

Fall 2017 Staff and Board Update from the Executive Director



**Brain Injury
Alliance**
ARIZONA

BIAAZ Staff Tours Aurora Behavioral Health Facility

Community Relations & Marketing Coordinator Katie Streck recently led BIAAZ staffers and board members on a tour of Aurora Behavioral Health's Tempe campus. Our BIAAZ resource facilitation team makes hundreds of referrals each year to a variety of community programs and services, like Aurora. Whenever possible, we love making on-site visits to the agencies we refer to in order to gain a greater understanding of their services and how they can benefit our clients.



BIAAZ Tours New Horizons in Prescott Valley

I was happy to speak at the brain injury support group at New Horizons in Prescott Valley. Thank you to Jean Lasher for the tour. Jean has been a New Horizon's employee since 1999.

Circle the City Welcomes BIAAZ Staff

BIAAZ staff was recently treated to a tour of the indigent healthcare clinic at Circle the City in Phoenix. Tammy Rocker gave our BIAAZ Community Outreach Fellow Sally Taft and me on a tour. We were able to meet with case managers and the medical director. Many of those living on the streets of Maricopa County are dealing with the effects of brain injury. Strengthening ties with key stakeholders in serving the homeless, like Circle the City, is part of our BIAAZ mission.



National Conference Features Familiar Faces

Arizona was well-represented in Florida at the Crisis Intervention Team International Conference this past July. Integrative Healthcare Professional Julie Rake, PA-C, who is also a BIAAZ board member, was joined by two Phoenix-based colleagues to present at the conference: Sabrina Taylor, Crisis Intervention



Team Training Coordinator for the Community Relations Bureau at the Phoenix Police Department, and Victor Escoto, MSC, Senior Director of Emergency Preparedness and Tragedy Support for the Crisis Response Network. Their presentation was entitled "Crisis Intervention Training: An Algorithm for Successful De-Escalation."

Phoenix Chamber of Commerce Checks in with BIAAZ

Thank you to Jeffrey Durbin, Senior Business Development Executive at the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, for checking in with BIAAZ Board Member Amanda Wigal Schlosser of Brandables. Amanda is both a successful business owner and a brain injury survivor. We discussed ways that BIAAZ can reach members of the business community



who have employees who would benefit from BIAAZ's complimentary services for caregivers, survivors, professionals, and those invested in preventing brain injury. If you are a human resources professional and would like more information, contact carrie@biaaz.org.

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona Leader Hosts BIAAZ's Executive Director

As a former United Way director, I have always felt the best way to take the temperature of a community is to check in with the local United Way leader! Thank you Tony Penn for meeting with me about strategically tackling community issues. There are many challenges in southern Arizona involving brain injury, such as homelessness and domestic violence. Another major concern has been the number of anoxic brain injuries from near-fatal drug overdoses. One way the BIAAZ is looking to become more involved in southern Arizona is by expanding available services to veterans at the University of Arizona campus. The overall goal is to help engineer solutions through active problem-solving and continued engagement with community leaders.

Thank you for your continued support of the Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona.

Carrie Collins-Fadell
Executive Director, Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona
USBIA Board Member