

## **UNITED WAY OF THE OHIO VALLEY**

### **UNION COUNTY**

#### **PARTNER AGENCY: SPECIAL OLYMPICS, KENTUCKY TRI-COUNTY CHAMPS**

My brother was fifteen when I was born. In most any other circumstance, he would have moved out when I was young and I would have never gotten to know him- not well, anyways. This, however, was not the case. Fifteen years prior to my coming into this world, my brother was born premature and diagnosed with Down's syndrome. To this day, my mom says that he was the one that taught her patience. He taught me that, too. He also taught me that, before myself, I must think of the wellbeing of others. He has been, to me, the best brother I could have asked for. I started volunteering with Special Olympics at a young age. I basically grew up at track meets and in bowling alleys, watching my brother practice. He's been a Special Olympic athlete since he was eight, and trust me, if you were to ask him about it he'd be delighted to discuss every regional and state tournament he's ever attended. This is true for the rest of the athletes in our delegation. Special Olympics gives them a chance to make friends, to stay active, and to see just how far they can go. It instills pride where society might try to instill humiliation. It gives them a purpose, and above all, it makes them happy.

#### **WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL YOUR INVESTMENT MAKE?**

With your investment of \$100 **Tri-County Champs** can:

- Use for fuel to travel to area games in Owensboro
- Apply toward the purchase of new uniforms
- Apply toward registration fees

