

Sports & Entertainment

Special Olympics celebrates one year countdown to 2026 with three-year Bank of America partnership grant ... from sports page 1

date, the training has been offered to more than 2,000 businesses, schools, and community organizations around the world. "Bank of America's support comes at a crucial time as we work to expand equitable access to leadership opportunities for Special Olympics athletes," said Mary Davis, CEO of Special Olympics. "They recognize that Special Olympics athletes are among the most impactful voices for inclusion. Together, we are dedicated to ensuring that people with intellectual disabilities are meaningfully included in all conversations and have the platform to lead."

Bank of America will also serve as a Platinum Partner of the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games (USA Games) which will take place next year June 20-26 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. As part of the partnership, Bank of America will sponsor the sport of golf at the USA Games, which brings more than 159 athletes and 40 caddies to the competition. This commitment builds on the bank's Golf with Us initiative, launched earlier this spring to bring more people into the game of golf across the United States. In addition to an average of 10,000 employee volunteer and engagement hours provided annually focused on the disability community, this sponsorship gives the bank's Minneapolis-area and surrounding market employees opportunities to volunteer and demonstrate their support for Special Olympics



athletes, families and coaches. Minneapolis-St. Paul President Lucas Giambelluca serves on the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games host committee board of directors.

"Partnering with Bank of America gives athletes like me, who are part of the Athlete Leadership Program, the chance to grow our leadership skills. Through the program, I've learned photography and gained confidence in public speaking," said Charlotte Miller from Special Olympics Indiana. "I also enjoy teaching other athletes about Better Money Habits. I've been an instructor for over a year, and the training has helped Special Olympics athletes learn how to save and manage money more effectively. I'm thrilled to be attending my first Special Olympics USA Games, where I'll be competing in golf and getting the chance to meet incredible people from all over the country."

Bank of America's decades-long support of Special Olympics is rooted in shared values and continues the company's longstanding commitment to strengthening local communities

and economic opportunities through philanthropic giving, workforce development, and volunteerism through thousands of employees around the globe. The company is committed to creating an environment where all teammates, including those with non-visible and visible disabilities, have an opportunity to succeed and achieve their goals.

"Sports have a unique ability to unite people, and for nearly 50 years, Bank of America has seen this through our partnership with Special Olympics as we work to advance their global movement grounded in fostering opportunity for people of all abilities," said AJ Barkley, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility, Bank of America. "Our continued philanthropic investment and sponsorship of the 2026 USA Games underscores our commitment to empowering every individual to lead and thrive across the global communities we serve."

BofA's Support Services team, an in-house marketing and fulfillment operations team for over 30 years, is staffed with more than 300 employees with IDD. With more than 23,000 members and 30 chapters worldwide, the company's Disability Action Network

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(DAN) connects employees to professional growth and development, holds information forums and fosters community involvement. Additionally, in partnership with Special Olympics and the National Disability Institute, Bank of America has created a series of Better Money Habits educational resources to help people with intellectual disabilities achieve financial independence.

Special Olympics

Founded in 1968, Special Olympics is a global movement to end discrimination against people with intellectual disabilities. We foster acceptance of all people through the power of sport and programming in education, health, and leadership. With over

four million athletes and Unified Sports® partners and one million coaches and volunteers in 200 countries, Special Olympics delivers more than 30 Olympic-type sports and nearly 50,000 games and competitions every year. Engage with us on: X, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, and LinkedIn. Learn more at SpecialOlympics.org.

2026 Special Olympics USA Games

The 2026 Special Olympics USA Games—scheduled for June 20-26, 2026, across Minnesota's Twin Cities—is a celebration of inclusivity, changing perceptions and the ability of the human spirit rising above limitations. The USA Games will be one of the biggest U.S. sporting events of the year, drawing tens of thousands of fans to celebrate the ability of over 3,000 incredible athletes from all 50 states as they compete in approximately 16 Olympic-type team and individual sports. As a state with a long history of championing diversity, equity and inclusion, the USA Games now bring an unrivaled opportunity for Minnesotans to spark new energy around the Special Olympics movement and create a lasting legacy of positive change. For more information visit 2026specialolympicsusagames.org.

Bank of America

Bank of America is one of the world's leading financial institutions, serving individual consumers, small and middle-market businesses and large corporations with a full range of banking, in-

vesting, asset management and other financial and risk management products and services. The company provides unmatched convenience in the United States, serving approximately 69 million consumer and small business clients with approximately 3,700 retail financial centers, approximately 15,000 ATMs (automated teller machines) and award-winning digital banking with approximately 59 million verified digital users. Bank of America is a global leader in wealth management, corporate and investment banking and trading across a broad range of asset classes, serving corporations, governments, institutions and individuals around the world. Bank of America offers industry-leading support to approximately 4 million small business households through a suite of innovative, easy-to-use online products and services. The company serves clients through operations across the United States, its territories and more than 35 countries. Bank of America Corporation stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: BAC). For more Bank of America news, including dividend announcements and other important information, visit the Bank of America newsroom and register for news email alerts.

Happy Fourth of July!
Happy Freedom!

Soccer Head Coach Richard Mulrooney promotes Cesar Sancho to assistant coach

MEMPHIS, Tenn., June 17, 2025— Memphis men's soccer head coach Richard Mulrooney announced that Cesar Sancho has been promoted to the title of assistant coach.

"After extensively going through and evaluating a very impressive list of candidates, we are thrilled to have Cesar join our staff full-time," Mulrooney said. "We were fortunate that Cesar volunteered with us this past spring, which helped us get to know him as a coach. He checks all the boxes of what we were looking for on and off the field to help us compete for more championships. In the end, Cesar knows our values and standards very well as he was a former player of ours who always held himself to a high standard, and we are excited to have him join our staff."

Sancho was a member of Tigers men's soccer from 2022-2023, graduating from the university in 2024. As a Tiger, Sancho appeared in 32 matches, with just under 2,000 minutes played. In his playing career at Memphis, he was a two-time American Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Week. He also a three-time All-Big South selection during his first three collegiate seasons, spent at Presbyterian College.

"It is an incredible honor to return to Memphis and join the coaching staff that helped shape me as a player and a person," said Sancho. "Working alongside

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Coach Mulrooney and Coach McManus is truly a full-circle moment. I am excited to give back to the program that gave me so much and help guide the next generation of Tigers."

The Toledo, Spain native returned to his alma mater in January of 2025, serving as a volunteer performance analyst. Sancho also spent time as an analyst with MAGIS Performance, a soccer academy, located in Memphis.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Men's Soccer, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.



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