March 12, 2020

To our athletes, volunteers, families and friends of Special Olympics North Dakota (SOND), we want to update you in regards to the developments tied to the global spread of the coronavirus and the impact to SOND.

The health and safety of the SOND community is a priority. As advised by Special Olympics International, SOND will support the recommendation of suspending athlete affiliated sports training and competition activities through April 5 as a precautionary measure against the spread of coronavirus. Should you have any questions, please call SOND.

As part of our protocol, education and awareness is important. Please find health tips and a Q & A on the following link: [https://www.specialolympics.org/stories/news/coronavirus-outbreak-what-you-need-to-know](https://www.specialolympics.org/stories/news/coronavirus-outbreak-what-you-need-to-know). It cannot be stressed enough to: wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds; use hand sanitizer, avoid high-fives, and avoid contact with your face. At other non-athlete SOND events, education and protocols will be put in place.

Additionally to stay informed, the following link is specific to North Dakota: [https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus](https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus)

Should you learn of anybody in your SO Program who may have contracted the virus, please alert SOND President/CEO immediately.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and cooperation: The health and safety of our athletes and constituents are our highest priority.

Kathleen Meagher
President/CEO