

Annual Report

2017

AUTISM SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents -	2
Who We Are -	3
Board of Directors -	4
2017 Walk/Resource Fair -	5
Programs -	6, 7
2017 Supporters -	8
Donor Spotlight -	9
Services -	10
Gratitude -	11
Mission -	12

IMPROVING THE
LIVES OF ALL
THOSE AFFECTED
BY AUTISM



Who We Are



Jared Perkins, Board President

The President of the Board, Jared Perkins is also the CEO of the Children's Clinics. Jared serves as the Chair of ASSA's Professional Advisory Council. He is also on the Community Advisor Council for the Sonoran University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), the Governor's Committee for Autism Spectrum Disorder, and Tucson's Mayor and Council's Commission on Disability Issues. Jared has dedicated his life to serving families with special needs and inspiring teams through innovation & dynamic leadership.



Brie Seward, Associate Director

Prior to accepting the Associate Director position, Brie served on the marketing committee for three years. When her son received an autism diagnosis at the age of three, she focused her efforts on being his advocate. In her position, she provides families an instant parent connection with a compassionate approach. She provides resources for families navigating a complex diagnosis. Brie completed the University of Arizona's Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and other Related Disabilities (LEND) program that encompassed clinical, professional and leadership development. She previously completed the AZ Partners in Leadership Program with Pilot Parents.

Our Board of Directors



The Autism Society of Southern Arizona Board of Directors includes members in the fields of law, medicine, engineering, self-advocacy, marketing, non-profit, behavioral health and finance.

Officers:

Jared Perkins, Board President
CEO, Children's Clinics

Pete Schwarz, Immediate Past President
Sr. Project Manager, Engineer at GHD

Jared Perrine, Treasurer
CPA, Accounting and Assurance Sensory Manager at BeachFleischman PC

Hailey Thoman, Secretary
Executive Director, Linkages

Chairs:

Lynda Firor-Weigel, Parent Advisory Committee Chair
Independent Grant Writer

Ray Frieders, Marketing Chair
Production Manager at Cox Media

Dr. Sydney Rice, Professional Advisory Committee Chair
Developmental Pediatrician, Professional Pediatrics at the University of Arizona

Laura Valenzuela, Information & Referral Chair
Speech Language Pathologies at Intermountain Centers

Terry Randolph, Human Resources Chair
Sr. Manager for Adult Program Development at Cenpatco Integrated Care

Directors:

Josh Anbar, Public Health Doctoral Student
Sal Hernandez, CPA - Managing Member at ESSENTAGE
Hattie Groskind, Self-Advocate and Recent College Graduate
Jonathon Reich, Elder Law Attorney

Honorary Director:

Courtney Henson, Attorney at Snell & Wilmer

The 11th Annual Autism Walk & Resource Fair

On April 1st, the Autism Society of Southern Arizona held the 11th Annual Autism Walk & Resource Fair at Kino Sports Complex.

Thank you to our top sponsors:
A Place to Call Home, Absolute HCBS,
Tucson Electric Power, Cenpatico
Integrated Health, Air & Space Academy
and Carondelet St. Mary's

1,400

Total Registered
Participants

\$32k

Total donations
raised by local
sponsors.

\$100k

Total revenue
generated in 2017



OUR PROGRAMS

IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA



WHAT WE DO

We offer programs to individuals with autism across the lifespan. Our programs are tailored to foster socialization, create community and connection. We also develop Autism 101 trainings for the community and provide resources to families in need.

SPEAKER SERIES

We offer free educational discussions on a quarterly basis that empower parents, professionals and students with current information about autism. Our Speaker Series features experts in the field of autism sharing their knowledge to increase advocacy skills and bring together community.



SENSORY FRIENDLY FILMS

We partner with AMC Theater at Foothills Mall to provide 50 complimentary tickets to those who attend Sensory Friendly Films. During the movie the lights are turned up, the sound is turned down and families can bring their own snacks.



OUR PROGRAMS

IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

TEEN MEET UPS

We partnered with Playformance, a gym that is play based to provide a place for teens to meet up once a month. During the meet up, two coaches facilitate team building, taking turns and teaching solutions for working together. Parents have said their teen, "enjoys coming and doesn't want to miss one."



SONORAN DOLPHINS

Saguaro Aquatics provides swimming lessons specifically designed for children with autism. Our collaborative partnership has created a unique water safety and swimming program that allows children with autism to feel comfortable and stay safe in the water.



SOCIAL CLUB

The Social Club meets once a month and provides an opportunity for adults with autism to socialize, develop friendships, and discuss life challenges.

STEAM CAMPS

We partnered with the University of Arizona to provide STEAM! (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) camps at the University. The camps are geared towards 8-16 year olds and provide parents with education trainings relating to transition programs.



HIGHLIGHTING OUR SUPPORTERS

We are so grateful to our local donors



Title Sponsor \$7k: A Place To Call Home

Gold Sponsor \$5k: Absolute HCBS

Silver Sponsor \$2,500: Carondelet St. Mary's, Air and Space Academy, Cenpatico Integrated Care, Tucson Electric Power

Bronze Sponsors \$1k: Guild Mortgage, Children's Clinics, FABAS, Intermountain Academy, Keegan, Linscott & Kenon, PC, Pathways of Arizona, Snell & Wilmer Law Offices, Christ Kingdom Fellowship, BeachFleischman, Western Refinery, Casey's Children, Chapel Haven West



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

\$5,000 AND ABOVE: American Legion Post 109

\$2,000 AND ABOVE: Bess Spiva Timmons
Foundation

Stamback Family

Vantage West Credit Union

\$1,000 AND ABOVE: Tucson Osteopathic Medical
Foundation
Hussman Foundation

UP TO \$1,000: PICOR



Through a survey conducted at the 2017 Autism Walk we learned from respondents that the autism communities' number one need is for comprehensive information for referral services.

INFORMATION & REFERRAL COMMITTEE

Following the 2017 walk, an information and referral (I&R) committee was created with psychologists, public administrators, developmental pediatrician nurses, BCBA's and behavioral health providers to create an informative Speaker Series program for 2018. This group led efforts on integrating a developmental surveillance screening algorithm on the website (as-az.org) as an additional resource for parents and medical providers.

ADVOCACY

Our Board of Directors is active in the autism community. Jared Perkins, is on the Governor's Committee for Autism Spectrum Disorder. Dr. Sydney Rice is a developmental pediatrician involved with the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (ADDSP) and a member of the Governor's Committee for Autism Spectrum Disorder. Pete Schwarz chair's the Affiliate Leadership Committee for the Autism Society of America.



IMPACT: Sophie's Story

When we got stationed in Tucson through the military we had no idea that our daughter would be diagnosed with autism. We also had no idea what to do next in this new world. We decided that we had to fight and convince the military to relocate us to a base where she would thrive.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL

We made endless phone calls and emails and still had no answer on what to do, until we heard about the Autism Society of Southern Arizona. As soon as we got their address, we drove over to the office without an appointment or phone call.



We walked in, said we needed help and got all the resources we needed. I am so incredibly happy to say that our daughter is now receiving ABA services along with her other therapies. It would have never happened if we didn't walk in to that office. Being a parent to a special needs child is hard, plain and simple, but the Autism Society of Southern Arizona provides support, help, empathy, inspiration, advice, and so much more.



2600 N. Wyatt Drive
Tucson, Arizona
85745
as-az.org
520-770-1541

INFO & REFERRAL RESOURCES

Our mission is to improve the lives of
all those affected by autism through:

PROGRAMS 

ADVOCACY 

SUPPORT 

SERVICES 

EDUCATION 

