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## Northstar New Jersey Supports 2014 Special Olympics USA National Games

(Trenton, New Jersey) – Northstar New Jersey Lottery Group, an affiliate of GTECH Corporation, a leading technology provider, is pleased to announce its Corporate Sponsorship of the 2014 Special Olympics USA National Games being held June 15<sup>th</sup> through June 20<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey. Northstar New Jersey is the management services company which, through a Growth Services Agreement with the State of NJ and Department of Treasury, provides sales and marketing support to the New Jersey Lottery. A significant pillar of Northstar NJ's success is its commitment to the community and corporate social responsibility. The 2014 Games are centered in and around Princeton and the Greater Mercer County area; venues include Princeton University, Rider University, The College of New Jersey, and Mercer County Park while the Prudential Center in Newark will host the Opening Ceremonies on June 15th and the Sun National Bank Center in Trenton will be host to the closing ceremonies on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Special Olympics is an international organization that changes lives by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual disabilities, promoting acceptance for all, and fostering communities of understanding and respect worldwide. An estimated 40,000 Special Olympics events take place every day, from China and the Middle East, to community playgrounds and ball fields all around the world.

The 2014 Special Olympics USA National Games will feature an estimated 3,500 athletes competing in 14 Olympic-style sports, with the support of 1,000 coaches and 8,000 volunteers. Youth and education events will also be held in conjunction with the Games as young leaders rally around making change for the better of the Special Olympics Movement and promoting acceptance of those with intellectual disabilities. The Games will provide athletes with the highest quality of sports competition while creating an environment of understanding and acceptance on the playing field, and serving as a model for unified schools and communities across the country through the athletes' achievements in sport.

The 2014 Games will bring an estimated 80,000 people to the greater Mercer/Middlesex County areas. In addition to financial support, Northstar New Jersey employees are volunteering their time to serve as Athlete Escorts, Track and Field Events Assistants, Media Assistants and Finish Line Attendants during the Games. Northstar New Jersey is a proud sponsor and supporter of the Special Olympics USA National Games.

## **About Special Olympics**

Special Olympics is an international organization that changes lives by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual disabilities, promoting acceptance for all, and fostering communities of understanding and respect worldwide. Founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the Special Olympics movement has grown from a few hundred athletes to nearly 3.5 million athletes in over 170 countries in all regions of the world, providing year-round sports training, athletic competition health screenings, and other related programs. Special Olympics now takes place every day, changing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities in all regions of the world and in community playgrounds

and ball fields in every small neighborhood's backyard. Special Olympics provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to realize their potential, develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience joy and friendship.

The USA Special Olympics National Games are held every four years. They last were held in Lincoln, Nebraska in June of 2010. For more information on the 2014 USA Special Olympics National Games, please visit <a href="https://www.2014specialolympics.org">www.2014specialolympics.org</a>.