



Special Olympics
Health

MADE POSSIBLE BY **Golisano** FOUNDATION

Special Olympics
Healthy Hearing



Dr Doherty is presented with the inaugural Special Olympics New Zealand Golisano Health Leadership Award

On Saturday the 21st July, 2018 we celebrated both the 50th birthday party of Special Olympics and the presentation of the Golisano Health Leadership Award to Dr Jeanine Doherty.



Hot pink is the signature colour of the Healthy Hearing screening programme which is part of the Healthy Athletes screening programme offered by SONZ and includes Opening Eyes; Fit Feet, Special Smiles; and Health Promotion. The Healthy Athletes programme came about as Special Olympics realised the need for athletes to have greater access to health care assessment and follow-up.

We were delighted to have Members of Parliament Ruth Dyson and Dr Duncan Webb, representatives from local Rotary and Lions Clubs, Paul Peryman who represented the New Zealand Audiological Society, Jeanine's wonderful team of clinicians, SONZ CEO Carolyn Young, and a large contingent of athletes, volunteers, friends and family join us to help celebrate the occasion. Ruth Dyson and MP Dr Duncan Webb assisted Global Messenger Rochelle Water to cut the very fabulous cake.

Dr Doherty is up for an international award after being presented with the inaugural Special Olympics New Zealand Health Leadership Award by Labour MP for Port Hills Hon Ruth Dyson.

The New Zealand award recognises local health champions and their voluntary efforts towards fulfilling the goals, values and missions of the Golisano Foundation.





The global Special Olympics Golisano Health Leadership Award recognises the work of individuals who work and advocate for, the needs of people with intellectual disabilities through Special Olympics New Zealand and internationally. See this story here for more details.

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/GE1807/S00090/Christchurch-doctor-up-for-international-health-award.htm>

You will notice that the theme colour for the Golisano Health Leadership award presentation ceremony was pink. This is in recognition of the work of Dr Jeanine Doherty who is the Clinical Director for Healthy Hearing, Special Olympics New Zealand.

Also, on the 21st July, some 60 athletes and non-athletes had their ear health checked at a local Healthy Hearing screening run out of Jeanine's clinic. This was part of the 50th birthday celebrations for Special Olympics.

One of the best things about the "Healthy Athletes" programme is that screenings are conducted in a relaxed way. Anyone who has been through the Healthy Hearing screening programme will know that it is lots of fun and very pink. A big thank-you to Jeanine and the team for their efforts. This team included Masters of Audiology students who gained some valuable practical experience. Across all disciplines, the inclusion of professional clinicians and students makes a big impact on health care – inspiring students to be involved and increasing their knowledge and confidence in working with people with intellectual disability. Jeanine makes learning in this environment fun for the students and I know they find it rewarding.

You will also find posts about the event on our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsNZ>

And, if you would like to see more about what we are doing in the health space, see

<http://www.specialolympics.org.nz/Healthy-Communities.aspx>