MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE, AND HOMELESSNESS
114TH STATEWIDE ARIZONA TOWN HALL
FULL AGENDA - NOVEMBER 14-16, 2022

PERA CLUB FACILITY
1 E CONTINENTAL DR
TEMPE, AZ 85281
The Arizona Town Hall Process
From the Group Statement to the Final Report

“Seek first to understand, then to be understood.”
Stephen Covey, The 7 Habits of Highly Successful People
OVERVIEW OF THE ARIZONATOWNHALLPROCESS

Arizona Town Hall is a private nonprofit organization founded in 1962 for the purpose of educating, engaging, connecting and empowering people to resolve important issues. Much of the success of Arizona Town Hall lies in the fact that the process incorporates the knowledge, thoughts and ideas of all the participants. The Town Hall process has been adapted and utilized by many other groups who strive to create solutions by drawing upon diverse views and building informed coalitions.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS
The Town Hall begins with panel discussions. Each panel addresses the same discussion questions during the first portion of the Town Hall. The process and guiding principles for the panel discussions are as follows:

• The Panel Chair reads one question at a time and discussion follows.
• It is important to stick to the question at hand.
• The panel strives for consensus (votes are taken only if absolutely necessary).
• Consensus is reached when no one wants to add anything, and no one objects strongly to the wording offered.
• The Panel Recorder’s role is to keep the panel on time, capture the consensus comments, read back consensus statements to the panel and make edits with participants.
• Viewpoints of all participants are considered equally valuable, regardless of title or position.
• Discussions are encouraged to be robust while maintaining a respect for different viewpoints.
• Participants are allowed to criticize concepts—not people.
• Minority viewpoints must be very strong to find their way into the final document.
• Media may be present at the Town Hall. You should assume that your comments may be quoted at any time.
• Observers may attend the sessions but generally cannot contribute to discussions.
• The process is as valuable as the recommendations.

CREATION OF THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT
Once complete, the consensus statements are taken from each panel to the Report Chairs. The Report Chairs review the statements and look for consensus across all of the panels. With assistance from the Panel Recorders, the Report Chairs create a draft report of what appears to be the consensus of the Town Hall participants.

The draft report is distributed before the plenary session of the Town Hall. Panels meet prior to the start of the plenary session to review the draft and outline any areas the panel wants to address at the plenary session.

THE PLENARY SESSION
At the plenary session, Arizona Town Hall’s Board Chair leads all of the Town Hall participants, as a full body, in an organized review of the document. All participants work to approve, amend or reject each section of the report of recommendations.
AGENDA

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.  Town Hall Registration – PERA Club Lobby

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Opening and Overview – Sandhill West
                      Welcome: Tara Jackson, President, Arizona Town Hall
                      Opening Comments and Overview: Evelyn Casuga, Board Chair, Arizona Town Hall
                      Sponsor Highlighted: The Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation

9:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Participant Panel Discussions – (Coffee break mid-morning)
                       Panel Agave – Whitetail East
                       Joyce Grossman, Chair
                       Jeremy Goodman, Recorder
                       Panel Hedgehog – Big Horn
                       Jan Miller, Chair
                       Patsy Kraeger, Recorder
                       Panel Saguaro – Whitetail West
                       Elizabeth McNamee, Chair
                       Mary Grier, Recorder
                       Panel Ocotillo – Online
                       Allison Hephner, Chair
                       Michael Spivey, Recorder

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  Luncheon Program – Sandhill West
                       Presiding: Suzanne Pfister, CEO, Vitalyst Health Foundation
                       Sponsors Highlighted: Salt River Project (SRP) and Salt River Pima–Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC)
                       Panel Presentation: Health and Human Services and Arizona Mayors
                       Paul Deasy, Mayor, City of Flagstaff
                       Que English, Director, Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
                       Craig McFarland, Mayor, City of Casa Grande
                       Corey Woods, Mayor, City of Tempe

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  Free time for participants

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  Connecting Across Generations: Community Storytelling with Rising Youth Theater – Swilling’s Lounge
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Breakfast Program – Sandhill West

Presiding: Alexandra Zavala, Director, Marketing and Communications, Molina Complete Care of Arizona; Chair, Community Town Halls Committee and Elizabeth McNamee, Vice Chair, Community Town Halls Committee

Sponsors Highlighted: Molina Complete Care of Arizona and Arizona Public Service (APS)

Panel Presentation: Best Practices and Lessons Learned from Arizona Communities

Don Bischoff, Captain, Special Projects, Mohave County Sheriff’s Office

Shelley Mellon, Owner/Broker, RL Jones Insurance Services, Inc.

Suzanne Pfister, CEO, Vitalyst Health Foundation

9:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Participant Panel Discussions – (Coffee break mid-morning)

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  Luncheon Program – Swilling’s Lounge

Presiding: Barry Aarons, Owner, The Aarons Company LLC and Holly Figueroa, Tribal Liaison, BCBSAz – Health Choice

Sponsor Highlighted: Blue Cross Blue Shield–Health Choice Arizona

Presentation: The Path Forward

Special Performance: Supaman, Hip Hop Artist, Rapper, and Ghost/Thunder Dancer

2:00 p.m.  Special Presentation with HOPI-R2

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  Free time for participants

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  Networking Event – Swilling’s Lounge

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  Grab and Go Breakfast available – Sandhill West

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  Individual participant panel caucuses

Panel Agave – Whitetail East
Panel Hedgehog – Big Horn
Panel Saguaro – Whitetail West
Panel Ocotillo – Online

9:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Plenary Session – Sandhill West

(Lunch will be available during the session – no formal break)

Presiding: Evelyn Casuga, Board Chair, Arizona Town Hall

Adoption of Recommendations
Monday, November 14, Lunch Program

Panel Presentation: Health and Human Services and Arizona Mayors

PRESIDING: Suzanne Pfister, CEO, Vitalyst Health Foundation

Paul Deasy, Mayor, City of Flagstaff

Paul Deasy was elected as Mayor of the City of Flagstaff in December of 2020.

Paul has a Master’s in Economics with an emphasis in developmental economics as well as a Master’s in Political Science. He was awarded a fellowship with the National Science Foundation where he worked vigilantly to change policies at federal institutions so they could more effectively respond to economic crises.

In his role as a research analyst, Paul supported senior leadership at Northern Arizona University to further student success. He is passionate about creating educational environments where children and young adults can achieve their full potential.

Que English, Director, Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

As a coalition builder and network strategist, Rev. Dr. Que English joined HHS from the State of New York where she served as the Deputy Director of Faith-Based Initiatives for the Governor’s Office of Faith and Community Development Services. Here she identified opportunities to elevate strengths and identify new opportunities to build relationships with the faith-based community. She also conceptualized and was instrumental in forming the faith-based office in the Office of the Mayor of New York City where she brought together roundtables and interfaith coalitions to create and implement strategic plans to tackle New York’s most problematic issues.

She is the Founder and past President of Not On My Watch, an organization formed to combat human trafficking and domestic violence through education, training and community and policy advocacy. Named 1 of 25 Most Influential Women in the Bronx, Que has a wealth of knowledge in working with the criminal justice system, substance abuse issues, health and mental health, human trafficking, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, civil rights and more. She received her masters and doctorate degrees from New York Theological Seminary where she was the recipient of the Excellence in Ministry Award, the highest award given to a graduating doctoral student.
Craig McFarland, Mayor, City of Casa Grande

Born and raised in California, Craig McFarland has lived in Casa Grande since 2005. He is a graduate of Cal State University Fresno and retired from Golden Eagle Distributors in January 2015 as VP of Sales after a ten-year tenure with the company, and 36 total years in beverage business sales management and operations.

Craig began his first term as Mayor in December 2016, and his priorities include providing leadership, encouraging people, and promoting progress, in addition to increasing quality of life, encouraging new business, and supporting Casa Grande’s infrastructure and economic development.

Corey Woods, Mayor, City of Tempe

Corey Woods was elected mayor of the City of Tempe in March 2020. In his professional career, he is Executive Director of Community Relations at ASU Preparatory Academy. Corey is responsible for assisting the managing director with operations, external partnerships and strategic initiatives. He previously served as the chief operating officer for the Greater Phoenix Urban League, director of college and career articulation for the Phoenix Union High School District and director of government relations for the American Lung Association of Arizona.

Corey served as a Councilmember for the City of Tempe from July 2008 – July 2016. Corey was instrumental in guiding city policy that led to Tempe’s perfect score in the Human Rights Campaign’s “Municipal Equality Index.” He championed initiatives in the areas of affordable housing and human services while working tirelessly to improve community development standards to attract business investment and protect neighborhoods.

Corey was recently named “ Advocate of the Year” by the Arizona Housing Coalition for his advocacy work expanding affordable and workforce housing opportunities. He currently serves on the State’s bipartisan Housing Supply Study Committee and is Vice Chair of the United States Conference of Mayors’ Housing and Community Development Committee.

Monday, November 14, Evening

Connecting Across Generations: Community Storytelling with Rising Youth Theater

Rising Youth Theatre is a youth leadership organization working at the intersection of art and social justice. Rising Youth Theatre will lead an interactive program that demonstrates the power of listening to young people’s lived experiences, looking to youth leadership to understand community needs related to Mental Health, Substance Use, and Homelessness, and imagining solutions together.
Tuesday, November 15, Breakfast Program

Panel Presentation: Best Practices and Lessons Learned from Arizona Communities

PRESIDING: Alexandra Zavala, Director, Marketing and Communications, Molina Complete Care of Arizona; Chair, Community Town Halls Committee

Alexandra (Alex) Zavala is Director, Growth and Community Engagement with Molina Complete Care of Arizona, where she is responsible for the strategy and quality of the organization’s internal and external communications, member engagement and community outreach. This includes oversight of communications, marketing, internal communications, community and public relations, corporate social responsibility program, and employee engagement. Previously to joining Molina, Alex served as Chief Experience Officer with Crisis Response Network (now Solari AZ), was Director of Community Relations with Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care and Sr. Director of Community Relations and Reinvestment at Magellan Health Services. She is a graduate of Valley Leadership, Valle del Sol’s Hispanic Leadership Institute, was a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Public Policy Fellow and is the recipient of numerous honors including 40 Under 40 by the Phoenix Business Journal, 40 Hispanic Leaders Under 40 by the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Valle del Sol’s 2013 Daniel R. Ortega Jr. Hispanic Leadership Institute Public Service Award.

PRESIDING: Elizabeth McNamee, Vice Chair, Community Town Halls Committee

Elizabeth is a consultant and life fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. She is especially skilled in consensus building among diverse groups. Elizabeth earned her bachelor’s degree from Trinity University and her master’s degree from the University of Texas, School of Public Health. Over her career, Elizabeth served in senior executive positions with public and private health organizations; and held volunteer leadership positions with a number of organizations including Mountain Park Health Center, the Community College of the Air Force, National Health Service Corp, the Economic Club of Phoenix, as well as Arizona Town Hall. Elizabeth continues to volunteer with Arizona Town Hall; with Mountain Park Health Center, as chair of the board development committee; and with the City of Phoenix, as a member of the Health Care Benefits Trust Board.

Don Bischoff, Captain, Special Projects, Mohave County Sheriff’s Office

Don Bischoff began his law enforcement career as a Corrections Officer for the Mohave County Sheriff’s Office in 1987, at the then new 241 bed county jail in Kingman, Arizona. Don graduated from the Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy (ALETA) in 1988 and became a sworn deputy for the county. Don worked in patrol districts covering the entire county to include the Arizona Strip located in the far northwest corner of the State. Don remained a supervisor for 13 years in the patrol division for the Kingman district and supervised a special county-wide vehicle collision response team. In 2013 Don was promoted to Captain and was assigned as Jail Commander over the 260,000 square foot 708 bed adult detention facility. In October 2021, Don was re-assigned to special projects and is currently managing the Sheriff’s Office new jail Re-Entry Program.
Shelley Mellon, Owner/Broker, RL Jones Insurance Services, Inc.

Upon graduating from the University of Arizona with a degree in Business Administration, Shelley became the 4th generation to follow in her family’s business, RL Jones Insurance. Her husband, Colin Mellon, is a 3rd generation Yuma produce farmer with Mellon Farms, Inc. Currently, they own their own farm and a ground application company. Shelley is a licensed Personal & Commercial, Life & Health Insurance Broker in Arizona and California, and a certified Habitude facilitator. Shelley owns and operates the three locations of RL Jones Insurance & MVD Services.

Shelley serves as Chair of the Southwest Arizona Town Hall, the Yuma Education Advocacy Council, Education Forward Arizona Board of Directors, Board of Trustees for the Foundation of Yuma Regional Medical Center, and as a member or Board member for many other community organizations. As a result of her extensive community service and professional accomplishments, Shelley has been awarded the International Athena award, Yuma County Citizen of the Year, Arizona Community Foundation Outstanding Leader, Yuma County Chamber Member of the Year, and Arizona Businesswomen’s Territorial Charter Chapter HerStory Recipient, the 48 Women, Arizona’s Most Intriguing Women of the Decade, Miss Yuma County 1986, and Miss Arizona 1st Runner-up 1987.

Suzanne Pfister, CEO, Vitalyst Health Foundation

Suzanne Pfister is the president and CEO of Vitalyst Health Foundation. It is a $130 million public foundation focused on Arizona health policy, technical assistance for non-profits and strength-based community engagement and systems change. She and her colleagues are working on a variety of projects, including support for the Cover AZ Coalition, which is focused on helping people obtain affordable health insurance, assistance to communities in Arizona to integrate health into public policies, and promoting healthy community innovations and collaborations.

Suzanne has a master’s degree in Public and Environmental Affairs from Indiana University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science/Urban Studies from Occidental College. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Friends of Public Radio Arizona, Greater Phoenix Leadership, the Arizona Town Hall, as well as the Maasai Education, Research and Conservation Institute, USA. She also is a member of the Arizona Bioscience Roadmap Steering Committee, and co-chairs the Arizona Health Improvement Program Steering Committee. Her favorite thing to do when she is not working is landscape photography.

Tuesday, November 15, Lunch Program

Presentation: The Path Forward

PRESIDING: Barry Aarons, Owner, The Aarons Company LLC

Barry M. Aarons is the owner of The Aarons Company LLC, a public policy consulting firm specializing in legislative representation, coalition building, business management, strategic planning facilitation, and grassroots advocacy.

Barry is a regular faculty member for the Arlington, Virginia-based Leadership Institute facilitating and instructing at their schools at scores of locations around the country since 1999. He currently is serving his third term on the
Maricopa County Judicial Selection Commission. He is the former president of the Zeta Beta Tau Foundation and is presently First Vice President of the Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity National Governing Council.

PRESIDING: Holly Figueroa, Tribal Liaison, BCBSAz – Health Choice

Holly Figueroa is a member of the Hopi/Ohkay Owingeh Tribe and is from the Sun Clan. Holly is the Tribal Liaison for BCBSAz – Health Choice. As the Tribal Liaison, Holly works to strengthen Tribal relations with the 17 tribes in HCA service area, focusing on Access to Care, Crisis Service, Coordination of Care, Nation Building, Training & Education, Reducing Health Disparities and Stigma.

With a Cultural Competency background, Holly works to ensure that culturally appropriate services are delivered to all and that providers meet the language and unique cultural needs of those they serve. Holly is a certified Adult, Youth, and Veteran Mental Health First Aide Trainer and a Northern Arizona Healthcare Foundation Certificate Holder. She serves on the Arizona Rural Health Association Board of Directors as well as the MPOWRD Advisory Board of Directors. Holly is also a OneNTen volunteer and is a dedicated Ally who works to advocate and ensure Safe Spaces for LGBTQ2S communities. Additionally, Holly is pursuing other ways to give back to her community and to be an effective advocate for Native Americans people everywhere.

Supaman, Hip Hop Artist, Rapper, and Ghost/Thunder Dancer

As a member of the “Apsaalooke Nation”, Supaman makes his home on Apsáalooke lands in Montana. “Supaman” Is Christian Takes Gun Parrish, a Native American dancer and innovative hip hop artist who has dedicated his life to empowering and spreading a message of hope, pride and resilience through his original art form. He is the recipient of an MTV VMA award, a Nammy “Native American Music Award”, North American Indigenous Image Award, and Tunney Awards. He received the Aboriginal People’s Choice Music Award in Canada for best video and was voted MTV’s new Artist of the Week. His 2018 nominations brought him home awards for Best Hip Hop Album and Best Producer for the Indigenous Music Awards. His videos have received millions of views on YouTube and Facebook which has put him in high demand touring extensively throughout the U.S.A. and internationally.

Supaman’s presentation combines Native culture, comedy, and urban hip hop culture. His ability to motivate, encourage, and inspire through dance, and hip hop music keeps him at the forefront among his contemporaries which gives him a platform to educate on Indigenous issues.

HOPI-R2

HOPI-R2 is the first indigenous droid. Painted in the style of Hopi pottery, HOPI-R2 was built by electrical engineer Joe Mastroianni and painted by Hopi-Tewa artist Duane Koyawena.

HOPI-R2 was created for the Museum of Northern Arizona’s exhibit, The Force is With Our People, which opened in 2019. Brought to life by the R2D2 Builders Club, he is coded to operate with a PS4 controller and an application. Made of steel and metal and weighs approximately 250 lbs, within HOPI-R2 there are nine arduinos and seven computers.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
114TH STATEWIDE ARIZONA TOWN HALL

SESSION I - MONDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 14

1. How might the conditions of mental health, substance use, and homelessness relate to each other? Why is it important to address these conditions together?

2. What role does stigma play in addressing mental health, substance use, and homelessness?

3. How can we encourage stakeholders to address the conditions of mental health, substance use, and homelessness in an integrated way?
   - Consider what could be done to reduce obstacles to treatment and prevention.
   - Consider the impact of current systems and how to reduce or eliminate the “revolving door.”
   - Consider the challenges of “not in my backyard” (NIMBYism).
   - Consider current and potential roles of governments, communities, faith-based organizations, funders, and non-profits.

SESSION II - TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 15

1. What specific actions can those who work for the government take to further address mental health, substance use, and homelessness in an integrated way?
   - Consider different levels of government, including elected and appointed leaders.
   - Consider policies that impede or advance solutions.
   - Consider funding and incentives for best practices.
   - Consider other factors such as social conditions, systemic issues, and structural inequities.

2. What specific actions can community leaders of educational institutions, businesses, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and other groups take to further address mental health, substance use, and homelessness in an integrated way? What actions can individuals take?

3. Which specific actions should be prioritized to further address mental health, substance use, and homelessness in an integrated way? To the extent funding is required, how will it be obtained and dispersed?
   - Consider types of funding sources, awareness of funding sources, complexity of funding application.

4. What specific action will you take because of your participation in this Town Hall?
SPECIAL THANKS TO GENERAL SPONSORS
“MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE, AND HOMELESSNESS”