



July 2022

Guardians of the Flame,

I want to thank all of you who have joined our efforts to support Special Olympics North Carolina through the Law Enforcement Torch Run! Heading into 2022, the NC LETR Council established two goals for the year that we are all still working to accomplish, and we need your support.

One goal is to increase the number of agency participation and the second goal is to increase the amount of funds we raise for SONC. As of the end of June, we have had close to twenty new law enforcement agencies added this year. We want to recruit at least another six agencies to reach our goal for agency participation. Please reach out within your network to recruit additional agencies and let me know if you need any support.

As far as our fundraising is concerned, we have raised \$720,000 of our \$1.5 million goal. We are halfway there in fundraising and halfway through the year. Nearly 70 agencies have raised over \$1,000 which is the total number of participating agencies we had in 2021. Keep up the great work, schedule events (please do not forget to complete your event notification form) and let's finish the year strong! There is still plenty of time for agencies to get in the Top 10. Just as a reminder, any agency that reaches \$7,000 in funds raised will be listed on the 2023 NC LETR T-shirt. Let's complete our mission of hope and make this the best fundraising year ever as our athletes so deserve it!

We are extremely thankful for everything you do in your communities and for Special Olympics North Carolina athletes. Please keep an eye out for our 2023 NC LETR conference details and save the date communication as we should be announcing the date and location very soon!

Several exciting fundraising events are coming up in the second half of 2022. We invite your agency support as many as you can!

WOD for Inclusion: Registration open www.wodforinclusion.com, schedule your WOD before October 31 to qualify for a Championship wrestling belt!

Over the Edge: October 1, 2022 – www.overtheedgeenc.com Sign up today to rappel 30 stories!

Plane Pull: October 29, 2022 – www.ncplanepull.com Teams of five participants pull a plane 25 feet to be crowned the Law Enforcement NC LETR Champion!

Truck Convoy: November 19, 2022, www.nctruckconvoy.com This year it will be at the zMAX Dragway in Concord! Recruit a trucking, towing, or distribution company to participate for credit!

We have many things to be grateful for that we have accomplished in 2022. In February, those that were able to attend, had an amazing NC LETR Conference in Cherokee. We also had a successful month of May with all five relay legs running the “Flame of Hope” throughout the state plus we were able to add a sixth leg that started in Ocracoke Island. This new sixth leg involved the Flame of Hope being transported via boat across the Pamlico Sound by NC Wildlife Law Enforcement, the Hyde County Sheriff’s Office, and NC LETR Council Special Olympics North Carolina Athlete Ambassador Dustin Edmondson. We completed all the relay legs in time for our Final Leg and Circle of Honor in Raleigh as part of the SONC Summer Games Opening Ceremony.

In addition to our statewide relays, we had the opportunity to run with the Special Olympics USA Games Final Leg team in Charlotte. This was a wonderful event as we ran the streets of Uptown Charlotte to Bank of America Stadium with hundreds of supporters lining the sidewalks cheering for the runners. Both events had historic high numbers of participants and we should all be extremely proud of these efforts. Please visit [2022 Final Leg](#) and [2022 USA Games Charlotte Relay](#) to view and download photos from these successful events.

In June, the SONC Summer Games returned after being postponed due to the pandemic for two years. Nearly 900 athletes from across the state competed in one of seven sports during the event. Following the SONC Summer Games, we had a delegation of 100 attend the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, FL. Our athletes brought home 26 gold medals, 28 silver medals, 23 bronze medals, 12 fourth-place ribbons, 8 fifth-place ribbons, 2 sixth-place ribbons, 5 seventh-place ribbons, 2 eighth-place ribbons and one participation ribbon.

As a Guardian of the Flame of Hope, each of you played an important role in allowing our athletes these awesome opportunities. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to Leslie Moyar at lmoyar@sonc.net or me at Ryan.Jackson@cmpd.org.

Respectfully,



Captain Ryan Jackson

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

NC LETR State Director