

The Voice of Hope

A monthly publication of Home of Hope, Inc. February, 2015

*Making a difference in
the lives of men and
women with
developmental
disabilities since 1968*



"Because everyone deserves a home, a sense of belonging, and a sense of purpose in their lives."



A swimmer stretches for the wall. A runner leans to cross the finish line. Effort. Determination. Achievement. The feeling an athlete gets when

they've given it all they have. The roar of the crowd, and the knowledge that those cheers are for them.

Cheri Baker has worked at Home of Hope for 30 years. For her, what's so wonderful about **Special Olympics** is its focus on what men and women with disabilities **can** achieve. So much of their lives are about what they **can't** do. There are so many things they are left

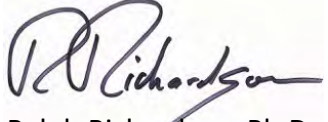
out of. But when they compete, when they are crossing the finish line, when they hear the cheers, they have what we all want so desperately.

Involvement. Accomplishment. Recognition. Pride.

On January 8th and 9th, **91 men and women from Home of Hope** descended on Oklahoma City for the Winter Olympic Games—**more than from any other program in the state.** With their sites set specifically on the swimming and bowling competitions, our men and women certainly returned with their share of ribbons and medals. More importantly, they returned with the pride of having

competed, and the memories of having done so together.

Home of Hope will take 120 athletes to the Summer Games, again more than any other program in the state. And beyond the numbers, the medals, the ribbons, and even the cheers and the applause, somewhere unnoticed by the crowds, a person who has faced what seemed like insurmountable obstacles will smile with pride. An Olympic achievement worth all the effort.


Ralph Richardson, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer



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If you would be willing to save Home of Hope money simply by agreeing to receive our newsletter electronically, please either e-mail jodi.manning@homeofhope.com or contact Jodi by phone at (918) 256-7825, ext. 135.

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Have you remembered Home of Hope in your will?

The
Home of
HOPE

For Men and Women with
Developmental Disabilities

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Promoting Choices, Independence,
and a Meaningful Way of Life

Events and activities: On **February 11th**, Home of Hope's annual **Chocolate Affair** will take place at the Craig County Fairgrounds. Our target is to raise \$20,000 through this event this year for the programs and services at Home of Hope. The evening kicks off at **6:00 PM** and tickets are \$20.00 at the door. Please plan to join us for a great evening of fun, food, friendly competition for auction items, and of course chocolate in every form imaginable!



On **March 19th, 20th, and 21st** in the training center on our Vinita campus, the men and women of Home of Hope will be starring in a special production of **The Wizard of Oz**. They are practicing hard, and you are invited to attend and cheer them on. **Please note that the performance times have changed.** Thursday and Friday will be from **6:00 to 9:00 PM**, and Saturday from **2:00 to 5:00**.