

# What do they all have in common?



# ***Building Bonds & Fostering a Relationship with the Military Armed Forces***

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# INTRODUCTION

The success of Special Olympics (SO) and Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR<sup>®</sup>) is based on strong community ties that support each organization's goals.

Both groups can benefit from a robust relationship with the US and International military organizations that can increase visibility and the ability to serve Special Olympics athletes and their families.

# Goal of Military Expansion

The goal of the Military Expansion Initiative is Identifying US & International military organizations and promoting interaction with a unique community.

Incorporate military representation in the Worldwide Law Enforcement Torch Run and Special Olympics games (local, National and World)

Promote building LETR programs by fostering bonds locally and with the committee

Seek out members from the military committee including active duty and veterans to attend the LETR International Conferences.



# OVERVIEW

- Shared Values of Community Services
- Advantages of a fostered relationship
- Approaching military leadership
- Resources to tap
- Ways to promote SO & LETR®
- Structuring your organization



# ADVANTAGES

- Promotes awareness & increases visibility within the military community
  - Advances SO and LETR<sup>®</sup> philosophy & principles
  - Interaction with a unique community
- Serving additional athletes and families
  - Reaching a transient community
  - Providing opportunities for community service

# ADVANTAGES

- Access to facilities and resources
  - Partnering with Morale, Welfare, & Recreation
  - Recreation and sports facilities
- Expands volunteer base
  - Sporting events
  - Fundraising efforts



# APPROACHING LEADERSHIP

- Post, Garrison, or Senior Commander's
  - Special Olympics CEO and Vice President
- Provost Marshall or Chief of Police or Security
  - State Torch Run Director & Special Olympics LETR® Liaison
- Military Police Associations
  - Fraternal Order of Police





# APPROACHING LEADERSHIP

- Command Group
- Public Affairs Office
- Morale, Welfare, and Recreation organizations
- Community Directors
- Volunteer Coordinators
- Police Officers with military service affiliations

# RESOURCES

## ■ Facilities

- Gyms, weight rooms, bowling alleys, pools, track & field, softball fields, recreation centers

## ■ Equipment

- Tents, water tanks, sporting equipment

## ■ Volunteers

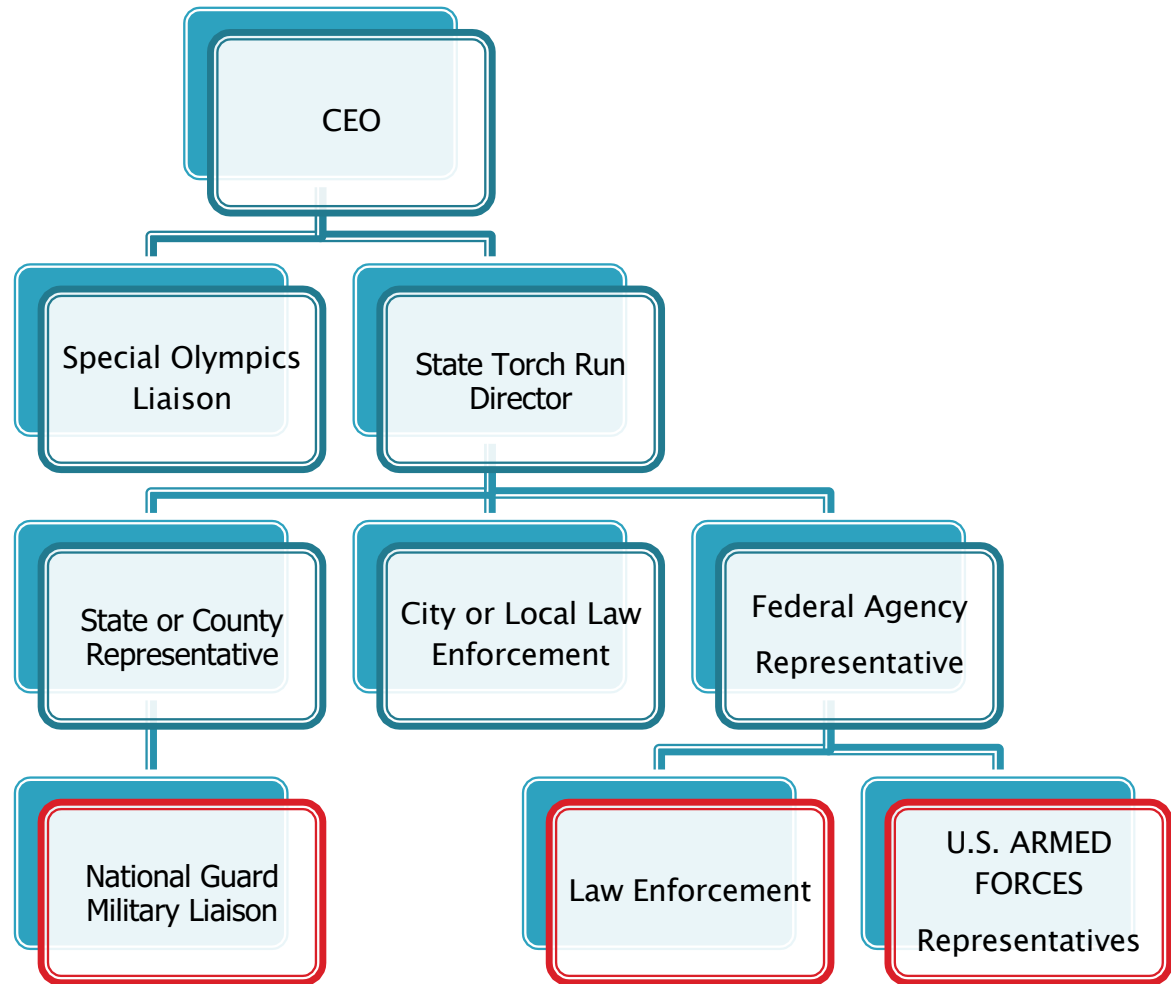
- Coaches, unified players, support teams, fundraising



# PROMOTING & INVOLVING

- Sporting events
  - Area & State Games, Summer & Winter Games
  
- Year round events
  - Law Enforcement Torch Run, Polar & Super Plunges, Tip-A-Cop, Cop-on-Top, Plane Pulls, Over the Edge & Fueling Dreams, etc.
  
- Active participation
  - Executive Committee Liaison
  - Conference invitation
  - Opportunities to participate, lead and organize activities

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



# SUMMARY

- Significant benefits with minimal effort
- Explore local military organizations
- Incorporate military representation in organization
- Build your program by building bonds



# QUESTIONS?

