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**Lee Health's Dave Cato Joins Special Olympics Florida Board of Directors**  
*Chief Administrative Officer of Outpatient Services for Lee Health and  
longtime Special Olympics Florida volunteer continues his service to the organization*

(Fort Myers – July 2, 2019) --- Special Olympics Florida announced today Dave Cato, Chief Administrative Officer of Outpatient Services for Lee Health, will join its Board of Directors. Cato not only brings his highly respected leadership skills and strategic business knowledge, but also his extensive background as a health care professional. He has shared this knowledge through extensive community involvement, including as a volunteer Clinical Director with Special Olympics Florida.

"I'm humbled and honored to be asked to join the board of an organization that encourages inclusion and supports equal opportunities and access to health care for people with intellectual disabilities," Cato said. "Through this new role, I hope to bring awareness to the community about Special Olympics Florida and the significant impact it has on so many lives throughout the state."

In 2018, Cato was awarded the Golisano Health Leadership Award, Special Olympics' highest honor for health partners and health care professionals. He was recognized for his extraordinary efforts and dedication to improving the health of people with intellectual disabilities and advancing Special Olympics' movement and vision towards inclusive health.

In his role with Lee Health, Cato oversees the strategic, operational, and clinical direction for outpatient services and other post-acute and rehabilitation areas. Additionally, he serves on the leadership team of the Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida. He is a graduate of the University of Florida and a long-standing member of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Florida Physical Therapy Association. For the past six years, Cato has served as a Clinical Director for Special Olympics Florida overseeing "Fun Fitness" which provides physical therapy examinations for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities at local, regional and state Special Olympics Florida events.

Visit [specialolympicsflorida.org](http://specialolympicsflorida.org) and follow the organization on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to learn more about Special Olympics Florida.

**About Special Olympics Florida**

*Special Olympics Florida provides year-round sports training, competition, and health services to children and adults with intellectual disabilities, at no cost to the athletes or their caregivers, as a means to achieve physical fitness, self-esteem, socialization skills, and the life skills necessary to be productive, respected, and contributing members of their communities. To learn more, visit [www.specialolympicsflorida.org](http://www.specialolympicsflorida.org).*

**About Lee Health**

*Since the opening of the first hospital in 1916, Lee Health has been a health care leader in Southwest Florida, constantly evolving to meet the needs of the community. A non-profit, integrated health care services organization, Lee Health is committed to the well-being of every individual served, focused on healthy living and maintaining good health. Staffed by caring people, inspiring health, services are conveniently located throughout the community in four acute care hospitals, two specialty hospitals, outpatient centers, walk-in medical centers, primary care and specialty physician practices and other services across the continuum of care. Formerly known as Lee Memorial Health System, the organization began its second century of service with a new name in 2016. Learn more at [www.LeeHealth.org](http://www.LeeHealth.org).*