



PRESS RELEASE

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Date: January 26, 2026

Pasco Tax Collector's Office Will Spotlight Special Olympics of Pasco in February

Special Olympics of Pasco will be the featured charitable giving organization at the *Pasco County Tax Collector's office* in February. **Special Olympics of Pasco** is a sports and training program for people with intellectual disabilities. In Pasco, 1500 students participate in **Special Olympics**. Training in almost two dozen different sports is provided free of charge to participants.

Funds raised in a prior year helped the Pasco team attend the *2022 National Special Olympics USA Games* in Orlando. The Pasco County flag football team, the Dolphins, won gold. All funds raised during this charitable giving effort will support the improvement of athletic programs for participants, including updating uniforms, and will help offset costs of trips to Special Olympics games.

"We're incredibly grateful to Pasco County Tax Collector Mike Fasano and everyone in his office," said **Special Olympics Florida Regional Director Jessica Ott**. "The tax collector fundraiser helps provide uniforms, equipment, and training

for our amazing athletes. It also helps provide training for our volunteer coaches who make our work possible. The support for our athletes is truly inspiring, and we're honored that **Tax Collector Mike Fasano** and his office has embraced our mission."

"**Special Olympics of Pasco** has long held a special place in my heart," states **Tax Collector Mike Fasano**. "I'm proud that our staff and our community support this organization that helps bring purpose to so many lives. The athletes and the volunteers who work with them are some of the kindest, most positive people I have ever met. So many of the athletes have intellectual challenges that make life difficult. To see the joy on the face of an athlete as they cross the finish line is indescribable. **Special Olympics of Pasco** provides a respite from the difficulties many face daily. It also provides a place to be with others who also aspire to do their very best."

Donations can be made at any of the five tax collector locations in Pasco County. For those who would like to give online, the tax collector's office's charitable giving arm **Pasco TC Gives** has a webpage through which donations for the **Special Olympics of Pasco** (Charity of the Month) can be made:

<https://www.govhub.com/fl-pasco/tc-gives/donate>

For more details regarding the charitable giving program, or services provided by the *Pasco County Tax Collector's Office*, please contact **Greg Giordano, Assistant Tax Collector** at 727-847-8179 or visit www.pascotaxes.com . For more information about **Special Olympics of Pasco** please contact **Amy Selvey, Pasco Special Olympics Director** at 727-492-8413 or visit www.specialolympicsflorida.org/westcoast

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