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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 Neuordevelopmental 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.
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 Cenpatico 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

www.as-az.org
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.

www.as-az.org
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.
INFO & REFERRAL RESOURCES

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

PROGRAMS ✅

ADVOCACY ✅

SUPPORT ✅

SERVICES ✅

EDUCATION ✅