

Kathleen Serrano

Special Olympics Family Fair

On September 17, 2022, the Special Olympics Family Fair occurred at Lakeland College in Mattoon. My group and I participated in the event for the legacy project required for all fourth-semester students to complete. Throughout the day, I actively assisted as many Special Olympics athletes utilized the bathroom safely, changed soiled clothes, and provided any other care needed. Working as a bathroom assistant went smoothly, and switching bathroom stations allowed us to provide relief to the other volunteer attendants. There were booths filled with popcorn, candy, and games for the athletes and their families to enjoy. The day went by quickly because of how busy we were and from all the fun we had with each other, especially the Special Olympics athletes. Cheering on the athletes and talking with them was a precious part of the day. This event truly embodied the community's unity and devotion for all its members, especially for events like the Special Olympics Family Fair. The main focus is on the athletes, but this event is also an opportunity for all the families to have fun and support their family members. The Special Olympics Family Fair was a huge success this fall, and it will continue to grow with such a strong, supportive, and close-knit community. It was beautiful to be a part of this event and to have a positive impact on the Special Olympics Family Fair and the community.