



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Alexandra McMillin 312-502-7954, amcmillin@soill.org

JewelOsco and Special Olympics Illinois select athlete Eve Erita as “Change for Champions” Campaign Ambassador

Register campaign runs July 1-31 at 188 statewide locations

JewelOsco is kicking off its annual at-register campaign event to benefit the athletes of Special Olympics Illinois by naming Eve Erita, 28-year veteran associate at store #1518 in McHenry, Illinois as the face of “Change for Champions”. The promotion runs July 1-31 at 188 Jewel-Osco locations throughout Illinois, where customers will be encouraged to make a \$1, \$3, or \$5 donation during checkout.

In addition to her long tenure with JewelOsco, Eve has participated in Special Olympics for over 2 decades, competing in multiple sports including basketball, bowling, and bocce. She is a people person and a great team player. “Every day she works, she comes in with a smile and a very contagious laugh”, says coworker Samantha Green, “her cheerful disposition and positive attitude make every day in our store a lot brighter and she is a joy to work with.” Eve is famous for her hand-made greeting cards and her ability to remember friends and customers on their birthdays and holidays. As the 2019 Change for Champions Ambassador, Eve’s friends can now turn the tables and celebrate all of her accomplishments.

The funds raised during the July campaign will support programming for more than 23,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities and 17,000 Young Athletes ages 2-7 with and without disabilities, at more than 300 events per year. “We are extremely grateful for our partnership with JewelOsco and the tremendous support they have shown our athletes,” said Dave Breen, President & CEO of Special Olympics Illinois. “In addition to their fundraising efforts, JewelOsco provides jobs for many Special Olympics athletes throughout Illinois, giving them the ability to learn valuable life skills and be productive members of their communities.”

About JewelOsco

JewelOsco was founded in 1899 and is owned by New Albertsons, Inc. The grocery and drug retailer has 188 locations encompassing Illinois, Northwest Indiana and Iowa, and employs 31,000 associates. For more information log onto www.JewelOsco.com and follow on social media at [Facebook.com/JewelOsco](https://www.facebook.com/JewelOsco), [Twitter.com/JewelOsco](https://twitter.com/JewelOsco), [Instragam.com/JewelOsco](https://www.instagram.com/JewelOsco), [Pinterest.com/JewelOscopr](https://www.pinterest.com/JewelOscopr) and [YouTube.com/JewelOsco](https://www.youtube.com/JewelOsco)

About Special Olympics Illinois:

Special Olympics Illinois is a not-for-profit organization offering year-round training and competition in 18 sports for more than 23,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities and over 17,000 Young Athletes ages 2-7 with and without intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics transforms the lives of people with intellectual disabilities, allowing them to realize their full potential in sports and in life. Special Olympics programs enhance physical fitness, motor skills, self-confidence, social skills and encourage family and community support. If you are interested in learning more about Special Olympics Illinois, volunteering or providing financial support to help make Special Olympics programs possible, contact your local Special Olympics agency, call 800-394-0562 or visit our website at www.soill.org. Follow Special Olympics Illinois on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsIllinois), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SpecialOlympicsIllinois) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/SpecialOlympicsIllinois).

###

Special Olympics Illinois

605 E. Willow St., Normal, IL 61761

Tel 309-888-2551 Fax 309-888-2570

www.soill.org

Created by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation for the benefit of persons with intellectual disabilities

