



**Kathleen L. Schirling**  
802.660.1363 Fax: 802.660.1577  
kathleen.schirling@peoples.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 29, 2016**

**PEOPLE'S UNITED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$3,500  
TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**MANCHESTER, NH** – The People's United Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of People's United Bank, announced today that it has awarded \$3,500 to Special Olympics New Hampshire for its Young Athletes Program.

Special Olympics New Hampshire (SONH) is part of an international global organization that changes lives through sport by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual disabilities, promoting acceptance for all, and fostering communities of understanding and respect worldwide.

“We are so happy that People's United Community Foundation is joining with Special Olympics New Hampshire in 2016,” said SONH president Mary Conroy. “This partnership will allow us to continue providing opportunities for New Hampshire's youth with and without intellectual disabilities to grow physically, emotionally and socially through participation in our Young Athletes Programs and will benefit our families in many ways.”

“We are pleased to support Special Olympics New Hampshire as it expands its Young Athlete Program,” said Dianne Mercier, Officer, People's United Community Foundation and President, People's United Bank, New Hampshire. “Special Olympics has long provided a much-needed focus on bringing youth together – those with and without intellectual disabilities - to foster understanding, respect and acceptance.”

Established in 2007, People's United Community Foundation was formed to help support programs and activities that enhance the quality of life for citizens in the communities that People's United Bank serves. People's United Bank, founded in 1842 and serving customers from New York to Maine through a network of 400 branches, is the largest independent bank headquartered in New England. The Foundation places special emphasis on programs designed to promote economic self-sufficiency, education and improved conditions for low-income families and neighborhoods. The funding priorities of the Foundation include community development, youth development, and affordable housing.

###