



2022

Annual Report





OUR MISSION

Develop and embody purposeful ways for nonspeaking autistic people to communicate, live autonomously, educate others, connect, participate in the community, have meaningful vocation, and live their best lives.

Board and Staff

Officers and Board of Directors

Sara Reisman, President

Nate Stein, Vice President

Lisa Stein, Treasurer

Joseph Reisman, Secretary

Randy Brandhagen

Ben Breaux

Mike Grubbs

Scott Sandler

Julie Sando

Sarah Farison*

Chantal Sicile-Kira

Lee Stein

Danny Whitty

*Served partial year

Leadership

Amy Greiner, Executive Director



Dear Friends,

What an incredible year of discovery and community-building! We started the year off holding focus groups to help us learn how best to create our community and communicate our message. We spoke to families, future participants, professionals, donors, collaborators, and Prescott residents and received invaluable feedback for building a successful and sustainable community.

We listened to the needs of families to have activities together and we held our first speller's retreat at Teva. The Songwriting Workshop was so successful that we will be holding **six more retreats (!)** in 2023. We received our first grant, which will help support these retreats that will be held at Teva, San Diego and Idylwild Pines, CA.

Thank you also to our many generous donors for helping us in our journey to develop and embody purposeful ways for nonspeaking autistic people to communicate, live autonomously, educate others, connect, participate in the community, have meaningful vocation, and live their best lives. We are humbled by your support and we couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara Reisman".

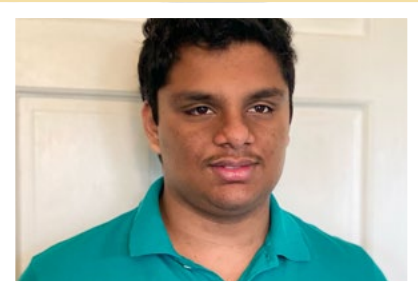
Sara Reisman
President of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Greiner".

Amy Greiner
Executive Director

Spellers Advisory Council

One of our biggest accomplishments of 2022 has been putting together a Spellers Advisory Council so that we can get more input from spellers. Because our mission is to develop and embody purposeful ways for nonspeaking autistic people to communicate, live autonomously, educate others, connect, participate in the community, have meaningful vocation, and live their best lives, it is essential that we get guidance from spellers at every step of the way to ensure that the community we create will be something that nonspeakers need, want and deserve.



“

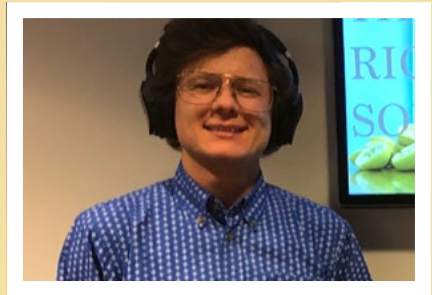
I hope to develop relationships with other like-minded spellers to found a community where we can live, work, socialize and be our best selves. Building communities where we are included in the planning process is so fantastic. The future looks better when we are valued.”

– Rithik

“

I am pleased to be included in this group of stalwart visionaries as we come together to re-envision what our lives can look like. I personally hope to make some new friends – I feel alone much of the time despite never or rarely being actually alone.”

– Adriana

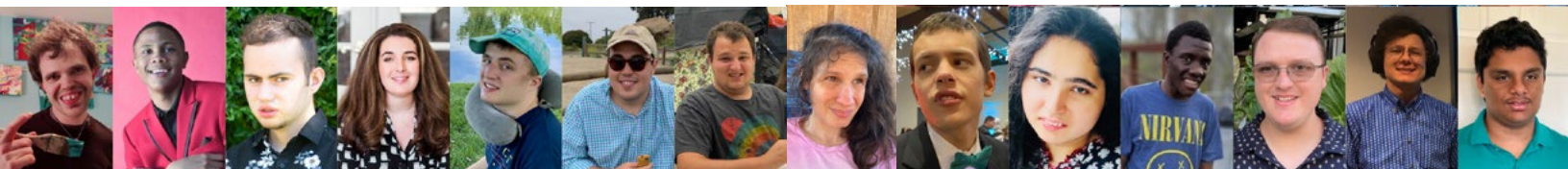


“

I would like to support the creation of an empowering and enjoyable community for nonspeaking autistic people to explore and create ways of communicating, learning, teaching, and otherwise having access to the resources needed to live well, by our own standards.”

– Marrok

Members of the Spellers Advisory Council include L to R: Jeremy Sicile-Kira, Justice Killebrew, Aulton Grubbs, Emily Grodin, Ian Marcus, Ido Kedar, Jake Reisman, Adri Jorde, Joshua Greiner, Alex Wetherell, Kwame Brobbey, Sophia Kapoor, Marrok Sedgwick, Rithik Sinhasan and Board Members Ben Breaux and Danny Whitty.



2022 Year Highlights

This was an exciting year with many firsts, including holding our first ever program at Teva, creating our first Advisory Boards and Committees, completing our first audit, and applying for and receiving our first grant. We continued to collect feedback from nonspeakers and families and consult with experts in many fields.

Board Development & Committees

- New Board Members for 2022 include Chantal Sicile-Kira, Mike Grubbs, and Ben Breaux
- Created Spellers Advisory Board and held first session
- Formed Social Media committee and started regular meetings
- Held Annual Board Retreat at FirstPlace AZ

Financial

- Created a brokerage account through Ameriprise
- Drafted budget proformas for future projections
- Completed our first audit and received an unqualified opinion
- Applied for and received our first grant from the Myra Reinhard Family Foundation

Property

- Rehab weekend – Pioneer Foundation generously donated time and materials to demo cabins 1 & 2 and install new insulation and siding
- Entrance sign installed
- New caretaker, Matt, continues to clear and clean the property
- New gate installed
- Forest Service firewized trees on whole property
- Private historical review completed

Outreach/Feedback

- 6 discovery/focus group sessions with 61 attendees with tremendous ideas and insights
- Desiree Kameka Galloway led focus group with 14 spellers with great participation and feedback.

Programs

- Held Songwriting Workshop with Brian Laidlaw at Teva Community
- Participated and collected feedback at Idyllwild Pines' first spelling retreat, led and created by Board Member Julie Sando

Consultations

- Bob Bennetti, Executive Director of Tucson Residential Foundation
- Marla Davidson, founder of Echoing Hope Ranch, DDD Network Manager
- Desiree Kameka Galloway, founder of Neuro-Inclusive Housing Solutions
- Lisa Laurence, CEO of Absolute HCBS
- Betzy Lynch, Chief Executive Officer, Lawrence Family JCC, Jacobs Family Campus
- Josie Quinn, CEO of Syn Media
- Denise Resnik, First Place Arizona, led discovery/focus groups and planning for capital campaign
- Todd Rockoff, President and CEO, Tucson JCC
- Denny Rogers, ED of Safe Haven Farms
- Michael Taylor, Michael Taylor Architects completed rough construction timeline and budget

Design & Marketing

- First Annual Report create
- Eric Linthorst filming documentary and released teaser video
- Messaging brochure created for Discovery Groups
- Creation of videos from Songwriting Workshop by volunteer Rick Diehl
- Pro-bono photography by Scott Sandler
- Donor Perfect chosen as nonprofit database

Fundraising

Completed our year-end Facebook fundraising campaign based on an initial match of \$50K match
Total yearly amount raised: \$151k + inkind contributions

Songwriting Workshop



We held our first retreat, a Songwriting Workshop, at Teva Community in June 2022. It was led by **Brian Laidlaw**, a music and poetry teacher who has worked with nonspeakers in sharing their experiences through creative writing. Seven amazing teens and young adults joined us along with their families for this first trial experience over three days.

“This FAR EXCEEDED my expectations. There are no words.” – Parent

Activities included lessons about songwriting principles, “Finding Inspirations” co-led by nonspeakers Aulton Grubbs & Joshua Greiner, 1:1 poetry writing classes, sensory body work, shared

“I loved every minute. This is a magical place to share with my beloved friends. Feeling very proud and blessed to have been a part of this.”

— *Nonspeaking Autistic Teen*

meals, a nature walk to the site of Teva’s future amphitheater, a lesson and experience in “forest bathing”, two collaborative songwriting sessions (each ending with a truly epic group song), and a listening party at the end of the weekend.

Each of the participants also wrote a complete song in 1:1 sessions with Brian, which were shared with the group in a truly magical experience on Saturday



night around a roaring fire in our lodge.

It was a challenge with no electricity or running water, but we used generators and porta potties and everyone had an amazing time. Imagine what we can do once we are able to complete our renovations!

“I loved watching my son’s happiness and sharing this with my favorite families. We’ll never forget this experience and look forward to many more!” – Parent

THE FREEDOM PLACE

Collaborative song written by nonspeaking participants

I hear my friends, my people I love
I need the clouds' expanse above
In this beautiful and tree-filled space
In this together place, this pristine place

I see strengths and vulnerabilities
I live when I'm here, I need the trees,
Able to move at my own pace
In this heavenly place, this freedom place

I sense the great aura of the teacher
I dream of the future, I listen nature
A place made of piney lace
In this high-vibes place, outside the lines place


I see wishes of you people singing
I think of equality, work toward healing
Leaving the judgment without a trace
In this treasured place, this dreamy place

I feel the frankly warmness of the room
I quiet my heart, I see the king in the room
A great sense of amazing grace
In this serene place, this glowing place

Watch a video of this song at <https://tinyurl.com/2npmeb75>

One of the best parts of the Songwriting Workshop was that we were able to hire two nonspeaking poets – **Joshua Greiner** and **Aulton Grubbs** – to co-teach a class with Brian Laidlaw. Listening to, and learning from spellers, as well as compensating them fairly for their time and expertise, is an important part of our mission.

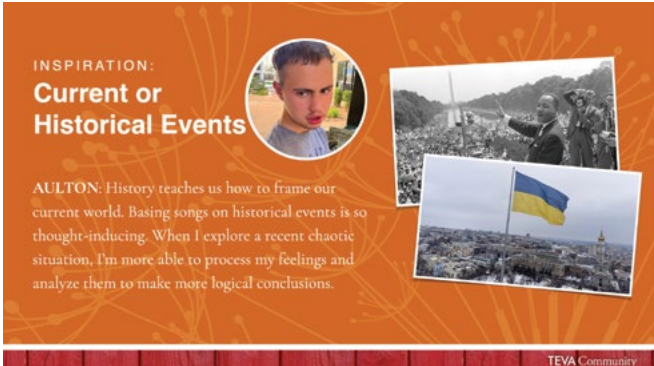
“Presenting to inquisitive minds is my ultimate, final goal for my future career. I feel so fortunate when I’m given an opportunity to develop and share my voice in a broader and more diverse way. Teaching a fine art like music can enrich the students’ and teacher’s hope and ultimately, their lives.” — Aulton, co-presenter



Songwriting Introduction
FINDING SOURCES OF INSPIRATION
Co-taught by Dr. Brian Laidlaw, Joshua Greiner, Aulton Grubbs

Three circular portraits of the co-teachers: Dr. Brian Laidlaw, Joshua Greiner, and Aulton Grubbs.

TEVA Community



INSPIRATION:
Current or Historical Events

Aulton Grubbs' portrait and images of historical events, including a Ukrainian flag and a city scene.

AULTON: History teaches us how to frame our current world. Basing songs on historical events is so thought-inducing. When I explore a recent chaotic situation, I'm more able to process my feelings and analyze them to make more logical conclusions.

TEVA Community



INSPIRATION:
Picking High Goals

Joshua Greiner's portrait and an image of two people climbing a rock.

JOSHUA: I like to think of my goals, hoping to inspire my body to listen. Open up to inspiring your high hope of yourself. Using my eyes, getting to imagine I'm quiet in my loud voice, letting my thoughts in of huge pride of myself. This can be so helpful, giving yourself inspiring words in poetry or songwriting.

TEVA Community





Thank you to the Pioneer Foundation

A special shout out to the Pioneer Foundation for your generous donation and for the talented musical manpower that helped transform our property in a radical rehab weekend!

Thanks to a wonderful group of volunteers and our board of directors and family members, we had an exciting, inspiring (and exhausting!) rehab weekend for two of our cabins! Spending time working alongside nonspeaking spellers, creating a future directed by their wishes and dreams, was truly the best way to spend Autism Action day.



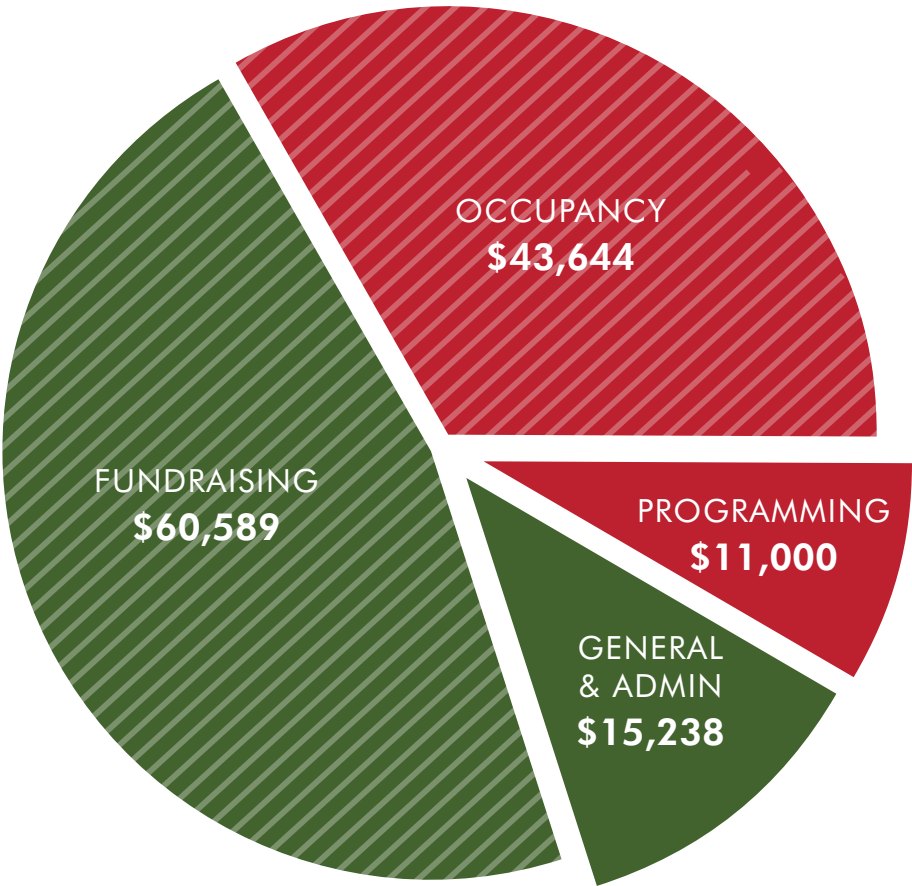
Please join our mailing list at www.tevacommunity.org to find out about upcoming events and opportunities to help.

Financials (Fiscal Year 2022)

TOTAL REVENUE **\$179,883**

From direct donations, grants and programs

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$130,471**



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|----------------|--------------------------|
| Program | Support Services |
| Occupancy | Fundraising |
| Programming | General & Administrative |
-



Thank you to our 2022 donors

We are humbled and grateful to our donors who have contributed financially to our organization. We also appreciate all those who have donated time and materials to helping us make the wishes of our future residents and participants come true. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Danny and Cherie Adelman	Amy Greiner	Lois Miller	Alane and David Shechter
David Alexander	Marc and Marci Gross	Bailey Moore	Chantal and Daniel Sicile-Kira
Julie Andreoni	Elmer Grubbs	Jeannine Mortimer	Cathy and James Sigismonti
Brian Appel	Mike and Nikki Grubbs	Kathleen Murphy	Amy Sitver
Susan Gross Arenson	Lisa Gruen	Lisa Netherland	Denise Skinner
Cherie and Bill Artz	Suzy Handler	Betsy O'Connor	May and Marc Smith
Haley and Tyler Bacon	Laura Havard	Nan Pace	Stephanie Smith
Beach Audio	Robyn Hayutin	Kelli Pallett	Joshua Smith
Bee Builders of Eloquence and Engagement, LLC	Leah Herbert	Timothy Peck	Robert Smith
Jurgita Benetyte	Chris Homyk	Edlyn Peña	Brian Stahm
Maria Biard	Michael House	Fred and Amy Petrovsky	Keren Stashower
Nancy Bishop	Milani and Ron Hunt	Pioneer Foundation	Alex Stein
Deborah Blyveis	Suzanne Iannuzzi	Larry Raffel	Eric Stein
Linda and Dennis Brown-Key	Tricia Jones	Jonathan Rauch	Lee and Randie Stein
Annika Cioffi	Dena Kaplan	Joe and Sara Reisman	Mark Stein
Suzanne Clement	Pam and Steve Katz	Miriam Reisman	Penney Stein
Claudia Cohen	Diana Seaman Kogan	Caren Rich	Nate and Lisa Stein
Rachel Cohn	Carla and Philippe Kopf	Todd Rockoff	John Vohlers
Shannon Conatser	Langerman Foundation	Heidi Rome	Norman Waas
Kerilyn Creeger	Judy Lebeau	Joan and Steve Rosenberg	Susan Watson
Sheila Dias	Eileen Letts	Jon Rosenthal	Gayle Weiss
Debby and Rob Dunaway	Michelle Leung	Tom Ruwitch	Adam and Beth Weissman
Becky Everett	Audrey and Steve Levine	Glenda Sacks	Mary Ellen Wells
Marc Feig	Naomi Lifschultz	Scott and Debbie Sandler	Joe Wittenstein
Michell and Carol Fleischer	Johnnye Locke	Julie Sando	Marcia and Don Wolochow
Myrna and Ken Fleischer	Bruce Long	Rachel Schindler	Beth Jo Zeitzer and Adam Nach
Ruth and Michael Fletcher	Angelina Lopez	Margie Schnell	
Judith and William Friedel	Patricia MacCorquodale	Janice Sears	
Susan and Steve Gelb	Marcus Family Charitable Fund	Janith Seidel	
Steve Godwin	Carrie and John Mayers	Janice Seufert	
Leonora Gorelik	Raizy Metzger	Pamela Shack	<i>And thank you to all of the donors who wish to remain anonymous.</i>



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“I want Teva to be a place where friends can talk and learn about themselves and others. I want to have fun and help others get their voices. Teva is nature and community. Friends and career. Opportunity and life.”

— JAKE, 19, NONSPEAKER



Thank you to our generous supporters for helping us in our journey to achieve our vision of a world where all nonspeaking people are listened to, valued and fully included in all aspects of society.



2900 N Granite Basin Rd
Prescott, AZ 86305
www.tevacommunity.org

Teva Community is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.
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