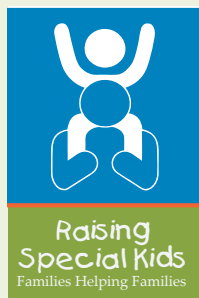




# Raising Special Kids

2016 Annual Report to the Community



## Raising Special Kids Mission

*Strengthening families and systems of care to improve the lives of children with disabilities.*

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Raising Arizona Kids Magazine

### Letter from the Board President



Each year seems to bring new changes and growth at Raising Special Kids. We are pleased to present the 2016 Annual Report to feature the latest news about our mission and accomplishments from the past year.

As a medical professional, and parent of a beautiful, accomplished daughter with Down syndrome, I am particularly proud of the fact that so many professionals in health, education, and social services attended training last year to improve their skills in providing a better quality of care for families and for children with special health care needs.

As you read through the report, you'll see how hard we've been working to achieve our mission of family support for parents of children with the full range of disabilities. We served more families in 2016 than we have in previous years, forged more community partnerships, and trained more professionals than ever before. The numbers are all described and presented, and you can see the impact we've had on the community, but Raising Special Kids has never been about the numbers.

Raising Special Kids is about the kids, each and every single one of them. I hope you will take the time to read the story from the Guysi family. Nicole Guysi tells the real story of 2016.

For 35 years Raising Special Kids has been there: for the Guysi family, for your family, and mine. For all our children, here's to a bright future full of promise and potential.

Paula Banahan, President  
Board of Directors

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“Raising Special Kids has been such a great support in helping us to find answers.”

- Nicole Guysi

## Programs and Services

### Family Support

Our daughter, Brooke, was diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder called Cohen Syndrome in May of 2013. I can't remember exactly when we were told about Raising Special Kids, but I do know it was very early—about the time we received our daughter's diagnosis. One of the things I really appreciate about Raising Special Kids is how they are always there.

We were at the very beginning of our journey, when I talked with Raising Special Kids and a very helpful person gave me a lot of information. After “the dust settled” I actually starting taking more time to read all of the material and resource information that Raising Special Kids had provided. It has been so beneficial to our family. Not only have they guided us and given us information to help with our daughter's care, we've had assistance with special education and school issues, understanding health insurance, changes in Arizona policies, finding programs that are available, and so on.

Raising Special Kids has been such a great support in helping us find answers. We know who to call if we are feeling overwhelmed, and we know Raising Special Kids not only understands how to help us (which is obviously important), but also

understands compassionate help and assistance (which is a necessity, as the challenges we face almost daily really add up and take a toll if you don't have any form of compassionate support).

Raising Special Kids has also given me insight into things that families need to know, and how to meet and overcome the challenges we're going to face. Often, it seems like families have to fight for services for their child, and they don't always have support to learn how to advocate for themselves. Parents benefit from learning that when you are advocating for your child, you are working with, not against, the program or professional, and you're trying to reach solutions that benefit everyone.

Raising Special Kids has been with us at the beginning of our journey, and they were there whenever we were overwhelmed by all we were learning and doing for our daughter. As time went on and I wanted to learn more, receive more and do more, Raising Special Kids was there and is still there, helping me be a better advocate for our daughter and for other families as well. This has been an invaluable gift and one that I will be forever grateful for.

### Programs for Parents and Families

Parent-to-Parent support has always been the heart of Raising Special Kids. Each year, more than 300 families in Arizona are connected with veteran “mentor” parents who have walked a similar path, and who understand the challenges of raising a child with a disability or special health care need. Raising Special Kids provides training and consultation in special education to families, schools, teachers, and other professionals.

### Who we Serve

- 80%** Families with disabilities and special health care needs
- 20%** Professionals (health, education, social services)
- 9655** families received information, training, and individual assistance
- 98%** of parents said they received information to address a critical need related to their child's education
- 370** Parent to Parent Matches
- 89%** of parents said that Parent to Parent support improved their ability to advocate for their child's needs, services, and care

## Programs and Services continued

### Programs and Services for Professionals

Programs for resident physicians in pediatrics and family practice relay information about parents' perspective on issues relating to medical services. Parent Panels and staff-led workshops are available to students in education, medical, oral health and social service fields.

- 4,213** Training/Conference Attendees (Parents 1,983; Professionals 2,292)
- 97%** of educational professionals reported being better prepared to work with families
- 59** pediatric and family practice physicians from five hospitals and medical centers completed training and home visits
- 95%** of physicians reported training improved ability to communicate with families



Congratulations to Raising Special Kids on the 2016 EPICS Excellence Award for Community Partnership. In September, the Award of Excellence was presented to Raising Special Kids at the annual conference of the National Native American Parent Technical Assistance Center.

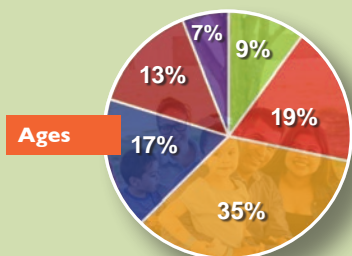
Christopher Tiffany (Director of Family Support and Education), Judy Wiley (EPICS/NAPTAC), Joyce Millard Hoie (Executive Director), and Trudy Johns (Family Support Specialist)

"I have been privileged to work with RSK for many years and refer every family that I see to you. Raising Special Kids does wonderful work!"

- Robin K. Blitz, MD Chief – Developmental Pediatrics, Phoenix Children's Hospital

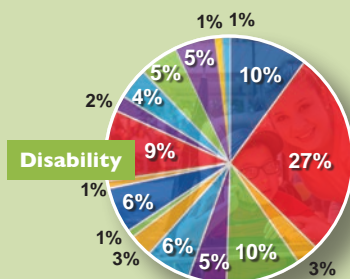


### Children Demographics



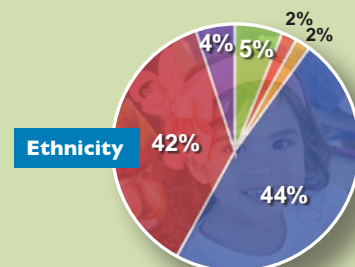
#### Age

0-2 year – 9%  
 3-5 years – 17%  
 6-11 years – 35%  
 12-14 years – 13%  
 15-18 years – 19%  
 19+ years – 7%



#### Disability

ADD – 10%  
 Autism – 27%  
 Cerebral Palsy – 3%  
 Deaf/Blind – 0%  
 Developmental – 10%  
 Down Syndrome – 5%  
 Emotional/Mental – 6%  
 Epilepsy – 3%  
 Gifted – 0%  
 Hearing Impairment/Deaf – 1%  
 Intellectual & Cognitive – 6%  
 Multiple Disabilities – 1%  
 Other Health Impairment – 9%  
 Orthopedic – 2%  
 Specific Learning Disability – 4%  
 Speech/Language – 5%  
 Suspected/Undiagnosed – 5%  
 Traumatic Brain Injury – 1%  
 Visual/Blindness – 1%



#### Ethnicity

African American – 5%  
 Asian/Pacific Islander – 2%  
 Bi-Racial – 2%  
 Caucasian – 44%  
 Hispanic/Latino – 42%  
 Native American – 4%

## Financials

At Raising Special Kids we are committed to using funds responsibly to ensure we help families today and in future generations.

**3,014**  
Donated  
Hours

Total 3,014 hours would equal over \$70,000



Mitch Owens, CareScape President with Karin Smith and Joyce Millard Hoie, presents check for \$50,000 from the Dandelion Golf Classic.

## Thank You CareScape for the 2016 Dandelion Golf Classic

### Gold Sponsors

Heinfeld Meech - \$2,500

### Silver Sponsors

IGPA - \$1,000

American Fire Equipment - \$1,000

Banahan Communications, Inc. - \$1,000

Batson Financial Group of Wells Fargo Advisors

Integrity Outsource - \$1,000

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Off Madison Ave - \$1,000

People's Mortgage - \$1,000

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Truly Nolen - \$1,000

### Hole Sponsors

IGPA - \$500

ASU Alumni Association - \$500

Jones, Skelton & Hochuli - \$500

Legg Mason Global Asset Management - \$500

Nothing But Net - \$500

Sechler CPA - \$500

### Breakfast Sponsors

Rebath & 5 Day Kitchens - \$300



**CARESCAPE**  
We care. It's our nature.  
[www.carescape.com](http://www.carescape.com)

## Where Does Revenue Come From?

2016

Grants and contracts .....\$1,664,428

Donations.....\$181,909

**\$1,664,428**  
Grants and Contracts

**\$181,909**  
Donations

## PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

(in thousands)

2016

Parent Support Services

\$655,912

Training Support Services

\$768,422

Fundraising

\$84,615

Management and General

\$164,617



# Thank You to our Donors!

Your generosity helps us serve thousands of families each year.

## 2016 Donors

### CareScape, Inc. \$50,000

### \$2,500 - \$9,999

Karen Barr  
The Hannah B Foundation

### \$1,000 - \$2,499

Chandler Compadres  
Colten Cowell Foundation  
Dr. Grant D Senner  
Eugene Huang  
Helen Holden  
James & Paula Banahan  
John Hoie & Joyce Millard Hoie  
Karin Smith  
Lawrence O'Neill  
Medtronic  
State Employees Charitable Campaign

### \$500 - \$999

Allan Wood  
Amber Bailey  
ASU Alumni Association  
Craig Martin  
Didi Obiesie  
Donald Needham  
Donna & Chuck Riser  
Emily McCune  
Heather Prouty  
Jennifer Calkins & John Hyte  
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Jennifer Roberts  
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Marcee and David Kahan  
Mark Carroll  
Marti Baio  
Maulik and Melissa Shah  
Muralidharan Krishnamachari & Malavika Muralidharan  
Nancy & Michael Maser  
Nancy Meech  
Nate & Susie Hastings  
Nicole Madera  
Pierre Kaluzny & Aimee Heintz  
Rebecca Dittmore  
Stephanie Stevens

Tom Batson  
Troy & Lisa Stockstad  
UnitedHealth Group  
Valerie Iwinski  
Vaughn Perkins III  
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

### \$250 - \$499

Brad Harper  
Briana Kertesz & Tigran Unciano  
David Cutler  
David Silveira  
Debbie & Gerald Voll  
Dr. Dan & Jill Kessler  
Ellen and William Liebow  
F.C. Harris  
Gary & Amy Heinfeld  
Greg Cameron  
Jane & Steven Carter  
Jane & Thomas Rucker  
Jodi Feuerhelm  
John & Michele Quinn  
John & Molly West  
Juan Valdez  
Judy Tom  
Kathy McDonald  
Kevin & Amy Bonner  
Kirk & Marilyn Peda  
Kodetthoor and Savithri Udupa  
Lauren Daniels  
Leslie Williams  
Madelyn Harper  
Manoj Chandran  
Mary Neil  
Mike Tiffany  
Nancy Gunderson  
Nathalie Potvin  
Pam Ramsey  
Patricia & Tom Winner  
Patrick DeMeo  
Potana Kumar Gupta Jamili  
Qualcomm  
Regan Iker-Lopez  
Ross Robb  
Sandy Bawden  
Sarah Ruf  
Steve & Vickie French  
Tobi Murphy  
Tonya Gray  
Victoria Millard

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Barbara Brent  
Betsy & John Trombino  
Brook Lincoln  
Christopher & Paulina Tiffany  
Claudia Weiss  
Corinne Newbold  
Deanne Tiffany  
Dixon Golf  
Dr. Mary Allare  
Dr. Robin Blitz  
Drs. Marlene and Richard Greyson  
Edith Barrera  
Elizabeth & Karl Freeburg  
Ellen & Barry Berkson  
Ellen Babby  
Elsie Badger  
Emma & Matthew Tiffany  
Eric Zaharia  
Esmeralda Vasquez  
Evangeline & Patrick Buckley  
Geoffrey Tiffany  
Greg Lechowski  
Honeywell Hometown Solutions  
Jack Larsen  
Jerry D Gerck  
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Karen Hayenga  
Katie Barclay Penkoff  
Kelly Randall  
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Linda Cannon  
Manda and Matthew Chatelain  
Marilyn Coffman  
Mary Slaughter  
Michaelene & Stuart Barlow  
Michelle & Arvid Faudskar  
Mike Tiffany  
Neil Wintle  
Patrick & Kristin Eng  
Paul & Margaret Tiffany  
Phil Pangrazio  
Richard and Sharon Edelman  
Ryan Companies US, Inc.  
Scott & Wendy Anderson



386  
Community  
Partners



9,655  
Families  
Assisted



2,716  
Professionals  
Trained





Governor Doug Ducey giving one of the signing pens to Joyce Millard Hoie, after signing the ABE Act (Achieving a Better Life Experience), which establishes Arizona's program of tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities. (May 2016)

Shari Capra & Neil Wake  
Sharon & Dan Campbell  
Shauna Mattson  
Stephen Snyder  
Susan Gregg Odom  
Thomas and Pamela Halpern  
Tiffany Kafka  
Tom & Ann Timmer  
Vinodh & Chellappan Narayanan  
Wayne Dickmann  
Wells Fargo Advisors

#### to \$99

Norma & Bob Ames  
Carl & Cathy Yamashiro  
Kristie Amator  
Paula Friedlund  
Anna & Fred Burgmann  
Peggy & Don Storrs  
William Vann  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Andrea Chadwick  
Barbara Wetta  
Candace & Mike Wilkinson  
Elianna Jacobs  
Ellen Rutemiller  
Geraldine Kasten  
Jenelle Dubois  
Jerry & Sharon Stahl  
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Lani Angell Comp  
Linda Anderson  
Maren Walta  
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Melissa Kushner  
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North Scottsdale Pediatric Associates  
Patty Hannah  
Rebecca Theunissen  
Renjith & Indulekha  
Sudheer-Suseela  
Sharon Shelley  
Susan Naparstek  
Victoria Strayer  
Virginia Ward

Timothy Tipton  
Jane Dalen  
Rebecca Zielinski  
Phil & Liz Hobday  
APS/Pinnacle West  
Clara Betzhold  
Margaret Anderson  
Pam Baldwin  
Ramona Napier  
Vickie Herd  
Jerrod Rynders  
Francisca Morquecho  
George Smith  
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Sandy Reed  
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Janis Stevenson  
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Kent & Lynn Grantham  
Kim Obert  
Linda Priano  
Loretta Oakes  
Lori Stanley  
Marcella Gemelli  
Marie Hoie  
Marj Dalen  
Mark & Janna Murrell  
Mollie Good  
Nannette Salasek  
Rebecca Bowman  
Stephanie Smith  
Steven & Kim Borsari  
Susan Shanks  
Terra Garcia  
Great American Title Agency  
Brenda Kiermayr  
Janine Oliver  
Robert Gardner  
Adam & Melissa Coon

Bridgette Lorenz  
Cat Coscia  
Consuelo Lopez  
Denise & Lee Hauer  
Dusti Audsley  
Emily Johnson  
Guadalupe Parra  
Janet Fasulo  
Jannine Bauma  
Maureen & John Mills  
Natalie Soto  
Sheila Morgan  
Veronica Reeves  
Wendi Howe  
Nancy Campbell  
Patricia & George Mitwasi  
Veronica Ramirez  
Priscilla Overton  
Adithya Rajasekar  
Kate Ambrose



Cindy Tipton, OneAZ Community Foundation, with Joyce Millard Hoie, presents a check recognizing Raising Special Kids' community impact.

## Our Staff

Joyce Millard Hoie,  
Executive Director  
Anna Burgmann  
Brandi Clark  
Gloria Demara  
Vickie French

Terra Garcia  
Kathy Gray-Mangerson  
Rachel Hanzuk  
Denise Hauer  
Marie Hoie  
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Trudy John  
Angleica Lara  
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Yuma: 928-444-8803  
Toll Free: 800-237-3007  
info@raisingspecialkids.org

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

## Boards and Councils Served by Raising Special Kids Staff

ABLE Act Oversight Committee  
Arizona Autism Coalition  
Arizona Community of Practice on Transition  
Arizona Department of Education  
• *National Technical Assistance Center on Transition Intensive Technical Assistance*  
• *Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)*  
• *State Inclusion Coalition*  
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council  
Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition  
Arizona Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)  
• *Advisory Council*  
• *Employment First*  
• *National Core Indicators Steering Committee*  
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)  
• *Arizona Long Term Care Services (ALTCS) Advisory Council*  
• *Autism Spectrum Disorders Advisory Council*  
• *State Medicaid Advisory Council*  
Arizona State University, Presidents Community Council

ASPIRE Advisory Council (Achieving Success by Promoting Readiness for Education and Employment)  
Dignity Health Communities of Care  
First Things First, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Task Force  
Flagstaff Unified School District Special Education Advisory Committee  
Maricopa County Family Support Alliance  
Native American Parent Technical Assistance Center (NAPTAC) Governing Board  
Parent 2 Parent USA, Board of Directors  
Phoenix Children's Hospital  
• *Family Advisory Council*  
• *Genetic Services Advisory Committee*  
Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports of Arizona, State Advisory Council  
Southern Arizona Special Education Directors' Group  
Pinal County Special Education Director's Consortium