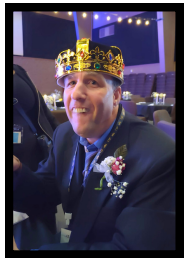




**ADVOCATE**




**PURPOSE**



5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**BREAKFAST**  
 WITH  
**CHAMPIONS**  
 -LAKE HAVASU ARIZONA-

Special  
 Olympics  
 Arizona




**EMPOWER**



**FULFILLMENT**

PRESENTED BY  
**ANDERSON**  
 TOYOTA



**FAMILY  
FULFILL  
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ADVOCATE**



5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**BREAKFAST  
WITH  
CHAMPIONS**

—LAKE HAVASU ARIZONA—

**Special  
Olympics  
Arizona**



**FRIENDS  
PURPOSE  
SHARING  
FUN**



# LETTER FROM THE CEO



Dear Friends:

Special Olympics Arizona has thrived over the last year, seeing some of our greatest participation numbers yet, that even exceed pre-pandemic numbers. State Basketball and Cheerleading held in March 2023 saw 1,218 athletes and partners competing for the gold! Also, at our newly restructured Fall Games we had 1,056 athletes and partners competing in swimming and bocce. Sharing numbers like this brings us so much joy and excitement as the inclusive movement continues to grow across the state.

The vision of Special Olympics Arizona over the next 5 years is to grow to serve more than 25,000 athletes and partners, grow developmental sports programs, increase trained coaches and engage families at a higher level than ever before. To accomplish our vision, we need your support. Maybe your superpower is becoming a coach in a sport you are passionate about? Or could it be sharing your love of Special Olympics at community events? Maybe it is inviting friends and companies you work with to experience Special Olympics by volunteering or attending a fundraising event. Whatever your superpower is, we hope you continue to share it so that all individuals with an intellectual disability across the state of Arizona have the chance to shine and share their superpowers.

For too long individuals with intellectual disabilities have been hidden away in the corners of society with little connection to the outside world. Until that changes in every classroom and community across Arizona our mission is not done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Heckerman".

Jamie Heckerman  
President & CEO



# AGENDA

## **Presentation of Colors**

Lake Havasu Police Department and Mohave County Sheriff's Department

## **National Anthem**

Angel Swentik and Briana Rule

## **Invocation**

Pastor Pete Bunnell

## **Emcee**

Rebecca Stone

## **Opening Remarks and Acknowledgements**

Lisa Ball  
Regional Development Director, Special Olympics Arizona

## **Speakers**

Chief Troy Stirling, Lake Havasu Police Department  
Brenda Johnson, Coach/Advocate

## **Athlete Panel Speakers**

Al Rachet  
DAmorcita Abad  
Lindsay Lehr  
Nick Anderson  
Ron Allen  
Ryder Bliss

## **Panel Facilitator**

Andrea Foote





# SPEAKERS



## REBECCA STONE

Rebecca currently serves as the superintendent of Lake Havasu Unified School District #1. She started her career as a special education teacher where she championed all students with diverse abilities as they worked to meet their potential. She has worked with Special Olympics for the past 15 years supporting student athletes and organizing events. She is proud of the positive impact Special Olympics has on athletes, families, coaches, and the community.

## CHIEF TROY STIRLING

Chief Troy Stirling joined the Lake Havasu City Police Department in 1997, after serving almost 3-years with the Mohave County Sheriff's Office, and promoted through the ranks. During his 28-year law enforcement career, he has worked in the patrol and criminal investigations units, and became a use of force, Taser, and driving instructor where he was able to train officers for several years. He promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2006 where he had the opportunity to supervise a patrol squad and oversee the full implementation of the department's body worn camera program. He also had the opportunity to be the supervisor of the Criminal Investigations Unit and the Professional Standards Unit. In 2015, after being promoted to Lieutenant, he was assigned as the Academy Commander for the Western Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy where he oversaw the academy operations until being promoted to Captain in 2016. As the Support Division Captain he oversaw the Professional Standards Unit, Records Unit, Jail Unit and the Communications Center. He took over as the Operations Division Captain in November of 2021 where he oversaw the Patrol and Investigations Bureaus. In December of 2022 he was appointed as the Police Chief and is honored to lead the men and women of the Lake Havasu City Police Department.

Chief Stirling holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's degree in Public Administration and is a 2018 graduate of the 271st session of the FBI National Academy.

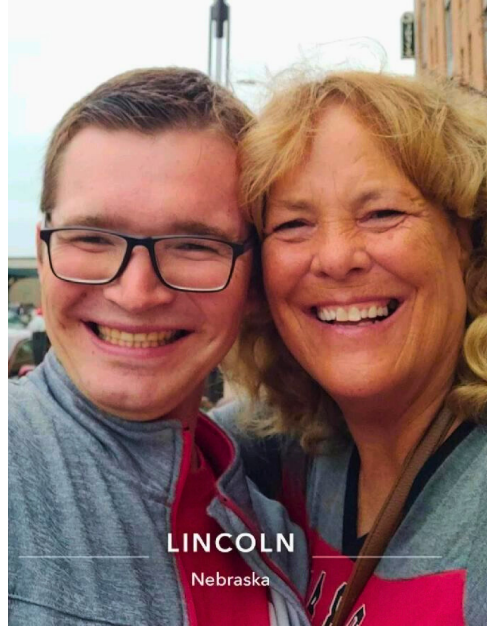
Chief Stirling came to Lake Havasu City in 1983 and is a graduate of the LHHS class of 88'. He is an avid Pickleball player, and he and his wife, Kim, enjoy volunteering their time with various community organizations and they have a 23-year old son and a 32-year old daughter.



# SPEAKERS

## **BRENDA JOHNSON**

At just 12 years old, Brenda had her first experience working with people that have amazing abilities. Her first experience was babysitting for a young man with special needs. During her high school years, she had the opportunity to work at the summer camp at Grafton State School and decided this line of work was for her. Brenda officially began her career in 1982 at Fraser Hall in Fargo, North Dakota. She worked in their group homes for seven years before relocating to Tucson, Arizona. In her short time in Tucson, she worked at the Beacon Foundation, a sheltered workshop. Shortly after, Brenda and her family moved to Lake Havasu City. Since 1991, Brenda Johnson has been serving our community. She was employed at New Horizons for 25 years and is now employed privately and is privileged to be Nick Anderson's helper.



**LINCOLN**

Nebraska



## **ANDREA FOOTE**

Andrea Collica-Foote oversees Marketing and Promotions for the Anderson Auto Group. Andrea is passionate about working with individuals with different abilities and sits on multiple committees and boards involved in serving these individuals. Andrea is happily married to her husband Mark, and a new mom to baby Matteo (who is as cute as can be).

**6**

**SPEAKERS**

# SPEAKERS

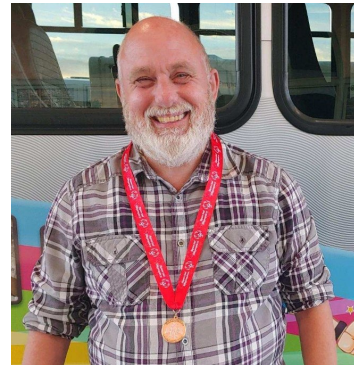


## **NICK ANDERSON**

Nick Anderson has lived in Lake Havasu all his life. He started in special Olympics while in high school and continues to this day. He participates in bocce ball, bowling and cheerleading.

## **RON ALLEN**

Ron Allen has lived in Lake Havasu and participated in Special Olympics bowling, softball and basketball for 20+ years. Ron is well known for his gold medal smile. Ron has been a staple in Special Olympics and is always willing to lend a hand and make people laugh and feel happy



## **RYDER BLISS**

Ryder Bliss is 18 years old, has been a Special Olympic athlete for the past 3 years. His favorite sports are Swim and basketball. In addition to the special Olympic team, Ryder held a place on Unified High School swim team. He loves competing and beating his records in swimming and loves being part of a team in basketball. Ryder will graduate High school this year and looks forward to many years of varied special Olympic sports. He loves how special Olympics keeps him active and gets to spend time with his friends.



## SPEAKERS

### **AMORCITA ABAD**

Lindsey has lived in Arizona for 23 years since birth. She enjoys cheerleading, bocce ball and bowling for Special Olympics. She has been in Special Olympics since she was in High school.



### **LINDSAY LEHR**

Amorcita Abad has lived in Lake Havasu City since 2009. She loves Special Olympics and plays softball and basketball. She competes in track and goes bowling with her friends. Amorcita's favorite events are when her team plays the LHCPD.



### **AL RACHET**

Al Rachet who likes to be called "Deuce Gorden 13" Deuce is 34 years old and has lived in Lake Havasu for 24 years. He graduated from Lake Havasu High School, he currently attends

New Horizons Day Program. He has been involved with Special Olympics for over 20 years enjoying basketball, bowling, softball and many other sports







## SPONSORS

The 5th Annual Lake Havasu Breakfast with Champions would not have been possible without the generous support of these sponsors.



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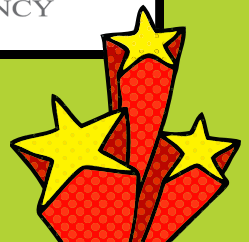
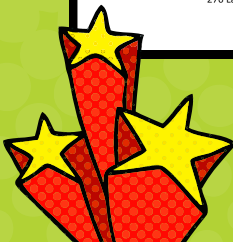
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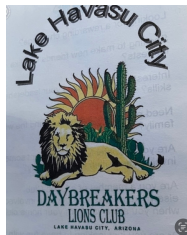


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Our commitment to customers goes beyond providing safe, reliable natural gas and electric service. We're promoting prosperity in Lake Havasu City by helping local businesses save energy and supporting Special Olympics Arizona. UniSource Energy Services is proud to provide the energy that powers our community.

**UniSourceEnergy**  
SERVICES

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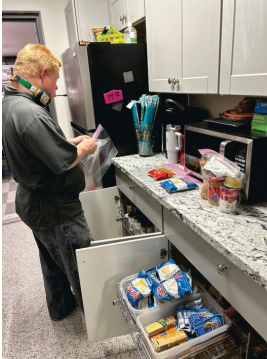
## the Clothes Closet, inc.



Clothes Closet - Non profit 501c3 47-1546359

**Havasu H.O.P.E.**  
(Help Our People Excel)

The Clothes Closet, Inc. shall strive to provide free clothing, and to be a place of restoring hope, worthiness, respect and dignity by utilizing existing relationships and accessing other community resources to further help individuals and families obtain needed services.



1968 Mesquite Ave  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403  
928-230-3113



**We Have Many Volunteers All with Unique Abilities  
That Help us in All Phases of our Mission.**

**Thank You Everyone because We couldn't do it without ALL of you**

**14**

PRESENTING SPONSOR

# LETR



## LAW ENFORCEMENT **TORCH RUN**<sup>®</sup> FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS ARIZONA

The Law Enforcement Torch Run<sup>®</sup> (LETR) is the largest public awareness vehicle and grass-roots fundraiser for Special Olympics. Known honorably as Guardians of the Flame, law enforcement members and Special Olympics athletes carry the “Flame of Hope” into the Opening Ceremony of local competitions, and into Special Olympics State, Provincial, National, Regional and World Games. Annually, almost 110,000 dedicated and compassionate law enforcement members carry the “Flame of Hope,” symbolizing courage and celebration of diversity uniting communities around the globe



**15**  
SPONSOR

# **TABLE CAPTAINS**

**Amy Smith  
Andrea Foote  
Andrea Helart  
Brenda Johnson  
Brian Springberg  
Brooke Russell  
Cal Sheehy  
Cindy Keasy  
Christy Anderson  
Dave Thompson  
Debbie Herd  
Erica McCorkle/Regan Ross  
Greg Whitmire  
Jeremy Hendrick  
Jessica Dewey  
Jonathan Moss  
Kathy Simons  
Kyler Cox  
Natalie Rodgers  
Nate Stellerine  
Penny Lyons  
Peter Pilafas  
Rebecca Stone  
Shirley Ries  
Sunrise Rotary  
Troy Stirling**



# EVENT COMMITTEE

**Special thanks to the Lake Havasu Area Development Council for helping to plan the 5th Annual Lake Havasu Breakfast With Champions.**

YouAndrea Foote - Anderson Auto Group

Brenda Johnson - Coach/Advocate

Cindy Keasey - Clothes Closet

David Thompson - Coach/Advocate

Josh Waelchli - Athlete

Kyler Cox - MCSO

Lorne Jackson - LHPD

Natalie Rodgers - Milemarkers

Rebecca Stone, Superintendent - LHUSD

Ronda Standsberry - Coach/Advocate

Terri Halbash - Coach/Advocate

Troy Stirling, Chief - LHPD



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Jeremiah Foster, Finance Committee Chair, Resolute Commercial  
David Funkhouser, Fundraising Committee Chair, Spencer Fane LLP  
Ben Goetter, Governance Chair, M.A. Mortensen

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TO LIFT MANY!**

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Consider donating TODAY: \$400 for individuals and \$800 for married couples filing jointly.

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Arizona



This is a DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR TAX CREDIT, up to the amount of the credit, not just a deduction, but a reduction of your income tax payable.

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100% of your donation goes directly to your selected qualified charity organization, Special Olympics Arizona.

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