



**Brain Injury
Alliance**
ARIZONA



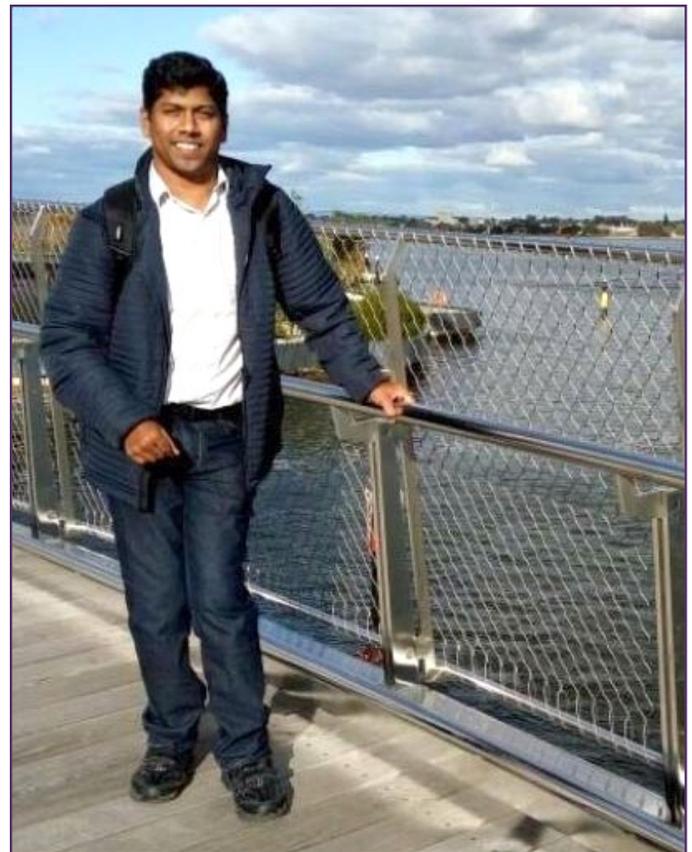
ADA Fellow from India Shadows BIAAZ Staff

The Arizona disability service community had the enriching experience of working with International ADA Fellow, Pavan Kumar Bada, from Visakhapatnam, India this past summer. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Professional Fellows Division. Pavan was one of 20 mid-career professionals from all over the globe selected through a competitive process to participate in a five-week intensive fellowship program at Arizona State University. The program is focused on inclusive education and seeks to strengthen worldwide access to education for people with disabilities.

While in Phoenix, Pavan met with Executive Director Carrie Collins-Fadell and shadowed the BIAAZ resource facilitation team to learn about resource facilitation and community support for those living with brain injury. Pavan also met with Operations Coordinator Faes Ibrahim to see what is involved in the organization and upkeep of the hundreds of community and neuro-referrals BIAAZ houses.

BIAAZ connected Pavan with SWAN Rehab, a neurological rehabilitation center in Phoenix, where he was able to observe clinical assessments and rehabilitation, including the use of their new Vector, in action. This was particularly impactful for Pavan, as he works daily with pediatric brain injury survivors in a school setting. Pavan is himself an anoxic brain injury survivor as the result of a complication during his delivery, which left him deprived of oxygen.

Pavan reached out to Carrie after his 45-hour journey home and related that his time with BIAAZ and SWAN was meaningful. Seeing the accessibility features at Grand Canyon National Park was another insightful highlight of his trip. While



Pavan Kumar Bada shadowed BIAAZ staff as part of his ADA Fellowship.

BIAAZ doesn't expect to compete with the Grand Canyon, everyone on the team is thrilled Pavan made it a priority to work with the BIAAZ office during his limited time here in the United States, and that this experience will help him improve the treatment of young brain injury survivors in India.

Since Pavan was here on an ADA fellowship, it's only appropriate to wish a happy 27th anniversary to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It was signed into law by George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990.