

POSITIVE PATHS
ANNUAL

Gala

PRESENTED BY
THE RUDGE FOUNDATION

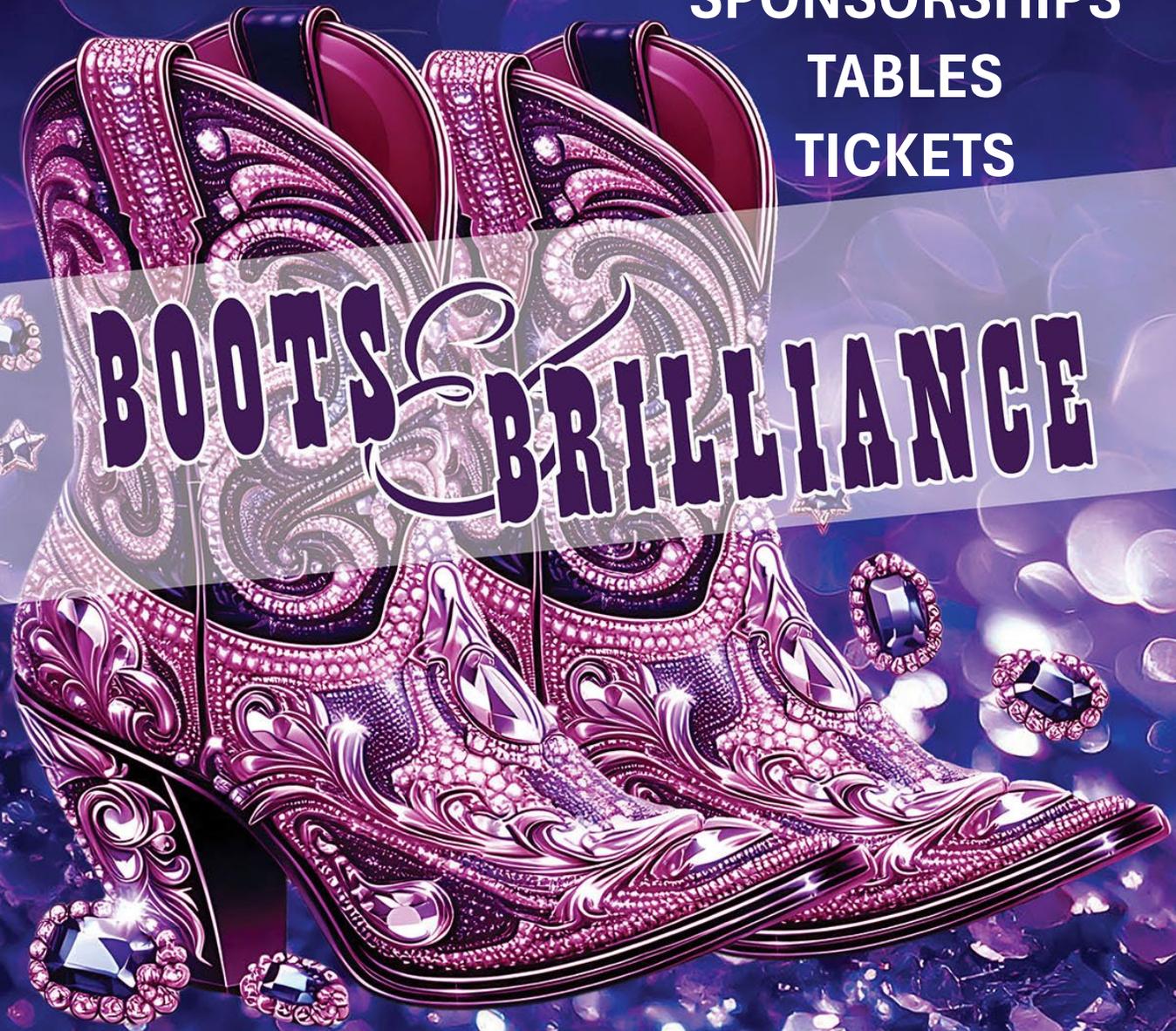
*Honoring the East Valley Woman and Man
of the Year*

SPONSORSHIPS

TABLES

TICKETS

BOOTS & BRILLIANCE



Positive Paths
BUILDING LIFE BRIDGES FOR WOMEN

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026
5:30 P.M.
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
MESA, AZ 85210

Positive Paths 2026 Gala: Boots & Brilliance

Honoring the East Valley Woman & Man of the Year

Dear Friend,

It is truly an honor to serve as the Honorary Co-Chairs of the upcoming **Annual Gala: Boots & Brilliance**, benefiting **Positive Paths**. We invite you to join us for this entertaining, inspiring, and meaningful evening honoring the East Valley Woman and Man of the Year, Kathleen Dowler, and Rudy Apodaca.

For years, Positive Paths has been a vital resource for East Valley women who are working to improve their lives through education, career training, and professional development. By providing unrestricted scholarship funds, personal mentorship, and access to skills, this organization uplifts women not just to succeed—but to thrive. We have seen firsthand the profound impact this work has on individuals, their families, and our local community.

The annual gala, taking place on **March 20 at DoubleTree by Hilton Mesa**, is our most important fundraising event of the year. The evening will bring together business and community leaders and those who share a commitment to providing a hand-up for women and their families in our area.

Your attendance sends a powerful message—that when we support women through their educational pursuits, entire communities benefit.

Thank you for considering this invitation to support a great cause that creates lasting change. We would be delighted to celebrate with you at the gala and to work together in support of East Valley women.

With gratitude,

Leroy & Kelly Breinholt

Leroy & Kelly Breinholt
Honorary Co-Chair, Boots & Brilliance
Positive Paths

CLICK HERE: <https://PPATHS2026.givesmart.com>

to purchase tickets, tables, sponsorships



Friday, March 20, 2026
 5:30 p.m. Registration & Silent Auction
 DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix Mesa
 1011 West Holmes Avenue
 Mesa, AZ

Positive Paths 2026 Gala

East Valley Woman & Man of the Year Award

Presented by The Rudge Foundation

Boots & Brilliance Celebration

“To the donors that have made this possible, and also to the ladies that make this program run daily, this is one of the best things that could have happened to me. If it wasn’t for Positive Paths and my great mentor, I don’t believe I could have made it through these years. They gave me the push to keep going no matter what.” – Sarah

GALA OVERVIEW

Join us March 20th as we celebrate Positive Paths mission and highlight our scholars, East Valley women in need who dedicate themselves to achieving lasting stability through economic, personal, and professional growth — transforming not only their own lives but also the lives of their families. The Positive Paths Annual Gala is our primary fundraising event, supporting scholarships for women ready to make the changes needed to break intergenerational cycles of poverty.

Boots & Brilliance, this year’s “upscale country bling” affair, is presented by The Rudge Foundation. It promises fun and meaningful support for our Scholar & Mentor Program. Special features include live and silent auctions offering tantalizing prizes, enter-to-win drawings, high-profile musical performance, special networking connections, and the celebration of Positive Paths’ East Valley Woman & Man of the Year awards.

This year, the Gala features performances by Gilbert’s own **American Idol Finalist McKenna Faith Breinholt**. Her passion for music has propelled her into the spotlight as a rising star in the music industry. McKenna’s soulful melodies and captivating tales intertwine, painting the portrait of a celebrated singer-songwriter. She brings heart-lifting songs to delight us and set the stage for honoring scholars and our Positive Paths Woman and Man of the Year.



Enjoy an evening of uplifting celebration, fun, and spirited entertainment Presented by The Rudge Foundation on Friday, March 20th at the DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix Mesa. Tickets at <https://PPATHS2026.givesmart.com>.



2026 EAST VALLEY WOMAN & MAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS



This year, we award **East Valley's Woman of the Year to Kathleen Dowler**. Kathleen has dedicated her profession, time, and energy to advocating for and empowering East Valley women. She has been a trailblazer for her projects and initiatives – most of which have been dedicated to serving women in need. Kathleen's leadership and impact extend significantly beyond her work as a Positive Paths' former board president. Through her leadership role at Dignity Health and her volunteer task force roles—including the creation of the Gilbert Advocacy Center--her impact extends to women and their families with the goal to create self-sufficiency.

Her nonprofit work and leadership across multiple organizations are beyond what we see in many leaders who are involved in community outreach. Kathleen truly is impressive and deserving of this award.

Our outstanding **East Valley Man of the Year award goes to Rudy Apodaca**. Rudy has exhibited impressive support for East Valley women for more than 50 years. He actively supported underserved women with part-time jobs and full time pay to pursue medical careers through his connection with Dignity Health. He has supported initiatives around stroke certification and certified trainers in East Valley school districts to support female athletes. Other support includes Stroke Camp, free mammograms, robust engagement in after school programs, scholarship programs, and significant personal donations to causes supporting women in the East Valley. Rudy is an exceptional person, kind and competent. He has initiated and supported many important community programs that support women in need through Dignity Health, the East Valley Hispanic Chamber, ICAN, the Chandler Education Foundation, the Gilbert and Queen Creek Chambers, and other organizations.



Returning Emcee Kathleen Mascarenas is a household name for many in the Valley of the Sun. She is best known for managing media relations for the Arizona Super Bowl XLIX, for 15 years of managing media relations for SRP, being a long-time television reporter and anchor, and for being the 22-year owner of Mas Video Productions and Public Relations.



Also joining us again is professional auctioneer Jesse Staton who is well known in the auction circuit as the Rodeo Queen and will lead our live auction with prizes too big for the silent auction. Her spirited skills were popular among last year's auction participants, and she is eager to join us again.



POSITIVE PATHS: PURPOSE-DRIVEN ACTION

Positive Paths is dedicated to empowering women in need in Phoenix's East Valley. Our purpose is clear:

Building stability. Inspiring growth. Changing lives.

Positive Paths envisions a future where at-risk and underserved women in the East Valley achieve lasting stability through economic, personal, and professional growth — transforming not only their own lives but also the lives of their families.

Education. Mentorship. Independence.

Positive Paths empowers underserved East Valley women to achieve economic stability, personal growth, and professional success through education and mentoring that foster resilience, confidence, and life-long self-sufficiency.

We have directly helped lift more than 150 women out of poverty and into stable, well-paying professional careers, transforming themselves, their families, and their communities forever. We also have served hundreds more women who have participated in our professional development events such as our annual Women's Impact Network (WIN) event.

*“Positive Paths gave me a space to share my story.
It was incredibly difficult, but you all stood by my side and accepted me.
Thank you for including me in the community you have built.” - Abby*

Our 77% graduation rate far exceeds that of every college or university in the nation---even for well-financed students! The secret to our success is our dynamic one-on-one mentoring program where every scholar is supported through her personal connection to advice and professional development for the duration of her educational pursuit.

Through your generosity, funds raised for Positive Paths' Gala directly support women in need, helping entire families and strengthening communities. We thank you for your participation.

Click **HERE**: <https://PPATHS2026.givesmart.com>
to connect directly to purchase tables, tickets, or sponsorships



2026 Gala Benefits: Sponsorships Tables Tickets

TRAILBLAZER Presenting Sponsor - SOLD
 GOLDEN SPUR - \$10,000
 SILVER SADDLE - \$7,500
 COPPER CANYON - \$5,500
 LUCKY HORSESHOE - \$3,000
 CRYSTAL CORRAL VIP RECEPTION - SOLD
 TABLE FOR TEN (10) - \$2,000
 TABLE FOR EIGHT (8) - \$1,600
 SINGLE ADMISSION TICKET - \$200

INTANGIBLE BENEFITS

Face-to-face networking opportunities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Affiliation with a known and well-respected organization	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Contribute goodwill with positive impact on the Positive Paths' mission	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Become part of Positive Paths' extended family of supporters	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Additional charitable mission support contribution (IRS Tax Letter)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

SEATING FOR DINNER & PROGRAM

Single seating for one (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X
Table for eight (8)	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-
Table for ten (10)	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	-

ON-SITE BRAND EXTENSION & VISIBILITY

Podium Awards Presentation Rights by company leader	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Podium emcee recognition mention	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-
Photo Booth Exclusive Sponsor - logo on all photos	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General brand extension and recognition through Participation	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-
Video screen dedicated slide	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Video screen thank you listing	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-
Rights to one pre-approved novelty on dinner tables	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

DIGITAL RECOGNITION

Website name & hyperlink listing	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-
Digital Eblast inclusion	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-

SOCIAL MEDIA INCLUSION (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn)

Social media advertising name inclusion	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social media event page posting name inclusion	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-

COLLATERAL MATERIALS INCLUSION

Printed program name listing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-
Printed program quarter-page advertising space	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-
Printed program half-page advertising space	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printed program full-page advertising space	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printed program two (2)-page (centerfold) advertising space	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quarterly newsletter name listing	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-

HOSPITALITY

One (1) complimentary drink ticket	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X
Eight (8) complimentary drink tickets	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-
Ten (10) complimentary drink tickets	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-
VIP Private Reception - Two (2) table host tickets, including drinks and canapes	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
VIP Private Reception - Ten (10) table host tickets, including drinks and canapes	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
VIP Private Reception - Ten (10) Sponsor Host tickets	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-

PRINT & BROADCAST MEDIA INCLUSION

News release name mention	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-
News release 150-word quotation inclusion by company leader	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

OTHER BENEFITS

Exclusivity	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
First Right of Opportunity for Renewal at Same Price in 2027	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Gala Sponsorships, Tables, & Tickets

“My life has not gone as planned, but through this journey I have grown in ways I would have never imaged had life gone as planned.” - Summer

All supporters of Positive Paths’ Annual Gala help East Valley women in need. Reserve your participation for a fun and heartfelt evening that directly supports East Valley women in need:

All Supporters Gain Positive Intangible Value

- Face-to face networking opportunities
- Affiliation with a known and well-respected organization
- Contribute goodwill with positive impact on the Positive Paths’ mission
- Receive tax deduction letters
- Become part of Positive Paths’ extended family of supporters

TRAILBLAZER Presenting Sponsor - (SOLD)

Quantity: 1 (Exclusive)

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Exclusivity in category
- Table for ten (10) seating and dinner
- Table for eight (8) seating and dinner
- Eighteen(18) VIP Private Reception tickets, including drinks and canapes
- Podium Awards Presentation rights by company leader
- Brand extension and recognition opportunities
- Video screen thank you listing
- Video screen dedicated slide
- Rights to one approved novelty on dinner tables
- Website name and hyperlink listing
- Printed program recognition mention
- Printed program 2-page/centerfold advertising space
- Quarterly newsletter name listing
- Podium recognition mention
- News release mention + 150-word news release quotation by company leader
- Social media advertising name inclusion
- Social media event page post name inclusion
- Eblast inclusion
- Eighteen (18) complimentary drink tickets
- First right of sponsorship renewal in this category for the same price in 2027
- Additional charitable mission support contribution



GOLDEN SPUR Sponsor - \$10,000**Quantity – 1 (Exclusive)**

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Exclusivity in category
- Seating and dinner for ten (10)
- Exclusive Photo Booth Sponsor – logo on all guests' fun photos
- Ten (10) VIP Private Reception tickets, including drinks and canapes
- Seating in sponsor category location
- Brand extension and recognition opportunities
- Video screen thank you listing
- Video screen dedicated slide
- Website name and hyperlink listing
- Printed program recognition mention
- Printed program full page advertising space
- Quarterly newsletter name listing
- Podium recognition mention
- News release mention
- Social media advertising name inclusion
- Social media event page post name inclusion
- Eblast inclusion
- Ten (10) complimentary drink tickets
- Additional charitable mission support contribution

SILVER SADDLE Sponsor - \$7,500**Quantity – Non-Exclusive**

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Seating and dinner for ten (10)
- Ten (10) VIP Private Reception tickets, including drinks and canapes
- Brand extension and recognition opportunities
- Video screen thank you listing
- Video screen dedicated slide
- Website name and hyperlink listing
- Printed program half page advertising space
- Quarterly newsletter name listing
- Podium recognition mention
- News release mention
- Social media advertising name inclusion
- Social media event page post name inclusion
- Eblast inclusion
- Ten (10) complimentary drink tickets
- Additional charitable mission support contribution



COPPER CANYON Sponsor - \$5,500**Quantity – Non-Exclusive**

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Two (2) table host VIP Private Reception tickets, including drinks and canapes
- Seating and dinner for ten (10)
- Brand extension and recognition
- Video screen thank you listing
- Website name and hyperlink listing
- Printed program name listing
- Printed program quarter page advertising space
- Quarterly newsletter name listing
- Podium recognition mention
- Eblast inclusion
- Ten (10) complimentary drink tickets
- Additional charitable mission support contribution

LUCKY HORSESHOE Sponsor - \$3,000**Quantity – Non-Exclusive**

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Seating and dinner for eight (8)
- Brand extension and recognition
- Video screen thank you listing
- Website name & hyperlink listing
- Printed program name listing
- Quarterly newsletter name listing
- Podium recognition mention
- News release name mention
- Eight (8) complimentary drink tickets

CRYSTAL CORRAL VIP RECEPTION Sponsor – SOLD**Quantity – Non-Exclusive**

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Exclusivity in category
- Ten (10) VIP Reception tickets for bank/employee use
- Video screen thank you listing
- Website name & hyperlink listing
- Printed program name listing
- Printed program quarter page advertising space
- Podium recognition mention
- Quarterly newsletter name listing
- Logo inclusion for reception signage
- News release name mention
- First right of sponsorship renewal in this category for the same price in 2027



TABLE FOR TEN (10) - \$2,000

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Seating and dinner for ten
- Printed Program name listing
- Ten complimentary drink tickets

TABLE FOR EIGHT (8) - \$1,600

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Seating and dinner for eight
- Printed program name listing
- Eight complimentary drink tickets

SINGLE SEAT - \$200

- Positive intangible value (listed above)
- Seating and dinner for one
- One complimentary drink ticket

**CLICK HERE: <https://PPATHS2026.givesmart.com>
to purchase sponsorships, tables, and tickets**





Friday, March 20, 2026
5:30 p.m. Registration & Silent Auction
DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix Mesa
1011 West Holmes Avenue
Mesa, AZ

AUCTION FORM

All auction and donation contributors who sign up *before February 28* will be listed in the Gala's printed program.

Auction Contributor Name (exactly as you would like to see it in the program) _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person: _____ Contact's Title: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Auction Item Retail Value: \$ _____

Auction Item Detailed Description (for auction description on-site):

Please state any limitations, blackout dates, deadlines, advance notifications, or other specific restrictions. Please attach or include any specific display materials:

<p>For Tangible Items (check what applies)</p> <p>Item accompanies donor form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Donor will deliver or send item by this date: _____</p> <p>Positive Paths will pick up item from donor by this date: _____</p>	<p>For Intangible Items (check what applies)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Certificate accompanies donor form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Donor will provide certificate by this date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Donor requests Positive Paths to create a certificate</p>
---	---

Please return this form and items to Positive Paths representative before February 28, 2026
Donations received after February 28 may not be included in the printed program.

Donor Signature _____ Date: _____

Positive Paths Signature: _____ Date: _____

Questions?

Phone: (480) 788-0615

Address : 1 North Macdonald, Suite 212, Mesa, AZ 85201

Website: www.positivepathsaz.org

Positive Paths is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization: Tax ID: 46-4943070

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	Donation #: _____
Date Item Received: _____	Date Item Acknowledged: _____





DONOR FORM

Donor Name (exactly as you would like to see it in the program)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person: _____ Contact's Title: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

**Please return this form to Positive Paths representative before February 28, 2026.
Donations received after February 28th may not be included in the printed program.**

Donor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Donor Name: _____

Positive Paths Signature: _____ Date: _____

Donors who sign up before February 28, 2026 will be listed in the Gala's printed program.

Questions?

Phone: (480) 788-0615

Donation Link: donate@positivepathsaz.org

Address: 1 North Macdonald, Suite 212, Mesa, AZ 85201

Website: www.positivepathsaz.org

Positive Paths is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization: Tax ID: 46-4943070

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	Donation #: _____
Date Item Received: _____	Date Item Acknowledged: _____





Positive Paths Board of Directors & Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

LaCinda Smoot Lewis

Board President

Co-Owner/Business Manager
EFY Enterprises LLC

Dr. Maria Hesse

Board Vice President

Faculty, Higher Education
Arizona State University

Joyce McKinney

Board Treasurer

IBM
Retired

Julie Garrison

Board Secretary

Director of Program Management
Chief of Staff to CTO
Verra Mobility

Ada Anaeme

Board Member

Director, East Valley Rehabilitation
Services
Dignity Health, East Valley

Imelda Castro

Board Member

Intel Corporation
Retired

Rhonda Curtis

Board Member

Branch President
First International Bank and Trust

Denise Hayes

Board Member

Salt River Project
Retired

Sandra Hudson

Board Member

CEO Trust & Wealth Management
President
TrustBank Arizona

Jill Jensen

Board Member

Intel
Retired

Julia Marreel

Board Member

Hotel Management
Retired

Ana Monzon

Board Member

Chief Financial Officer
House of Refuge

Jackie Orcutt

Board Member

Senior Vice President
CBRE

Jen Shirkani

Board Member

Principal
Penumbra Group

Charissa Wagner

Board Member

Senior VP – People Operations,
Development, & Acquisition
Taylor-Morrison

EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS:

Kathleen Dowler

Director, Community Health
East Valley Arizona Service Area

Caryn Gose

Salt River Project
Retired

Janice Parker

Workforce Development
Consultant

STAFF:

Executive Director

Kate Hastings

Social Media & Events Manager

Jessica Pace

Administrative & Program Assistant

Linda Tanner