



CHELSEA GROUP LIMITED

**Hawaii-based building science consulting firm, Chelsea Group, has an “edge” on the competition when it comes to giving back to the local community.**

### **Andy Beth Miller**

Giving back is never something that returns void in the economy of life, but when giving back offers an extra fun reward in return, it's all the better! That's exactly what happens with local Special Olympics Hawaii fundraiser “Over the Edge,” an exciting annual event which brings together the local Hawaii community in a collective effort to raise awareness and funds for this unique and worthy organization. The fun comes in at the end of the raising of money, as those volunteer participants who can reach \$1,000 or more in donations, are given the chance to celebrate by literally going over the edge, rappelling off the 40-story Hyatt Regency Hotel in Waikiki.

This year, among the ranks of Hawaii's most generous local companies and business folks that lent their manpower and volunteer efforts to the cause was Chelsea Group, a well-known and trusted Hawaii-based science building consulting firm. With the awareness that the fundraiser's proceeds were helping to fund the events, training, and room and board for over 3,700 Special Olympics Hawaii athletes, three Chelsea Group employees—Ryan Kohara, Shelby Patton, and Halle Senger—were more than willing to take the leap for such a great cause. The enthusiastic trio (each of which was sponsored for \$500 by Chelsea Group to get them started on their way to meeting their goals) joined with another local group, TeamDrop808, to collectively raise a total of \$18,325.



Chelsea Group building scientist pose after rappelling down the Hyatt Regency Hotel

The big “Over the Edge” celebration event took place on November 5, 2016, seeing scores of spectators craning their necks at the base of the renowned Hyatt Regency Hotel in Waikiki to catch a glimpse of the tiny ant-like rappellers who, one by one, were scaling their ways 400 feet down the side of the 40-story skyscraper resort. According to Chelsea Group participant Halle Senger, not only was joining the effort worth it in regards to a human interest standpoint, where giving back to her community is reward in itself, but also, the extreme fun and enjoyment that was had by all as a result of the joined efforts, and the resulting rappel adventure, just provided an amazingly sweet and sensational icing on the proverbial cake.

“I loved the whole experience!” exclaimed Chelsea Group volunteer Halle Senger. “It was very rewarding to both help others and challenge myself by rappelling down a building 40 stories! I'm very glad I participated, and am grateful to all my donors for finding it in their hearts to help our Special Olympians.” Senger went on to voice how much the actual Special Olympians themselves also impacted her profoundly, stating that, “Hearing some of their stories and seeing how they feel a sense of empowerment and belonging because of SOHI was incredibly

heartwarming. I'm also very grateful to have had this experience with my two coworkers, Shelby and Ryan. Sharing the experience made it so much more rewarding."

With an initial goal of raising \$130,000, thanks to the efforts of Chelsea Group and so many selfless others, Over the Edge was able to far surpass this aim, raising a total of \$135, 700— funds which, specifically, were able to provide more than 3,700 athletes and 1,000 unified partners the chance to compete in more than 40 area competitions and 3 State Games, as well as enabling Special Olympics Hawaii to add Flag Football to its list of competitive sports and revive a fitness program called SOFit.

For more information on Special Olympics Hawaii and Over the Edge visit:  
<http://sohawaii.org/fundraising-events/over-the-edge.html>

To see the Team Drop 808 video visit:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27TgKD1nOSM&feature=youtu.be>

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#### ABOUT Chelsea Group

Chelsea Group is a Hawaii-based building science consulting firm specializing in preserving and enhancing the mechanical infrastructure in existing commercial office, institutional, retail, and industrial facilities. For more than 25 years, Chelsea's building scientists and engineers have solved problems and found opportunities that add asset value to these properties. The Chelsea team is widely recognized for its thought leadership in sustainable, high performance buildings.