



Get to know you SOLA Staff

Name	Susan Murray
What is your role/title at SOLA and explain what it is you do?	<p>Athlete Program Manager, I plan Healthy Athletes events, such as Health Promotion, Healthy Hearing, Opening Eyes. I also lead our Athlete Leadership and Health Messengers as our ATHLETES should have a very big voice in how our competitions, games, activities should go.</p> <p>And I am the "jack of all trades" in the office. SOLA staff are equally involved and although we each have a job title, we all help each other out</p>
What is your favorite part about working at SOLA and for our athletes?	<p>Ha, that's a tough one as I love ALL things SOLA & our athletes....they make me smile and encourage me not only when I see them at competitions but when I think about helping them become a healthier, better version of themselves. I have all these ideas in my head for them and what we can do for them and makes me realize just how lucky I am to work here, working for them!</p>
Describe SOLA in 5 words.	<p>Oh, there are more than 5 words.....</p> <p>INSPIRING</p> <p>DETERMINED</p> <p>ENCOURAGING</p> <p>SUPPORTIVE</p> <p>LOVING</p>
What did you want to be when you were growing up?	<p>I was not supported growing up to become anything, it was at a time when you were expected to be a housewife, however, I always "helped" people in one way or another. Angel Tree at my church, Shoe Boxes for those in other countries that didn't have anything, my friends who had children with disabilities. I ALWAYS knew I wanted to help people but really wasn't sure</p>



how to make that into a job, until an opportunity with SOLA became available. Now, I talk about Special Olympics and do my best to encourage ALL people to support, volunteer, come out and be a fan in the stands.

What is something people would be surprised to know about you? Or what is your hidden talent?

I sang in my church choir for 20+ years and I was the pitcher for my church softball team for years. The funny thing about softball was, when I was a kid, we were playing yard ball and I was catcher and was hit in the eye by the batter and had a huge shiner. But still loved softball.

My hidden talent is actually photography. I have taken some amazing pictures, if I do say so myself. One of my photos and I think my all time favorite, was in a very old cemetery in Bay St. Louis, MS. I got on my belly to take a picture of a dandelion, after I blew the picture up on my computer, you can see a side profile of a face through the picture.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

ANYTHING OUTSIDE.....I love gardening, cutting grass(true story), biking, going to the beach, being with my family, grandchildren and sisters, reading books and just being goofy. I can tell you a story about anything.....what can I say, I am old and I have lots of stories. LOL