



What is the Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the single largest year-round fundraising movement benefiting Special Olympics Illinois. The Torch Run has two goals – to raise money and to gain awareness for the athletes who participate in Special Olympics Illinois. The LETR has raised more than \$47 million over 32 years while increasing awareness of Special Olympics athletes and their accomplishments.

The Torch Run includes an annual intrastate relay conducted by officers representing every branch of law enforcement across the state from local police officers to FBI agents. Approximately 3,000 officers carried the Flame of Hope nearly 1,500 miles from June 10 – 15, running through thousands of Illinois communities via 23 different legs (routes) to its final destination – the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games on June 15 in Normal.

In addition, the Law Enforcement Torch Run hosts a variety of annual fundraising events including Polar Plunges, Dunkin’ Donuts Cop on Rooftop, Texas Roadhouse Benefit Lunch, World’s Largest Truck Convoy and Plane Pull events. Since 1986, the Law Enforcement Torch Run has raised nearly \$47 million while increasing awareness of Special Olympics Illinois athletes and their accomplishments.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run has selected “Guardians of the Flame” as the theme for 2018 and will be using #ILTorchRun on social media to inspire officers and departments to spread the word about how the Torch Run transforms the lives of Special Olympics athletes in Illinois.



“2018 Torch Run” Runners from the Quincy Police Department and the Adams County Sheriffs’ Dept covered 22.5 miles to the Hancock County Line where the torch was then handed off to Hancock County Law Enforcement.