

LEADER

A Quarterly Publication of Opportunities Unlimited

"Maximizing Personal Potential through Dignified and Purposeful Living"

Special Olympics

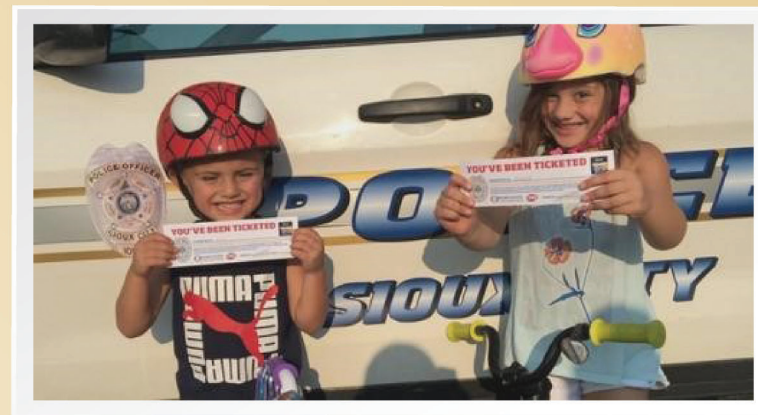


The Sioux City Knights have experienced great success with the various teams participating in Special Olympics. This group of dedicated coaches and advocates have supported a number of individuals with special needs in Siouxland who enjoy growing in their specialized events while developing friendships with peers. Many were able to participate in the Iowa Games held in Ames, Iowa and a select number of individuals were fortunate to participate in the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games held in Orlando, Florida. Congratulations to these athletes; we know the time and dedication that is put forth to reach this level of success!



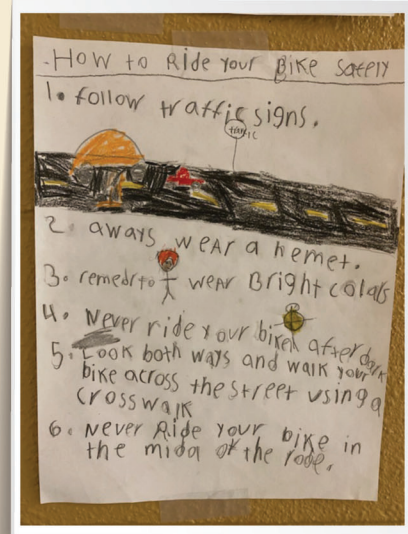
You've Been Ticketed

For the past eight years, Opportunities Unlimited has partnered with our local Dairy Queen and Sioux City Police Department for the community program, "You've Been Ticketed." This joint venture promotes bicycle safety and encourages children to wear helmets while riding their bikes. As members of the Sioux City Police Department or Volunteer Trailblazers spot children wearing their helmets while riding their bikes, they may stop and issue a "ticket" which can be exchanged at DQ for a free ice cream cone!



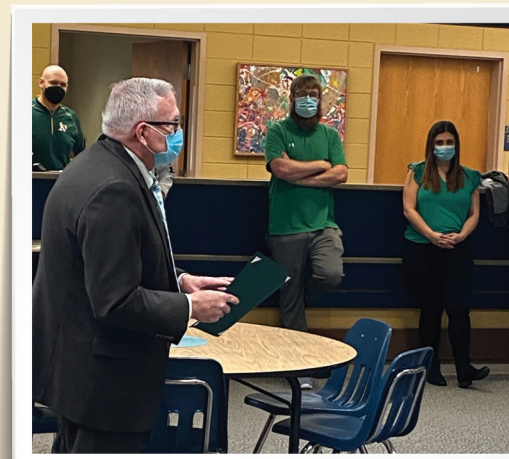
Gotta Brain Getta Helmet

Each year, Opportunities Unlimited reaches out to our local elementary schools through the "Gotta Brain Getta Helmet" program. By partnering with local educators, OU is able to provide valuable brain injury prevention curriculum that highlights the importance of bicycle safety and wearing protective equipment. Participating students create essays or posters to capture what they've learned from the program. On average, OU has distributed approximately 300 helmets each year. However, with the support of grant funding from local organizations including DQ, OU was able to provide over 1100 helmets in 2022! It has been rewarding to be able to promote safety and brain injury prevention to students who eagerly take part in this initiative!



Brain Injury Awareness Month

Opportunities Unlimited celebrated National Brain Injury Awareness Month in March. In honor of persons served, a proclamation declaring march as Brain Injury Awareness Month was held by the Sioux City Council. In a separate event, Mayor Pro-Tem Dan Moore also read a proclamation at the OU Community Center for staff and persons served. This was followed up with refreshments and green confetti cannons in the OU gym for our persons served and staff to actively engage in the event. We are grateful that our civic leaders continue to support our organization, persons served, and causes which are the foundation for the services we provide.



OU Salutes Our Graduates

Isabella Badar – Hinton High School
 Alicia Hagen – WITCC
 Lauryn Wendte – Northeast
 Sydney Knutson – University of South Dakota

Emilee Ketoff – Morningside University
 Audrey Enszer – West High School
 Michelle Evert – WITCC
 La'Anna Jones – WITCC



OU Annual Golf Tournament

Opportunities Unlimited is hosting their 25th Annual Golf Tournament this summer! This tournament is OU's primary fundraising event and is scheduled for Friday, July 15th at the Sioux City Country Club. The tournament is an ideal time to partner with OU and provide support to many who benefit from our services; all while enjoying a beautiful day on one of our community's finest golf courses! As a non-profit organization, OU strongly relies on the Siouxland Community to help support our mission; one that allows us to continue to improve and excel in the rehabilitation, therapeutic, and community services we provide. We're humbled by the continued support and enthusiasm we see from the community.



Cheering on the Explorers

Thank you to the Knot Hole Gang for providing Opportunities Unlimited with tickets to cheer on the Sioux City Explorers! Our persons served have enjoyed planning these events at the ballfield and spending time with their peers. The generous donation from this group of philanthropists have allowed our persons served to participate in some activities that otherwise might be more challenging for them to access. You'll be able to count on the group from OU to be cheering loudly for the home team!

