 866,798 +3%

PROGRAMS WITH PAID LEADERSHIP

**143**

2018-2019 CHANGE +3%

PAID STAFF WITH ID

**235**

2018-2019 CHANGE +7%

## EDUCATION



UNIFIED SCHOOLS

**108,585**

2018-2019 CHANGE +2%

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

**10,162**

2018-2019 CHANGE +19%



YOUNG ATHLETES

**582,674**

2018-2019 CHANGE +32%





ATHLETE LEADERSHIP



Special Olympics  
**Unified Champion  
Schools**



Special Olympics  
**Young Athletes**



Special Olympics  
**Unified Sports**

Special Olympics  
**Healthy Athletes**



SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**WORLD  
GAMES**  
BERLIN 2023





# Injustice



# Justice



“The average child today spends less than three years playing a sport, quitting by age 11, most often because the sport just isn’t fun anymore.”



~ *The Aspen Institute*

### AGE CHILDREN QUIT REGULARLY PLAYING A SPORT (AGES 3-18)

SPORT	AVG. AGE OF LAST REGULAR PARTICIPATION	AVG. LENGTH IN YEARS OF PARTICIPATION
Baseball	10.5	3.3
Basketball	11.2	3.2
Bicycling	9.5	2.5
Cross Country	12.7	1.7*
Field Hockey	11.4	5.1
Flag Football	10.4	4.1
Tackle Football	11.9	2.8
Golf	11.8	2.8
Gymnastics	8.7	3.0
Ice Hockey	10.9	3.1
Lacrosse	11.2	2.2
Martial Arts	9.2	2.6
Skateboarding	12.0	2.8
Skiing/Snowboarding	12.1	4.3
Soccer	9.1	3.0
Softball	10.4	2.8
Swimming	10.2	3.2
Tennis	10.9	1.9
Track and Field	13.0	2.0*
Volleyball	12.3	2.0*
Wrestling	9.8	1.6
<b>All Sports</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>

\* These sports have low average lengths of participation due to kids starting these sports later.

Source: Aspen Institute/Utah State University 2019 National Youth Sport Survey (1,032 youth sports parents)

- Above all, parents want sports to be fun for their children.
- Parents believe their kids are having fun.
- To keep them playing, many parents are willing to spend lots of money.
- Kids from lower-income homes participate less often.
- Travel is now the costliest feature in youth sports.

# Ponaganset High School's Pledge



“As a member of the Ponaganset family, I pledge to look for the lonely, the isolated, the left out, the challenged and the bullied. I pledge to overcome the fear of difference and replace it with the power of inclusion. I CHOOSE TO INCLUDE!”

# Evan and Jay: Transformers



# Niyibikora Malachie – March 2019

