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# The SAAF CONNECTION

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION

**WINTER 2016**  
Volume 3, Issue 1



Photo by Scott Griessel, Creatista

## Möda Provöcateür 2016 - Lucky #13

By Monique Vallery, CTA,  
Associate Director of Development

**mödc**provöcateür

Join us on Sunday March 6, 2016  
at the Tucson Convention Center  
Grand Ballroom for the 13th  
Annual Möda Provöcateür,  
a celebration of style, fashion,  
and compassion benefiting SAAF.

This year, we are extremely excited to see what Lucky #13 has in store for our guests. We will feature six salons including: Ahead of Style; Beauty Brands; The Industry Hair Studio; Toni & Guy; Twisted Salon; and Village Salon. Artifact Dance Project and BreakOut Studios will also be performing again this year.

The salons and boutiques are pulling out all the stops to celebrate another fabulous Möda Provöcateür. In addition to the wild hair and fashion you have come to expect, this year's event will feature a raffle with dozens of exciting prizes; Project Moda, showcasing up-and-comers on the fashion scene; amazing performances and a few surprises.

Early bird rates are effective through February 12, 2016 and tickets for Möda Provöcateür are limited and going fast so go to [www.saafmoda.org](http://www.saafmoda.org) to order yours today.



# Looking Back, Looking Ahead

By Wendell Hicks, Executive Director

What a year 2015 was! As I sit here looking back on the past 12 months, I am completely amazed by how far SAAF has come and it is all due to supporters like you.

## OUR MISSION:

To cultivate a healthy, stigma-free society through transformative action.

As you may know, our first newsletter of the New Year also includes our annual report, outlining accomplishments and achievements for the 2014-2015 fiscal year (SAAF's fiscal year runs from July 1-June 30). This is always a great opportunity to reflect on where we have been and where we are going. Here are some of my favorite things that happened at SAAF this past year:

**January:** SAAF works with consultants Alexander/Carrillo to get community feedback about the needs of the LGBTQ community after the closing of Wingspan.

**February:** SAAF hosts the Wingspan Dinner for more than 400 people, honoring Kent Burbank, Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias, & Rick Jorgensen.

SAAF receives funding to start a new sexual violence prevention initiative targeting youth and young adults in the community.

**March:** SAAF begins work on a website for our Buyers' Club, which will launch soon. Bringing the Buyers' Club online was made possible through a generous grant from the Lovell Foundation.

SAAF's housing program is expanded to include 90 transitional housing units serving people living with HIV/AIDS through Ryan White funding.

**April:** SAAF has another very successful AZ Gives Day, raising more than \$13,000 in 24 hours.

**May:** Jell-O Wrestling celebrates 28 years of raising funds for those living with HIV & AIDS. This is SAAF's longest-running fundraising event.

SAAF starts a new prevention outreach program, OneLife. OneLife is a collaborative project of CODAC, SAAF, and UA CON. The project is based out of CODAC's Living Out Loud Health and Wellness Center and uses a harm reduction model that connects LGBTQI and allied individuals to health education, therapy, peer, and recovery support, social groups, testing, & medical care.

**June:** SAAF continues its Walgreens Red Ribbon campaign, raising more than \$26,000 through this initiative in 2015.

**July:** SAAF screening of *The Last One*, about the National AIDS Memorial Quilt, at the Loft brings together people for a wonderful & enlightening history lesson.

**September:** SAAF is honored by the Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce with its Copper Cactus Award for outstanding non-profit.

**October:** AIDSWALK celebrates its 27th anniversary with 100s of our closest friends in downtown Tucson.

The Anti-Violence Project expands services to include case management and housing placement services. New funding sources increase budget by 500%.

SAAF formally collaborates with Pima Community College to provide substance abuse, HIV, and Hepatitis prevention and testing services at the Desert Vista and West campuses.

SAAF collaborates with Cenpatico Integrated Health to build and coordinate a LGBT youth coalition focusing on reducing drug and alcohol use.

**November:** SAAF participates in the LGBTQ Town Hall meeting and reports out to nearly 100 community members on some of the exciting advances made with Wingspan programs over the past year.

**December:** SAAF, in collaboration with the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN), celebrates the season with our clients, providing a party for adults, a day of "Christmas Shopping" for clients with children, and a special Holiday Harvest, ensuring that all SAAF clients have the happiest of holidays.

SAAF houses the most clients in its history – 350 clients placed in housing.

All exciting stuff and I can't wait to see what we will be able to accomplish, together, in the coming 12 months.

Wishing you & yours the happiest New Year,

Wendell Hicks  
Executive Director

To comment on the content of The SAAF Connection, email [donations@saaf.org](mailto:donations@saaf.org)

To be added or deleted from the mailing list or to make address changes, please contact SAAF at (520) 547-6105 or by email at [donations@saaf.org](mailto:donations@saaf.org).

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# Foundations for SAAF's Mission

By Tony Bruno, SAAF Grants Coordinator

SAAF would like to thank the following foundations for their recent support of programs and services for LGBTQ identifying people as well as people living with HIV/AIDS in our community.



Jewish Community Foundation supports SAAF's Eon Youth Lounge for at-risk LGBTQ youth in Pima County. These funds will allow for additional activities for Eon youth and staff trainings to better serve the LGBTQ youth community.



We'd like to thank Meals on Wheels America, Driving the Movement grant program for their support of the Food for Life Program. This is the first grant SAAF has received from Meals on Wheels America.



M•A•C AIDS Fund continues to provide generous support for the Food Program for People Living with HIV/AIDS. Beautiful!

SAAF relies on the compassion of corporate and private foundations to support programs and services that improve the health and quality of life for people living with, affected by or at risk for HIV/AIDS as well as those who identify as part of the LGBTQ spectrum.



Enterprise Holdings Foundation is driving SAAF's mission home through their support of HIV testing services. We want to give a special thank you to Sara Hyde at Enterprise Holdings for submitting the request on behalf of SAAF.



Armstrong McDonald Foundation has generously funded alternative health care, complementary therapies, and wellness services that improve the health and quality of life for seriously-ill people living with HIV/AIDS since 2004.



## SAAF CARE SERVICES

### Services Available for People Living with HIV/AIDS Include:

#### CLINICAL SERVICES

- Case Management
- Peer Counseling

#### SUPPORT SERVICES

- Complementary Therapies
- Dental Care
- Food Programs
- Holiday Project
- Medical Benefits Cost Sharing Assistance for those enrolled in statewide ADAP Assist
- Medications Assistance
- Support Groups
- Transportation
- Wellness and Buyers' Club
- Other Personal Support Services

#### HOUSING SERVICES

- Housing Units Owned by SAAF
- Community-Based Subsidized Housing
- Emergency Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance
- Move-in Deposits

#### PREVENTION SERVICES

- Risk-Reduction Counseling



SAAF Executive Director Wendell Hicks presents Michael Steinberg with an award for Top Individual Fundraiser during AIDS WALK 2015.



Photography by Scott Griessel, Creatista

A Special  
 “Congratulations”  
 to this year’s Top  
 Fundraisers. We  
 couldn’t have done  
 it without you!

**TOP INDIVIDUAL  
 FUNDRAISER-ADULT:**

Michael Steinberg

**TOP INDIVIDUAL  
 FUNDRAISER-YOUTH:**

Anna Jean White

**TOP SCHOOL (K-12):**

Sahuaro Cougars

**TOP FRIENDS/FAMILY/PETS  
 TEAM:**

Alexander/Alfie Family & Friends

**TOP ORGANIZATION/  
 NON-PROFIT/PROFESSIONAL  
 ASSOCIATION/CHURCH:**

Rincon Congregational Church

**TOP CORPORATE TEAM:**

Raytheon Employee Resource Groups

**TOP SMALL BUSINESS TEAM:**

R&A CPAs

Save the date for AIDS WALK 2016  
 in downtown Tucson on Sunday  
 October 9, 2016!

# AIDS WALK 2015 Raises More Than \$145,000!

By Monique Vallery, CTA, Associate Director of Development



Presents



This year’s AIDS WALK saw hundreds of walkers, runners, and their pets as well as many volunteers in downtown Tucson.

Held on Sunday October 11, supporters of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) participated in the Walk and Fun Run, admired national and local AIDS memorial quilt panels, and raised a lot of money. This year’s event was, once again, in collaboration with the annual Tucson Meet Yourself (TMY) festival which allowed SAAF to save on expenses while reaching out to the more than 100,000 attendees at TMY and HIV testing over 100 people during the festival!

SAAF would like to say a BIG “Thank You” to our Title Sponsor, Desert Diamond Casinos and Entertainment, as well as the TMY Board of Directors led by Maribel Alvarez and Tim Escobedo, and everyone who made this year’s event such a great success.

We are excited to announce our new partnership with the Fourth Avenue Merchants Association (FAMA) and a new venue for Jell-O on 4th Avenue & 7th Street!



## Jell-O Wrestling Moves to NEW LOCATION!!!!

By Monique Vallery, CTA, Associate Director of Development

The Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza and Benefit Auction will be held on Saturday April 23, 2016.



We are excited to announce our new partnership with the Fourth Avenue Merchants Association (FAMA) and a new venue for Jell-O on 4th Avenue & 7th Street. This year marks 29 years that Jell-O Wrestling has been raising money in support of the programs and services of SAAF.

Want to be a part of SAAF's wildest fundraising event? Then bring out your best costumes, find a friend, and get ready to wrestle in a pit of Jell-O! We need 10 wrestling teams to meet our goal and all of the funds we raise stay local.

Contact Monique Vallery at [mvalley@saaf.org](mailto:mvalley@saaf.org) or visit [www.jello-wrestling.org](http://www.jello-wrestling.org) for more info.



**4th AVENUE**  
Merchants Association



## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

### BOWLING FOR TOMMY

Saturday January 23, 2016

NEW LOCATION

Fiesta Lanes - 501 West River Road

[www.saaf.org/bowlingfortommy](http://www.saaf.org/bowlingfortommy)

### MÖDA PROVÖCATEŪR

Sunday March 6, 2016

Tucson Convention Center Grand Ballroom

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

### JELL-O WRESTLING

Saturday April 23, 2016

NEW LOCATION

4th Avenue

[www.jello-wrestling.org](http://www.jello-wrestling.org)



Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation



## TO YOUR HEALTH

### Travis Wright Memorial Buyers' Club

Purchase vitamins and supplements for HIV/AIDS care and general health at the lowest possible cost.

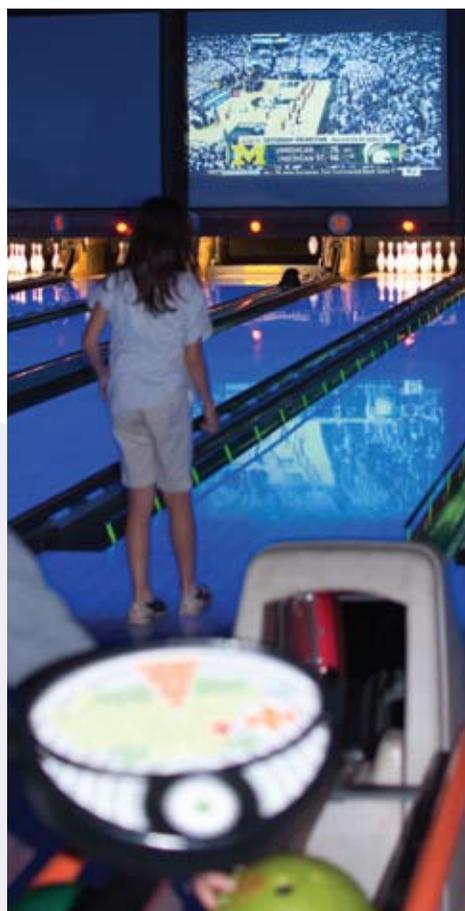
**Cactus Drug**  
(Formerly The Medicine Shoppe)  
305 S. Euclid Ave, next to SAAF  
Monday-Friday: 9:00am to 6:00pm

Bowling for Tommy 2016 will take place on Saturday January 23 from 4:00-7:00pm at its new location, Fiesta Lanes, located at 501 West River Road.



## Bowling for Tommy is January 23 at Fiesta Lanes!

By Ethan Smith Cox, Director of Development



Save the date for everyone's favorite night of bowling, fun, and fundraising for SAAF!

Bowling for Tommy 2016 will take place on Saturday January 23 from 4:00-7:00pm at its new location, Fiesta Lanes, located at 501 West River Road. Individual bowlers can register for \$30 and lanes of 6 can be purchased for \$180 and include one large pizza and one pitcher of soda as well as shoe rental for 6 and 2 hours of bowling fun.

Special thanks to the 2016 Bowling for Tommy title sponsor La Frontera and lane sponsors: FreedomSmoke USA International; Waterfall, Economidis, Caldwell, Hanshaw, & Villamana; Emcor; Cox Communications; and Kristie Graham, who have helped make this event possible.

To register, call (520) 628-SAAF (7223) or go online to [www.saaf.org/bowlingfortommy](http://www.saaf.org/bowlingfortommy)

Highlights of this year's live auction included trips to Disneyland & Mexico as well as a beautiful diamond ring that sold for \$1,300!



Photography by Alethea Do

## Festival for Life a Big Hit!

By Monique Vallery, CTA, Associate Director of Development

The 27th Annual Jérôme Beillard Festival for Life, presented by Long Realty Cares Foundation at the Tucson Chinese Cultural Center, was a huge success with over 650 people joining us to raise more than \$87,000 for SAAF!

Musician Richard Noel entertained the crowd as the silent auction kicked into high gear with over 600 items on display. Wendell Hicks, SAAF's Executive Director, started the live auction with a warm welcome and introduced Lupita Murillo (KVOA TV), our evening's emcee. Highlights of this year's live auction included trips to Disneyland & Mexico as well as a beautiful diamond ring that sold for \$1,300!



This amazing event is made possible by the hundreds of items donated by local artists, businesses, framers, and individuals. The variety and quality of work is amazing. Our Festival Committee works throughout the year to ensure that this event continues to be a showcase for all of the wonderful artists and businesses in our community. It also takes over 100 volunteers to help put this event together and we thank them for their contribution and thank YOU for coming out and making this event such a great success!



## VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

### Get involved with SAAF!

Join us for an upcoming volunteer orientation, the first step for anyone wanting to volunteer at SAAF.\* Orientations take place at the SAAF office building located at 375 South Euclid Avenue.

**Tuesday January 19, 2016**  
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**Tuesday February 16, 2016**  
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**Saturday March 19, 2016**  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

(\*No orientation is necessary for those volunteering for fundraising events and Walk-in Wednesdays.)

To sign up for Volunteer Orientation, visit [www.saaf.org](http://www.saaf.org).



## March is Write A Will Month

By Ethan Smith Cox, Director of Development

More than half of all adult Americans do not currently have a will. If you do not have a will at the time of death, the State will make determinations about how your estate is divided up.

In Arizona, if you are part of an unmarried, same-sex couple, your surviving partner will receive nothing from your estate without a will.

Take control of your future by attending the SAAF/TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS

Network) Write A Will workshop. This workshop is free and will offer great insight into what it takes to secure your future and the future of your loved ones.

**WORKSHOP DATE**  
Saturday March 12, 2016  
2:00pm-4:00pm  
Ward Office III  
1510 East Grant Road

RSVP to Lauren Lederman,  
SAAF Development Associate, at  
(520) 547-6119 or [llederman@saaf.org](mailto:llederman@saaf.org)  
by March 12, 2015