



ARIZONA YOUTH PARTNERSHIP

# Horizons

December 2006 - Working with Arizona's rural communities

[www.azyp.org](http://www.azyp.org)

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES, DEVELOP RESOURCES TO PROMOTE THE POSITIVE GROWTH OF THEIR CHILDREN

## Happy Holidays!



**Agents of Change Recipients (left to right):** Rebecca Reza, Kyle Whitley, James "Cliff" Hunter, Sonora Fogle, Wes Stolsek, Bryonna Madrid, and Barbara Baum.



**Founders Recipients (left to right):** Gene Weber, Leonard Banes, Garth Bacigalupi, and John Pedicone.

## Congratulations Agents of Change and Founders!

Arizona Youth Partnership would like to congratulate the Agents of Change and Founders recipients from the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Agents of Change Awards Ceremony. This year's Agents of Change Ceremony was held on September 30, 2006 at the Westward Look Resort in Tucson, Arizona.

In the course of our work, we have met a wonderful group of community members of all ages and backgrounds, who have made outstanding contributions resulting in change. Neighborhoods become safer, youth become valued members of the community, youth have more to do, and community members take pride in their surroundings. Local laws and policies have also been changed. These community members make these changes, not as part of a paid job, but as part of a personal commitment to improving conditions within their neighborhoods.

As a community development and prevention organization working to build on the strengths of our communities, we realize a need to acknowledge these outstanding Agents of Change in our communities and programs. This year, the following individuals were honored as Agents of Change from their respective communities. **Ajo:** James C. Hunter, Kyle Whitley; **Catalina:** Sonora Fogle, Bryonna Madrid, Wes Stolsek; **Concho:** Barbara Baum, Tracy Candelaria, Maureen Harvey, Pam Skousen, Tam Talbot; **Marana:** Heather Quaife, Rebecca Reza.

In addition to presenting the Agents of Change, the Founders of Arizona Youth Partnership were also recognized. These individuals first established Pima Youth Partnership in 1990 to develop resources to promote the positive growth of the children in Ajo, Marana, and Sahuarita. Now, 16 years later, Pima Youth Partnership has grown statewide, changed its name to Arizona Youth Partnership, and now serves 23 rural communities. It was the Founders diligence, commitment, and dedication that makes Arizona Youth Partnership what it is today. Thank you to Garth Bacigalupi, Leonard Banes, Julie Drown, Kate O'Reilly, John Pedicone, Gene Weber, and Rich Wilson.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Arizona Youth Partnership has much to celebrate as the end of 2006 approaches. First, our expansion to rural Arizona has made it possible to reach almost 10,000 children, families, and community members in Apache, Gila, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, and Pinal counties. This is an increase of 79%. Program results show that our youth are increasing healthy decision making to avoid high risk behaviors, stay in school, and engage in community events. Second, the number of communities where we have been asked to do our work since 2003-2004 has increased 188%; serving over 20 communities. Third, as we enhanced and expanded programmatic efforts to reach out to parents and community members, our funding increased 56%. This growth is a direct result of the work done by our terrific and dedicated, staff and the Board of Directors.



Luan E. Wagner, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

We were very excited that the Governor's Office awarded AzYP two State Incentive Grants to work with key stakeholders in Kingman, Globe, and Hayden to reduce problematic drinking of 12 to 25 year olds. These communities have some of the highest underage and binge drinking rates in the state of Arizona. While much focus and attention is on methamphetamine use throughout Arizona, underage and binge drinking by young adults remains a huge problem. According to the 2004 Arizona Youth Survey, over 50% of 8th graders have already tried alcohol and 34% have drunk alcohol in the past 30 days.

While it is a great honor to receive the Healthy Marriages Initiative grant, it is a bigger honor to begin a strong partnership with Head Start and Head Start families. Finally, the Centers for Disease Control reported that for the first time in over a decade, Arizona has dropped from the top three states to #5 in the ranks for teen births. Let the celebration move into 2007.

Luan E. Wagner, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

### AzYP Receives Healthy Marriages Initiatives Grant

Arizona Youth Partnership was recently one of three agencies in Arizona awarded the Healthy Marriages Initiative Grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Administration for Children and Families.

The **Healthy Marriages/Strong Families Project** is a five-year grant designed to build and maintain healthy marriages. AzYP is partnering with Head Start to serve three (3) rural regions (5 counties) in Arizona: White Mountain Region (Navajo and Apache Counties), Copper Belt Region (Pinal and Gila County), and the Sonoran Region (Pima County).

The **Healthy Marriages/Strong Families Project** is targeting couples that are married, engaged, or intending to marry. The project has three goals: 1) To build healthy marriages; 2) To nurture healthy marriages; and 3) To sustain healthy marriages using Marriage Skills Training, Marriage Mentoring, and Skills Workshops.

To focus on strengthening and building healthy marriages, the PAIRS curriculum will be used to increase communication and conflict resolution skills, marital satisfaction, emotional intimacy, family cohesion, and family adaptability among couples. PAIRS teaches tools for

successful communication for effective problems solving such as managing anger, expressing anger safely, fighting fairly for change, and eliminating dirty fighting while addressing pleasure and satisfaction to enhance bonding, sensuality and sexuality in marriage. PAIRS teaches the Relationship Roadmap to understand relationship success, mishaps, and what to do about them.

Each region will host four PAIRS training retreats per year. The retreat will be a free two-day, 16 hour marriage enhancing class held at a local resort with follow-up meetings during the year.

If you and your (potential) spouse would like to participate or want more information, please contact the AzYP Regional Director in your area.

**Copper Belt Region:** Catherine Corso, 928-200-3767, cat@azyp.org

**Sonoran Region:** Mary Anne Fout, 520-744-9595, maryanne@azyp.org

**White Mountain Region:** Robin Aguero, 928-333-4003, robin@azyp.org

## WHITE MOUNTAINS REGION



AzYP's float in the Round Valley Holiday Light Parade

When we say we live in the White Mountains of Arizona to out-of-staters, their response is typically, "Arizona has mountains?" Our answer is, "Yes, and what beautiful country it is!" How fortunate we are to not only live here, but to work here, doing something we love, and providing a great service to the youth and communities of the White Mountains through Arizona Youth Partnership.

With the amazing support from the St. Johns School District and the Round Valley School District, September of 2004 marked the beginning of Arizona Youth Partnership's expansion into the White Mountains. AzYP began offering Abstinence Education to the two districts. Soon we were asked to expand to surrounding schools,

including Snowflake School District, Vernon Elementary, and Concho Elementary. In the first five months of 2005, 839 youth learned the Abstinence message.

During 2005-2006, the support from the communities and schools allowed us to expand our services from Abstinence Classes to: Life Skills Education through after school programs; Families for Families™, family education and support network, and the Wake-Up!™ juvenile diversion program for first time alcohol and drug offenders. A total of 1,016 youth participated.

Since the start of 2006-2007, over 600 youth completed Abstinence Education with several months to go!

Over 60 youth attend the Life Skills Education and After School Programs in St. Johns and Round Valley.

Of course AzYP can't have successful programs without amazing staff! Kimberlee Hamblin is the Wake-Up!™ Coordinator for Apache County and the Life Skills Educator in Round Valley. Irene Sanchez and Galina Skinner are the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Educators. Christina Verdugo is the Families For Families™ Coordinator. In St. Johns, Becky Simental and Dixie Jewell, are the Life Skills/After School Program Coordinators. **Thank you to all the White Mountain Staff for your teamwork, initiative, and enthusiasm in your work!**

With the hustle and bustle that we encounter every day in our lives, it is nice to take time to look at the youth around us here in the White Mountains. We have some of the strongest characters and happiest faces. We know the tools we give them prepare them to create the brightest of futures for themselves.

Happy Holidays from the beautiful White Mountain Region....Come visit us some time!

~ **Robin R. Aguero, White Mountain Regional Director**

For more information on the White Mountains programming, please contact Robin Aguero at [robin@azyp.org](mailto:robin@azyp.org) or 928-333-4003



White Mountains youth



White Mountains staff



AB-Only youth in Round Valley

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### COLORADO RIVER REGION

**Contact:** Tammany McDaniel for information on Mohave County events, tammany@azyp.org, (928) 205-8996.

#### **Coalition for Successful Youth Development**

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 11:30am -12:30pm  
**2007 meeting dates: January 9 & 23, February 6 & 27, March 6 & 20,**  
location TBA

#### **Strategic Prevention**

**Framework Training**  
December 13, 2006, 9:00am,  
Mohave Community College-LHC  
Campus, Room 600, 1977 W. Acoma,  
Lake Havasu City, AZ

### COPPER BELT REGION

**Contact:** Catherine Corso for information on Pinal & Gila County events, cat@azyp.org or (928) 200-3767.

#### **Copper Basin Alcohol Coalition**

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 11:30 am-1 pm  
**2007 meeting dates: January 4 & 18, February 1 & 15, March 1, 15 & 29,**  
2250 E. Hwy. 60-70, Ste R, Globe, AZ

#### **Abstinence/Life Skills Classes**

**Desert Middle School (Globe, AZ):**  
Abstinence classes will be held from December 11-15

#### **Lee Kornegay Junior High School**

**(Miami, AZ):** Abstinence and Life Skills classes will begin for 7th-8th graders on January 8th through January 22nd.

#### **Superior Junior High School (Superior, AZ):**

Abstinence and Life Skills will begin in late January and early February for 7th and 8th graders.

### SONORAN REGION

**Contact:** Mary Anne Fout, Community Development Coordinator/Team Leader for information on Pima County events, maryanne@azyp.org, (520) 744-9595

#### **Families For Families™**

**Appreciation Awards**  
December 6, 2006, 1:00-3:00pm,  
Golden Corral, 715 E. Wetmore Road,  
Tucson, AZ

**Contact:** Theresa Alvarez at 520 744-9595, theresa@azyp.org

#### **Drug, Alcohol, & Violence (D.A.V.)**

**Awareness Coalition**  
Meets every 3rd Thursday of every month, 8:30-9:30am. **Meeting dates:**  
January 18, February 15, March 15  
Marana Municipal Complex, 11555 W.  
Civic Center Drive, Marana, AZ  
**Contact:** Nichole Schaller at (520) 548-3661, nichole@azyp.org

#### **H.O.P.E. Coalition Meetings**

Meets every 3rd Monday of the month, 6:00 pm. **Meeting dates:** January 15, February 19, March 19, AzYP office at Ajo School, 111 Well Road, Ajo, AZ  
**Contact:** Pia Lozano, pia@azyp.org, (520) 387-3060

#### **Catalina Community Anti-Substance Abuse Coalition**

Meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm. **Meeting dates:** January 16, February 20, March 20, Catalina Community Center, 16562 N. Oracle Road, Catalina, AZ  
**Contact:** Andrea Lochner, andrea@azyp.org, (520) 825-0009

#### **Catalina Youth Advisory Council Teen Dance**

January 19, 2007, 7:00-10:00pm for all middle school youth, admission is free, Catalina Recreation Center, 16562 N. Oracle Rd., Catalina, AZ  
**Contact:** Andrea Lochner, andrea@azyp.org, (520) 825-0009

#### **Catalina Youth Day**

March 10, 2007, 11:00am-4:00pm at the Summer Institute of Linguistics, 16131 N. Vernon Drive, Catalina, AZ  
**Contact:** Andrea Lochner, andrea@azyp.org, (520) 825-0009

#### **Community Education Workshop**

March 14, 2007, 6:00pm, Ajo School Board Room, Ajo School, 111 Well Road, Ajo, AZ

**Contact:** Pia Lozano, pia@azyp.org, (520) 387-3060

#### **Life Skills Education/Community Service Projects**

Meet weekly on Tuesdays at 2:30pm and Thursdays at 4:00pm, Coronado Middle School, 3401 E. Wilds Road, Catalina, AZ

**Contact:** Virginia Madrid, virginia@azyp.org, (520) 825-0009

#### **Youth & Family Resource Networks**

**MARANA:** Meets 2nd Wednesday of every month, 8:30-9:30am, Marana Parks & Recreation Center, 13251 N. Lon Adams, Marana, AZ **Meeting dates:** January 10-Guest Speaker from Paxis, February 14-Guest Speaker from Meth Free Alliance, March 14-Guest Speaker from Marana High School

**Contact:** Nichole Schaller at (520) 548-3661, nichole@azyp.org

**AJO:** Meets 1st Monday of every month, 6 pm **Meeting dates:** January 8, February 5, March 5, AzYP Office at Ajo School, 111 Well Road, Ajo, AZ  
**Contact:** Pia Lozano, pia@azyp.org, (520) 387-3060

**CATALINA:** Meets bimonthly beginning January 10, 2007, 10am, Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church, 3001 E. Miravista Lane (at 15000 N. Oracle Rd), Catalina, AZ

**Contact:** Andrea Lochner, andrea@azyp.org, (520) 825-0009

#### **Youth Advisory Councils**

**MARANA: Truth 2 Life Club** meets weekly on Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30-4:20pm, Marana Middle School, Room E-204, 11279 W. Grier Rd., Marana, AZ  
**Contact:** Nichole Schaller at (520) 548-3661, nichole@azyp.org

**AJO:** Meets every other Wednesday beginning January 10, 2007, 1:30pm on early release day of 3:15pm on a regular school day, Ajo School, cafeteria, 111 Well Road, Ajo, AZ  
**Contact:** Pia Lozano, pia@azyp.org, (520) 387-3060

**CATALINA:** First group meets every Wednesday, 4:00-5:15pm, Coronado

*(Continued on page 6)*

## TIRED OF PAYING TAXES? DONATE TO AzYP

**YOU CAN make a difference** in the programming AzYP provides to its communities. **HOW?** By contributing to AzYP through the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit. Your donation will help sustain and enhance programming that keep our children healthy, hopeful, and drug-free. **It is easy;** just send the attached envelope with your donation.

### How Does the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit Work?

Contributions to Qualified Charitable Organizations, like Arizona Youth Partnership, may earn a dollar-for-dollar tax credit (up to \$200) on your Arizona income tax.

“Tax credit” means that the amount you owe in taxes is reduced by the amount of your credit. If you have already paid more than you owe, you’ll receive a tax refund from the Arizona Department of Revenue.

### How Do I Qualify for the Charitable Tax Credit?

You will receive a tax credit (up to \$200) and your total state taxes will be reduced by that amount if:

- You give to one or more qualified agencies, such as Arizona Youth Partnership.
- You have itemized charitable contributions on your Arizona income tax return at least once since 1996.
- You itemize your 2006 Arizona return.

Your total 2006 charitable deductions exceed those in your baseline year (earliest year with itemized charitable deductions since 1996). For the maximum \$200 credit, your total 2006 charitable contributions have to exceed the

baseline by \$200 (or more) and include contributions totaling at least \$200 to one or more qualified agencies.

For example, if you itemized contributions totaling \$500 in 1996, \$500 becomes your baseline amount. If you give \$700 in total contributions in 2006 that includes \$200 to a qualifying charitable organization, you receive the full \$200 tax credit. If \$500 is your baseline and you give \$600 in total contributions, including \$200 to a qualifying charitable organization, you receive a \$100 tax credit.

### What about Private and Public School Tax Credit Programs?

It is important to know that the Charitable Tax Credit program encourages gifts to charitable organizations that assist the working poor, and is completely separate from the Private School Tuition Credit and the Public School Activity Credit. Qualifying taxpayers may participate in any or all of these programs for additional tax credits.

**All donations must be received by December 31, 2006 to be eligible for the 2006 tax year.** All donations received after that date will be processed for the 2007 tax year.

If you have questions on tax credits, please call Arizona Department of Revenue: 1-800-352-4090 (in Phoenix call 602-255-3381), access the website at: [www.revenue.state.az.us](http://www.revenue.state.az.us), or contact your tax advisor.

For more information about contributing to Arizona Youth Partnership, please contact Felicia Granillo at (520) 744-9595 or [felicia@azyp.org](mailto:felicia@azyp.org).

## AzYP STATEWIDE OFFICES

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

4239 W. Ina Road, Suite 101  
Tucson, AZ 85741  
Phone: 520.744.9595  
Fax: 520.744.2127

### COLORADO RIVER REGION

*Bullhead City, Kingman*  
**Tammany McDaniel, Regional Director**  
4255 N. Stockton Hill Road, Suite 3  
Kingman, AZ 86409  
Phone: 928.692.5889  
Fax: 928.692.6255

### COPPER BELT REGION

*Globe, Hayden, Miami, Oracle, Superior*  
**Catherine Corso, Regional Director**  
2250 E. Hwy. 60-70, Ste R  
Globe, AZ. 85502  
Phone: 928.200.3767

### SONORAN REGION

*Ajo, Catalina, Flowing Wells, Marana, Three Points, Tohono O’odham Nation*  
**Mary Anne Fout, Community Development Coordinator/Team Leader**

#### Ajo:

Ajo Public Schools, Room #25  
P.O. Box 415  
Ajo, Arizona 85321  
Phone: 520.387.3060  
Fax: 520.387.4868 fax

#### Catalina:

3414 East Golder Ranch Road  
P.O. Box 8416  
Catalina, AZ 85739  
Phone: 520.825.0009  
Fax: 520.825.6899 fax

#### Marana:

Marana Middle School  
11279 West Grier Road, Room K511  
Marana, AZ 85653  
Phone: 520.548.3661  
Fax: 520.682.4790

#### Tohono O’odham Nation:

P.O. Box 1263  
Sells, AZ 85634  
Phone: 520.383.0802  
Fax: 520.383.0803

### WHITE MOUNTAINS REGION

*Concho Valley, Eagar, Pinetop, Show Low, Snowflake, Springerville, St. Johns, Vernon*  
**Robin Aguero, Regional Director**  
458 N. Butler Drive  
Springerville, Arizona 85938  
Phone/Fax: 928.333.4003

## Upcoming Events (con't)

*(Continued from page 4)*

K-8 School, small gym, 3401 E. Wilds, Catalina, AZ. Second group meets Fridays, 4:00-5:15pm, Catalina Recreation Center, 16562 N. Oracle Road, Catalina, AZ  
**Contact:** Andrea Lochner, andrea@azyp.org, (520) 825-0009

### Youth Empowered for Success

**MARANA:** Every Tuesday beginning January 9 during lunch, 11:43am-12:13pm, Marana High School, school conference room, 12000 W. Emigh Rd.  
**Contact:** Nichole Schaller at (520) 548-3661, nichole@azyp.org

**AJO:** Every Tuesday beginning January 9, 2007, 12:45 pm, AzYP Office at Ajo School, 111 Well Road, Ajo, AZ  
**Contact:** Pia Lozano, pia@azyp.org, (520) 387-3060

### YES Olympics

December 22, 11:30am, School Gym, Ajo School, 111 Well Road, Ajo, AZ

**Contact:** Pia Lozano, pia@azyp.org, (520) 387-3060

### 3rd Annual Meeting of the Minds

Annual cross-site event for coalition and youth advisory councils, March 31, 10:00am-2:00pm, Location TBA  
**Contact:** Mary Anne Fout, maryanne@azyp.org, (520) 744-9595

### WHITE MOUNTAINS REGION

**Contact:** Robin Aguero for information on Apache & Navajo County events, robin@azyp.org or (928) 333-4003.

### Wake Up!™ Classes

**Springerville:** December 14, 4:00-6:00pm, White Mountain Regional Medical Center, 118 S. Mountain Avenue, Springerville, AZ

**St. John's:** December 20, 4:30-6:30pm, St. John's Juvenile Probation Courts, 50 W. Cleveland Street, St. Johns, AZ

**Contact:** Kim Hamblin, kim@azyp.org,

(928) 333-4003

### Abstinence/Life Skills Classes

White Mountain Academy Middle School: December 4-8, 2006  
White Mountain Academy High School: December 14-15, 2006  
Concho Elementary School: January 8-12, 2007  
Vernon Elementary School: January 22-26, 2007  
St. Johns Middle School (7th grade): January 8-February 2, 2007  
St. Johns High School: February 12-16  
St. Johns Middle School (8th grade):- February 26-March 23, 2007

### For abstinence information contact:

Galina Skinner, galina@azyp.org, or Irene Sanchez, irene@azyp.org, (928) 333-4003

### For life skills information contact: Kim

Hamblin, kim@azyp.org, (928) 333-4003

www.azyp.org  
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