



Get to Know the Special Olympics New Hampshire Staff!



Bridget Carleton

SONH has always been a part of Bridget's life- she started volunteering at eight years old! Bridget has been a full-time member of the staff since 2009. In her work, she is passionate about creating positive change.

She loves yoga, reading, baking and spending time outdoors, especially in the summer with her husband, Ben, and dog, Dracula. Bridget's favorite memories include going to her first USA Games in New Jersey, the first paperless Plunge, Unified Sports camp at Dartmouth, spending two days making cake balls and watching Ben coach powerlifting at the USA Games in Seattle. Bridget's favorite piece of advice is "plan like you aren't going to remember anything!"



Carol Cray

Carol has been involved with SONH for almost 13 years. Doing mission work is fulfilling for her, as she enjoys helping others. Carol's hobbies include shopping while getting the best deals! Carol's favorite memories include getting to know and work with dedicated SONH volunteers and long-time staff. Carol loves to hear stories from athlete parents on how SONH has improved their loved one's life. Carol's favorite piece of advice is "the show must go on!"





Fallon Wall

Fallon has been involved with SONH for one year. She is most passionate about helping others. Fallon enjoys taking her dog for walks, hikes and swims, and also likes to cycle, read, paint and attend concerts. Fallon is looking forward to getting to know our athletes, volunteers and greater community. Fallon's favorite piece of advice is "the only person who never makes a mistake is the person who never tries."



Andrea Edwards

Andrea started working for SONH in October of 2022. She is most passionate about helping create an inclusive and healthy community. Andrea likes to spend her free time exploring the outdoors, spending time with her family and friends and being creative with pre-loved materials! Andrea is most looking forward to attending SONH events in-person, meeting and working with athletes and visiting new parts of the state! Andrea's favorite piece of advice is "nothings worth having if it is not worth sharing!"



Mary Conroy

Mary was introduced to SONH in 1982 when she worked at Camp Easter Seals which had a two-week SONH camp. She started volunteering that fall and began working for SONH in 1988. Mary is most passionate about allowing her mom to live with as much dignity as possible. Mary enjoys gardening and spending time with friends. One of Mary's favorite SONH moments is when we gave every athlete a flashlight in the shape of a torch for Opening Ceremonies. Mary's favorite piece of advice is "next year you have to remember to do everything you did this year...and a little more."



Tiffany Letts

Tiffany joined the SONH team in November 2022. She is incredibly passionate about social justice, equity, and inclusion -- both in her life and work. Tiffany loves to travel, read, write, spend time with family and friends, and take advantage of outdoor opportunities in and around the beautiful lakes and mountains. Tiffany enjoyed seeing so many team members and volunteers together at Morgan on her first day preparing for the bowling events and had fun bundling auction items with Lauren and Maria. Tiffany's favorite piece of advice is "never compare yourself to anyone else. Instead, compare yourself to the person you were yesterday."



Lynda Goossens

Lynda has been involved with SONH since July of 2022. She is most passionate about her family and enjoys watching sports, reading books, traveling and walking with her dog, Gracie. Working with SONH, Lynda is looking forward to being a part of the games and seeing athletes compete. Lynda's advice is to "be true to your teeth and they will never be false to you."



Emily Kunelis

Emily has been with SONH for nearly five years. Emily's Christian faith translates to every aspect of her life, from how she works, to what she does, to her relationships with other people. A fun fact about Emily is that she grows a large garden of flowers for cutting and sells fresh-cut flower arrangements from a small roadside stand at her house in the summer! Emily's favorite SONH moments always involve being at events and seeing all of our day-to-day work come together. Emily's mantra is "give someone the benefit of the doubt."



Pam Langille

Pam has been involved with SONH for 31 years, and has worked for SONH for 12 years. She is passionate about getting to know everyone she works with. For fun, Pam likes to do puzzles, ride her bike, bake and look up her family tree. Her favorite SONH moments include traveling to different places. Take this advice from Pam: Work hard, do your best and have fun!



Madison Viger

Madison has been volunteering for her local program for five years and started working for SONH in June of 2022. Madison is most passionate about forming meaningful and genuine connections with the people around her. When she's not working or doing school work, Madison loves to read, bake, listen to music, hang out with her cat and watch Netflix! Madison always looks forward to the State Softball Tournament. Madison's favorite piece of advice is to "be empathetic and step out of our own perspective into that of someone else."



Chelsea Gill

Chelsea has been working with SONH for nearly 9 years. She is most passionate about helping others. Chelsea enjoys spending time with her family and dog, George, running and skiing. She also enjoys decorating, DIY projects and online shopping. Chelsea enjoys being able to build relationships with SONH athletes, seeing SONH athletes compete in NH and on a national/international stage and use sport as a vehicle to impact their lives in so many ways! Chelsea's favorite piece of advice comes from a J. Muir quote: "Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt."



Sue Williams

Sue has been working with SONH for three years. She is most passionate about learning new things and having new experiences. Sue enjoys going hiking, boating and spending time with family. Sue's favorite SONH moment was going to the 2020 Penguin Plunge at Hampton Beach! She worked the event inside the casino, met many athletes and plungers and everyone's enthusiasm was contagious. Sue's favorite piece of advice is "just do it scared."



Shelby Cote

Shelby got started with SONH in October of 2021. She is most passionate about sharing the joy that comes with movement and supporting others in finding what makes them feel good. Her current favorite activities include rock climbing, hiking, kayaking, paddle boarding, baking, snowboarding, doing puzzles, gardening, camping and spending time with her husband and two dogs (Bert and Dolores)! Having the opportunity to see the USA Games in Orlando FL and watch so many of our athletes compete at the National level was one of her favorite SONH moments. Shelby's favorite piece of advice that came from her internship supervisor is "do something fun every single day, no matter what."



Leisa D'Amour

Leisa started with SONH in September 2022 after having been an educator for 13 years. Leisa is most passionate about her family and friends. Depending on the season, you will find her on a boat, on a motorcycle or relaxed with a good book. Leisa is excited to experience all Special Olympics has to offer whether it is Winter Water Sports, Summer and Winter Games, or attending school Unified events. Leisa's favorite piece of advice is from Ferris Bueller: "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."



Alyssa Raxter

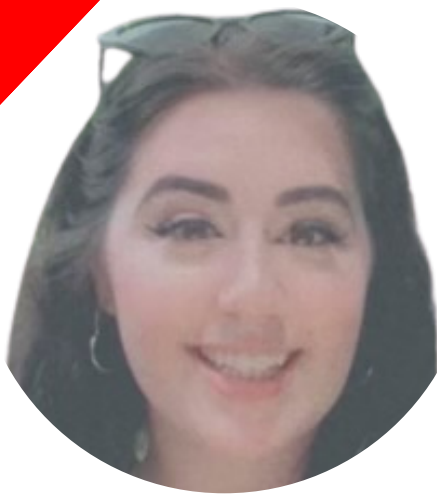
Alyssa first became involved with SONH through the 2018 Fueling Dreams and Law Enforcement Winni Dip. Alyssa is passionate about making a difference, building relationships and helping others. She is very passionate about her dogs, the outdoors, hiking, snowboarding and walking on the beach. Her favorite SONH memory so far was participating in the cruiser parade at Winter Games. Alyssa's advice is "We can do hard things. Those are the things that are worth pushing through and we discover that we are capable of so much more than we thought possible."



Lauren
Bombardier

Lauren started with SONH in November. Professionally, Lauren is passionate about working for a mission that creates a positive impact for a person or a community. Personally, she is passionate about empowering and advocating for her two daughters. Lauren enjoys running and going to the beach. Lauren is looking forward to the Winter Water Sports, bringing in donations, supporting the mission and building relationships! Lauren's favorite piece of advice is to "always ask why" and believes nothing is impossible.





Jacqui Previte

Jacqui has been working with Special Olympics New Hampshire for just over a year. Her favorite moment includes experiencing the icy waters for her first Penguin Plunge! Her hobbies include reading, baking and listening to podcasts. Jacqui's favorite piece of advice is "to always be kind."



Stefani Myrick

Stefani started with SONH on 11/17 and is looking forward to working with everyone! Stefani is most passionate about being a mother to her 20 month old son, Warren. Stefani loves decorating and hosting friends and family for meals at her home. Stefani signed up for the Penguin Plunge and is looking forward to that and other events! Stefani's advice is to "Listen. Take a moment to really hear people."



Mark Ericson

Mark has been involved with SONH for 23 years with three and a half of them as an employee. Mark is passionate about making a difference for the better. He enjoys walking near the beach, driving, traveling and being with his daughter and two granddaughters. Mark's favorite moments include seeing an athlete win at any competition, medal ceremonies and the night Mike Quinn needed him to step in and co-host the SONH banquet. Mark's favorite piece of advice is "the other person's perspective is their reality, so view the situation from that side."



Ian Wyman

Ian has been involved with SONH for a few months and volunteered previously with SO Maine. Ian is passionate about helping others stay healthy and happy and to help people realize their strengths and potential. Ian enjoys hockey, traveling, cooking with his wife and being outside with their black lab. Ian remembers many years ago, he was the volunteer in charge of handing out french-fries from the McDonald's tent for the Maine Summer Games. The next year, dozens of athletes remembered him, and came up to him with a smile calling him their "Fry Guy." Ian's favorite piece of advice is "no one who is great at something was always great at it."



Maria Benzekri

Maria has been working with SONH since October of 2022. Maria is passionate about advocating for underserved populations. Her hobbies include spending time with her fiancé, Jeff, and two cats, Frank and Duchess, hosting trivia, playing the cello and learning new languages! Maria enjoyed volunteering at the State Bowling Tournament this year and looks forward to attending more events. Maria's favorite piece of advice is to take things slow, because "slow is smooth and smooth is fast."