



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Law enforcement honors Special Olympics Ohio with informal Torch Run

(Lebanon, OH) –On June 18th, 2020, Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities (WCBDD), along with members of the community, joined together to cheer on Warren County Law Enforcement as they participated in an informal Torch Run in honor of Special Olympics Ohio. Special Olympics Ohio is part of a global inclusion movement that uses sports, health education, and leadership programs to empower people with intellectual disabilities.

Raising funds and awareness for Special Olympics since 1981, The Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), invites members of law enforcement, to bike, run, and walk all across the state. Traditionally, the torch, also known as “The Flame of Hope”, is carried through Ohio, until it reaches The Ohio State University for the Opening Ceremonies of the State Summer Games. Due to COVID-19, the games were cancelled, and the run was held virtually. These challenges, however, did not deter Chief Deputy Barry Riley of the Warren County Sheriff’s Office.

Responsible for the recruitment of participants and the coordination of the three mile route through Lebanon, Chief Deputy Riley emphasized the importance of the LETR mission,

“Law enforcement is often honored with special duties. Supporting Ohio Special Olympics and the athletes who compete is one of the most cherished. While 2020 brought about unprecedented change and challenge, Warren County Law Enforcement rallied, with the support of Warren County Board of Developmental Disabilities, to ensure the mission was not lost.”

WCBDD Superintendent, Megan Manuel, who also serves as the Vice Chairperson of the Special Olympics Ohio Board of Directors praised Warren County law enforcement, saying,

“Although it is unfortunate that we weren’t able to participate in the annual event this year due to the cancellation of the Law Enforcement Torch Run and the State Summer Games, it was great that Warren County law enforcement was able to participate and contribute in this way. Warren County law enforcement has always come out strong to support the LETR and the 22,000 athletes who participate in Special Olympics Ohio, and we are very appreciative of their partnership.”

