**MISSION & VISION**

**EXPERIENCE MATTERS**

**Our Mission:** Experience Matters connects the skills and talent of individuals, age 50+, with social benefit organizations to enhance their capacity to solve community problems.

**Our Vision:** All people age 50+ and social benefit organizations are working jointly to deliver positive community outcomes.

**WHY**

Why do we do it? We believe we can change outcomes in our community by leveraging the talents of our citizens.
At Experience Matters we believe that we can have an even greater impact on the community we serve by engaging our unlimited talent pool of retirees to do good. How do we know this? Because over the past ten years we have seen how connecting over 1000 volunteers to over 400 nonprofits have helped them build and enhance their capacity to solve pressing social issues in our community.

We have been able to do this through our “triple win” approach:

• Helping nonprofits build their capacity by providing human capital so they can succeed in delivering their mission.

• Promoting healthy futures for our volunteers by having them remain actively engaged and contributing

• Leveraging these two pathways to achieve significant community impact.

It’s a win-win-win relationship with unlimited possibilities!

We have seen the amazing results when we leverage the immense skills and experience of older adults. One reading tutor mentored six children enabling them to become reading literate by the end of third grade thereby ensuring them an opportunity to explore new opportunities. One volunteer created a new foodbank at a local church that continues to feed hundreds of families each month. Another volunteer identified new funding streams for a nonprofit so they can focus on providing services.

Imagine the future impact? What if, we had a mentor for every at-risk teen? If every nonprofit had access to expert technology and marketing support? If every older adult had an outlet to use their experience to make meaningful contributions within their community? Every third grader had in classroom tutors to ensure kids achieve reading at grade level?

Our dream is to ensure every adult age 50+ who wants to give back has access to the training, tools and a network to be successful in supporting the nonprofits who need their skilled resources.

Every day we see the need and demand for more resources to meet social needs. Nonprofits need money, but when you give a talented volunteer you are giving them three to five times more value than a financial gift.

While we have achieved much, there is so much more opportunity to fulfill our goals. Experience Matters needs to provide more Engagement Advisors to help nonprofits find their perfect match, build our technology to allow tools and training online, and last, but not least, we need resources to operate our infrastructure and better serve all of you.

As we head into our next ten years, we want to thank you for your continued support of our “triple win.”

Sincerely,

Wendy Cohen  
Chief Executive Officer  
Experience Matters

Laurie Buczek  
Board Chair  
Experience Matters

“What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.”

- Aristotle
LEVERAGING TALENT & CONNECTING MARICOPA COUNTY AND BEYOND

LOCATIONS SERVED

- Apache Junction
- Avondale
- Buckeye
- Casa Grande
- Cave Creek
- Chandler
- Coolidge
- Flagstaff
- Gilbert
- Glendale
- Goodyear
- Higley
- Lakeside
- Litchfield Park
- Maricopa
- Mayer
- Mesa
- Paradise Valley
- Peoria
- Phoenix
- Queen Creek
- Scottsdale
- Show Low
- Sun Lakes
- Surprise
- Tempe
- Tucson
- Wickenburg

DONORS & SUPPORTERS

VISIONARY SUPPORTERS

- Arizona Community Foundation
- BHHS Legacy Foundation
- Herbert H. & Barbara C. Dow Foundation
- Intel Corporation
- Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
- Season for Sharing
- Thunderbird Charities
- Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

99% of students in our K-3 literacy tutoring program improved their reading fluency.

70% of our experienced talent and organizations were highly satisfied with their match.

55% of our community organizations expect sustained positive impact from their match.
One of the more valuable and sometimes surprising lessons Experience Matters shares with our stakeholders and talent is that even if you spent your entire career working in the private sector, be it banking or construction, journalism or information technology, insurance or health care - your skills can transferred to the nonprofit sector! You can use your teaching experience writing curriculum for an animal welfare agency. You can use your legal background to draft procedures for an organization that helps the homeless. And, you can use your vast experience as a project manager for a utility company to help youth achieve their potential. Such is the case with Jan Bryant.

Jan retired in 2014 after 30 years with the Idaho Power Company. She worked as an Information Technology analyst and then as an IT Leader, where she proposed, implemented, and supervised a new information technology team. As part of her last days at the Idaho Power Company, Jan was a Senior Manager responsible for planning, coordinating, and oversight of a massive underground cable replacement program (over 7 million feet of cable, to be exact.) How does this complicated, and impressive, work for a utility company transfer over to the nonprofit sector?

Jan used her ability to design and implement new programs through her role in creating “Be Great: Graduate” with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the East Valley. Jan’s extensive experience coordinating complementary parts into a cohesive whole also came in handy, as she weaved together several existing standalone programs into this more streamlined effort. “Be Great: Graduate” is a comprehensive dropout-prevention program that encourages kids to graduate and move onto higher education, trade school, or another career pathway. The program helps kids develop career goals, and then identifies avenues to achieve those goals.

TRANSFERRING SKILLS

Moving over to the nonprofit sector!
As an example, Jan notes some of the students will indicate they want to be a chef but were unaware that culinary schools were an available option. “We’re just planting seeds,” Jan says. Additionally, students learn other valuable life skills such as financial literacy, which includes budgeting, investing, credit, and other financial knowledge that these youth may not gain elsewhere.

As Jan’s project came to a close, she created procedures and manuals to ensure that the program lives on after she leaves and can be replicated at other clubs. Jan has expressed that she feels her overall energy is up with this assignment, “because it has to be.” She also notes that she is consistently positive emotionally, even on days when she comes away exhausted from keeping up with these incredible kids. Overall, Jan says that this match has been a great experience and is “so happy” she did it. We personally can’t wait to see what Jan does next!

“I was looking for a way to support my community.”
- Jan Bryant
"Engagement Boot Camp shifted my perspective on the roles/expectations of skilled volunteers. I also realized we have the power to look for what we need vs. taking what we can get."
—Melinda Gunther, Executive Director, Live Love Queen Creek Performing Arts Center

"The professional skills and expertise we have gained from our Encore Fellows far exceeded what we could afford to hire. We are grateful for the skilled talent Experience Matters has connected us with."
—Sister Adele O’Sullivan, Founder, Circle the City

"Our Fellow is creating new curriculum to offer to our clients. The curriculum fills an area of need for our clients and also has the potential to outreach to additional populations."
—Supervisor, AZ Women’s Education & Employment

"With the help of his tutor, Michael has overcome self-esteem challenges. He now actively participates in oral reading and has demonstrated significant improvement in vocabulary, enunciation skills, and fluency."
—Read On Buckeye Literacy Corps Site Coordinator at Sundance Elementary School

Experience Matters Nonprofit Members:

Arts and Animals
Altered Tails
American Conservation Experience (ACE)
Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA
Arizona Citizens for the Arts
Arizona Human Society
Arizona Museum of Natural History
Arizona School for the Arts
Arizona Small Dogs Rescue
Aspire Marketing
Audubon Arizona
Ballet Arizona
Benewilla
Bower Luv Rescue
Chandler Center for the Arts
Children’s Museum of Phoenix
Childplay
Community Paws
Del E. Webb Center for the Performing Arts
Desert Botanical Garden
Desert Rose Bahia Institute
Don Bluth Front Row Theatre
East Valley Children’s Theatre
Franscican Renewal Center
Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona
Gilbert Historical Museum
Heard Museum
Heritage Square Foundation
Irish Cultural and Learning Foundation
Liberty Wildlife
Lost Our Home Pet Foundation
Maricopa County Animal Care and Control
Martin Art Center
Mesa Arts Academy
Mosaic Arts Center
Musical Instrument Museum (MIM)
Pet Allies Inc.
PetSmart Charities
Phoenix Art Museum
Phoenix Children’s Chorus
Phoenix Conservatory of Music
Power Paws Assistance Dogs
Queen Creek Performing Arts Center
Robinson Ranch
Southwest Maker Fest
Southwest Shakespeare Company
Sun Sounds of Arizona
Theater Works
The Harp Foundation
The Phoenix Symphony
The Sargam Society of America
The Whispering Hope Ranch Foundation
Tovrea Carraro Society
Valley Youth Theatre
Wellspring Park Conservancy
West Valley Arts Council
West Valley Symphony
White Tank Mountains Conservancy
Wildhorse Ranch Rescue Inc
XICO, Inc.

Education
100 Black Men of Phoenix, Inc.
Act One
Adobe Mountain Wildlife Center Auxiliary
Aqua Fria Union High School District
AGUALA Youth Leadership Institute, Inc.
Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits
APICS Supply Chain Council
Arizona Center for Youth Resources Inc
Arizona Centers for Comprehensive Education and Life Skills (ACCESS)
Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education
Arizona Council on Economic Education
Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
Arizona Science Center
Arizona State Braille and Talking Book Library
Arizona State University Preparatory Academy
Arizona Technology Council Foundation
Arizona Science@Tech
A Stepping Stone Foundation
ASU Center for Gender Equity in Science & Technology
Avondale Elementary School District
AZ SHUT (Arizona Students Recycling Used Technology)
Back to School Clothing Drive
Balsz Elementary School District
Barry Goldwater High School
Be A Leader Foundation
Blueprint Education
Boys Hope Girls Hope of AZ
Canyon State Academy
Central Arizona College Foundation
Challenger Space Center Arizona
Chandler Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation
Chandler Unified School District
Children First Academy Phoenix (CFAP)
City of Tempe Experience Corps
College Success Arizona- AzCAN
College Elementary School
Corasni Foundation
Crestview College Preparatory
David Crockett Elementary School
Deer Valley Unified School District
Desert Marigold School
East Valley Institute of Technology
Edkey, Inc.
Educare Arizona
Empower College Prep
Estrella Vista Elementary School
Flinn Foundation
Florence Crittenton of Arizona
Future For Kids
Girl Scouts - Cactus Pine Council
GLOBAL INTERCTIONS INC
Global Pathways Institute
GPSJNC
Great Hearts Academies
Higley Unified School District
Jobs for Arizona’s Graduates
John and Editha Kapoor Charitable Foundation
Junior Achievement of Arizona
Kids Who Care
Kyrene Middle School
Kyrene School District
Life Paradigms, Inc.
Litchfield Elementary School District #79
Littleton Elementary School
Littleton Elementary School District #65
Massai Education, Research and Conservation Institute (MERIC)
Makers Next Gen Education Foundation
Maricopa County Regional School District
Mesa High School
MentorKids USA
Million Dollar Teacher Project
Mindfulness First
New Pathways for Youth
Northwest Christian School
Other Lifelong Learning Institute
Outdoor Experience 4 All
Phoenix College Academic Foundation
Phoenix Day
Phoenix Elementary School District
Playworks
Positive Paths
Quentin Elementary School
Ramsey Executive Education-ASU
Read On Arizona
Read On Buckeye
Read On Chandler
Rio Salado Community College
Sandia Day O’Connor Institute
Science Foundation Arizona
Society for Science & the Public
South Pointe Elementary School
Starshine Academy
STEP Student Expedition Program
Take Charge America
Tempe Chinese School
Tempe Union High School District
The Be Kind People Project
Treasurers 4 Teachers
Trebis
Tri-City Christian Academy
UPI Education
Valleymount
Veranda Elementary School
Veranda Heritage Elementary School
Veranda High School
Veranda Middle School
Western School of Science and Technology
Westland School

Health Care
About Care
Adelante Healthcare
Alport Syndrome Foundation
ALSA Association Arizona Chapter
Amanda Hope Rainbow Angels
American Lung Association in Arizona
Anthony Bates Foundation
Area Agency on Aging, Region One
Arizona Dental Foundation
Arizona Myeloma Network
Arizona State University College of Health Solutions
Aunt Rita’s Foundation
Baehr Challenge LTD
Ben But Not Broken
BioAccel
Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona
Brighter Way Institute
Cancer Support Community-Arizona
Cancer Survivors Circle of Strength
CFAZ
Central Arizona Dental Society Foundation
CHEERS
Children’s Cancer Network
Concerned Citizens for Community Health
Dignity Health
Duet: Partners in Health & Aging
Feeding Matters
Hacienda Healthcare Phoenix
Hakuna Programs Inc
INSPIREHealth.org
Jewish Family & Children’s Services
John C. Lincoln Health Network
Maricopa Community Alliance
Against Substance Abuse
National Kidney Foundation of Arizona
We’re very pleased with Experience Matters. They’re doing remarkable things; everything they’ve done is valuable for our time and our society. They have made a valuable contribution in terms of awareness and making change.

—Dan Wollam, (Retired) Director of Community and Business Development, Canyon State Academy

Fellows’ combined work is significant. This could change our business model. With streamlined systems, we are also improving relationships with our members and donors.”

—Barbara Blalock, CEO, Treasures for Teachers

“Experience Matters is a great organization. Without them, I wouldn’t have begun to know how to go about finding what I wanted. I feel like I’ve learned more than I gave. I got to meet the members and their families and see their needs. I got to better understand the day-to-day realities nonprofits face. Their passion for the work is incredible.”

—Joe Pokorski, Intel Encore Fellow at Oakwood Creative Care
Monies received from Intel designated as Encore Fellow stipends are not included in these totals.
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Join us in moving our community forward.