



**Jackie Turro** joined Special Olympics Connecticut as Director of Development, Eastern Region, in March of 2008. She is currently Senior Director, Special Events and oversees Special Olympics Connecticut's fundraising events including the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Penguin Plunge, Over the Edge, golf tournaments and third party fundraising events.

Jackie began her career in the professional sports world serving as Sponsorship Services Coordinator with Pilot Pen Tennis in New Haven. She continued her sponsorship management trajectory with a move to Virginia Beach, Virginia to work for Live Nation at the Virginia Beach Amphitheater.

A Vermont native, Jackie first came to Connecticut to attend Sacred Heart University and earned a B.A. in Sport Management and Finance. During her time at Sacred Heart, Jackie developed her love of sport business, sponsorship, and event management.

## **Fun Facts:**

### *Favorite sports memory:*

*Personal:* Being a part of the undefeated Vermont State Championship Division 1 softball team in high school

*Professional:* Attending the final game at Yankee Stadium on September 21, 2008.

*Sports hero:* Lou Gehrig

*What does inclusion mean to you?* Sports have always played a large role in my life, whether as an athlete or now as a fan and spectator. Inclusion means giving everyone an opportunity to experience all that sports can offer – the bond that is formed between teammates, the excitement of winning, personal growth that comes from a crushing defeat, and the pride of knowing you did your personal best.