



EDUCATE · SUPPORT · EMPOWER
Fight The Fear of Cancer!



IMPACT REPORT 2016-2017

EDUCATE · SUPPORT



FY 2016-2017 was a year of great growth and change for BAG IT. We started with another successful *ESCAPE to Thrive* Leadership Conference for cancer advocates, then launched an updated version of the BAG IT resource bag, implemented volunteer training,

made some necessary decisions regarding sustainability and hired a new Executive Director, Mindy Griffith. Mindy has been working with us for a year, knows the organization, is excited about new horizons for BAG IT, and leads with enthusiasm.

The time has come for me to travel and enjoy my five adorable grandkids, family and friends. I remain passionate about our mission and will continue to support, mentor, and work for BAG IT in a Senior Advisor role going forward. Thank you for all the love and support over the years and please continue to help *Fight the Fear* with BAG IT! See you soon at our next event!

Sherri Romanoski

Sherri Romanoski
Founder



As a young girl I lost both my father and my grandmother to cancer. While my mother did her best to help the family through that difficult time, BAG IT helps me see how having some additional information and support could have helped my family. BAG IT is a wonderful

opportunity to help ensure people have some of the key pieces to help them navigate through the cancer journey and be more empowered.

In my first few months as Executive Director of BAG IT I have been working with the Board of Directors, Sherri and staff to put together our strategic focus to determine where BAG IT is headed in the future. As we continue our mission of providing information to help patients cope, we aim to further enhance our advocacy efforts, share the value of BAG IT and expand our reach to Educate, Support and Empower individuals in Arizona and beyond.

I appreciate the support I have received and hope you will continue to be an advocate for BAG IT!

Mindy Griffith

Mindy Griffith
Executive Director

MESSAGE F



MISSION STATEMENT

BAG IT reaches out to cancer patients, of any gender, age, or cancer type, at a critical time – right after their diagnosis. The information is designed to help them cope with their diagnosis, move more competently through the treatment process, empower them to become an active member of the treatment team, and transition to follow up care.

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

We're excited to announce that we achieved one of our long-term strategic planning goals this year when we hired our new Executive Director, Mindy Griffith, and we couldn't be more pleased. With her boundless energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to BAG IT, Mindy is a great asset to our organization. We look forward to continued growth and evolution under her leadership. Welcome, Mindy!

Meanwhile, our founder and long-standing Executive Director, Sherri Romanoski, has taken on the role of Senior Advisor to BAG IT, and we're grateful for her continued input and expertise. Through her unflinching passion and dedication since founding BAG IT in 2003, Sherri has truly made a difference for thousands of cancer patients and their families. Well done, Sherri! We are thankful you will still be around and hope you enjoy some well-deserved adventures in travel and family fun!

As we enter our 15th year, we send a heartfelt thank you to all of our supporters and volunteers – we couldn't do it without you. Please sign up for our newsletter to learn about our latest happenings and upcoming events, and check out our website for even more BAG IT news.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Darlene S. Brady
Donald Brooks, MD
Emily Carlson
Mindy Griffith
Monica Vera
Virginia Warren

ADVISORY BOARD

Donald Brooks, MD
Mark D. Gilbert, MD, FRCP
Deborah A. Green, RN, MSN
Grace Hou, MD, FACS



The BAG IT Board of Directors

FROM BAG IT

BAG IT REACHES OUT TO CANCER PATIENTS OF ANY GENDER, AGE, CANCER TYPE OR ECONOMIC STATUS THROUGH:



BAG DISTRIBUTION

- 5,464 cancer patients reached fiscal year '16 -'17
- 70,752 reached since 2003

COMMUNITY

- 31 events / 1,150 participants
- 123 volunteers / 908 hours
- 4 state, regional, national cancer conferences / 32k+ attendees

MEDICAL PROVIDERS

- 160+ hospitals, physicians, cancer & community clinics, rural & tribal health centers
- 65 sites serving predominantly underserved / economically disadvantaged
- 100+ community health workers
- 11 BAG IT training sessions / 338 participants

FEEDBACK

- 97% found the information to be helpful
- 94% reported BAG IT facilitated better communication with their medical team
- 94% reported the BAG IT resource helped them cope

BAG

WHAT'S IN THE "NEW" BAG?



Patient Navigation Binder:

Streamlined and reorganized. Tips, resources, record of personal medical information, plus new survivorship and quality of life resources on more topics.

Printed Publications:

Reliable information from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS) about coping with diagnosis before, during and after treatment.

USB Wristband:

Publications, resources, forms in digital format; no internet needed. 4GB capacity for easy access/storage of medical resources. Portable, "green", handy back up.

Updated version of BAG IT bag launched October, 2016 following extensive review by medical providers, patients and caregivers. Designed to assist anyone regardless of cancer type, gender or age. Available in English and Spanish.

"I just finished looking at the files on the bracelet. It's great! So I loaded my own medical information, copies of my PET scans and other data onto the bracelet. In doing so I realized that I can toss this into my carry-on bag when I travel and have all the necessary information with me should I need it."

- John Carhuff



Encouraging &
Sustaining
Cancer
Advocacy
Programs &
Efforts

BAG IT's national leadership conference, *ESCAPE to Thrive*, launched in 2011 and has been recognized as the premier program designed by community cancer advocates for community advocates.

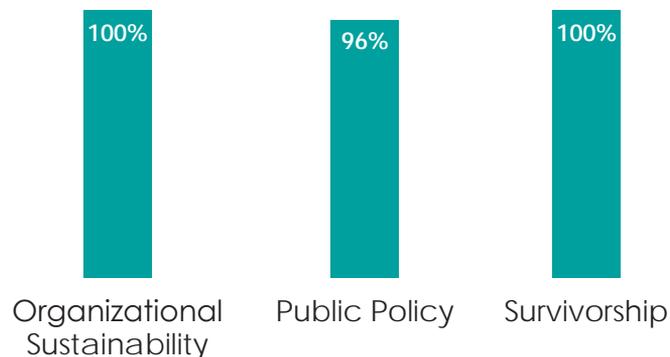
In August, 2016, 30 advocates from across the country gathered for *ESCAPE to Thrive*. Small by design, this year's conference centered on strengthening and advancing the participants' advocacy power through:

- Opportunities to network with fellow cancer advocates and industry partners
- Engagement in cancer public policy
- Ensuring sustainability of their organizations with effective board development and strategic planning tools
- Exploring survivorship issues that impact advocates' personal and professional lives to enable them to better serve others



Since inception, the *ESCAPE to Thrive* conference has been generously underwritten by our Founding Presenting Sponsor, Eisai. Genentech, Incyte, Astellas Oncology, Takeda Oncology, Genomic Health, Shire and Roche were additional solid sponsors, while Miraval Arizona supported the conference through its sponsorship of the conference accommodations and meals.

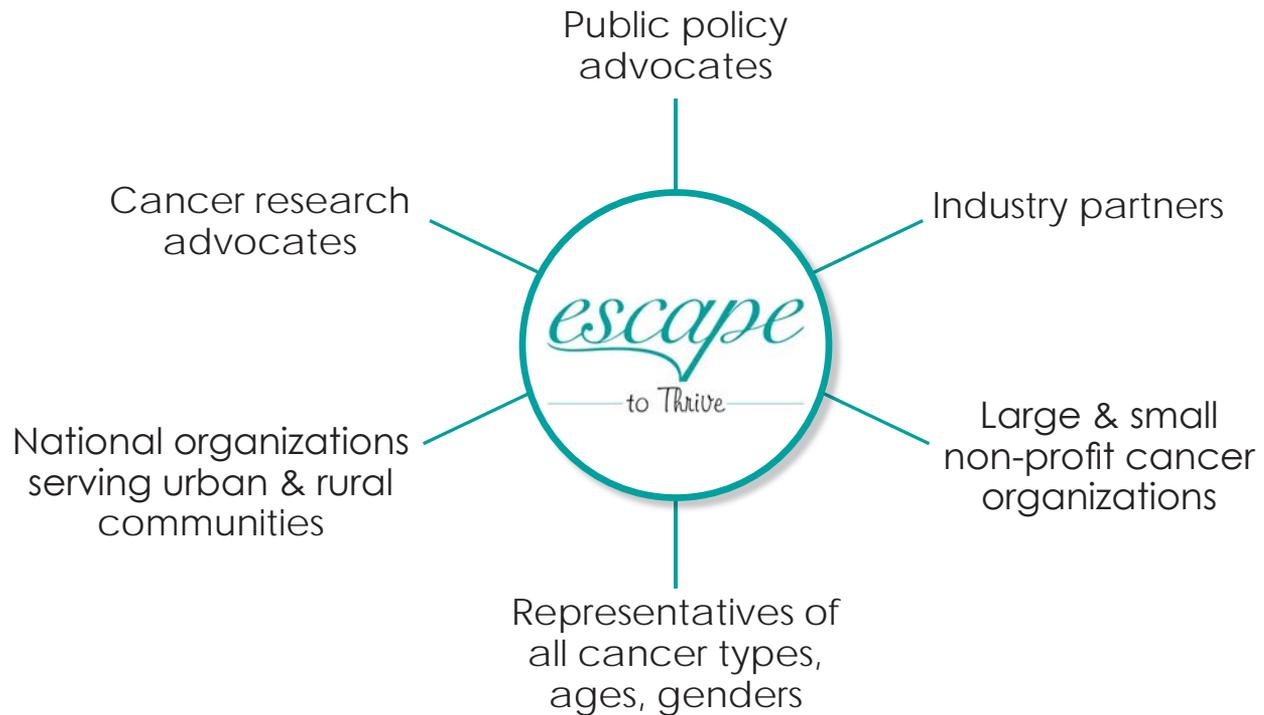
PARTICIPANT RATINGS OF GOOD/EXCELLENT FOR 2016 ESCAPE THEMES



ESCAPE

YEAR IN REVIEW

ENCOURAGING & SUSTAINING CANCER ADVOCACY THROUGH ...



PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVE:

"ESCAPE continues to attract extremely smart, motivated and influential advocates. The connections I've made in three conferences have been invaluable to moving forward. I don't know how our organization would have been able to sustain thus far without ESCAPE's help. In addition, it has really helped me become much more knowledgeable and effective in my own personal advocacy work."

- Betsy Glosik, Destination Hope

OUR REACH

ESCAPE TO THRIVE 2016

- 30 advocates

Since launch in 2011

- 87 organizations represented

TO THRIVE



\$93,720 was raised to provide BAG IT bags in Tucson and Southern Arizona

\$27,805 was raised to provide BAG IT bags in Phoenix and Valley of the Sun



BAG IT is proud to recognize Epic Rides for their generous and enduring support of our mission to *Fight the Fear of Cancer!* Their 24 Hours in the Old Pueblo event is one of the largest 24 Hour single track mountain bike events in the world and for the past five years, BAG IT has been fortunate to be the recipient of the generosity of this dynamic community of mountain bikers.

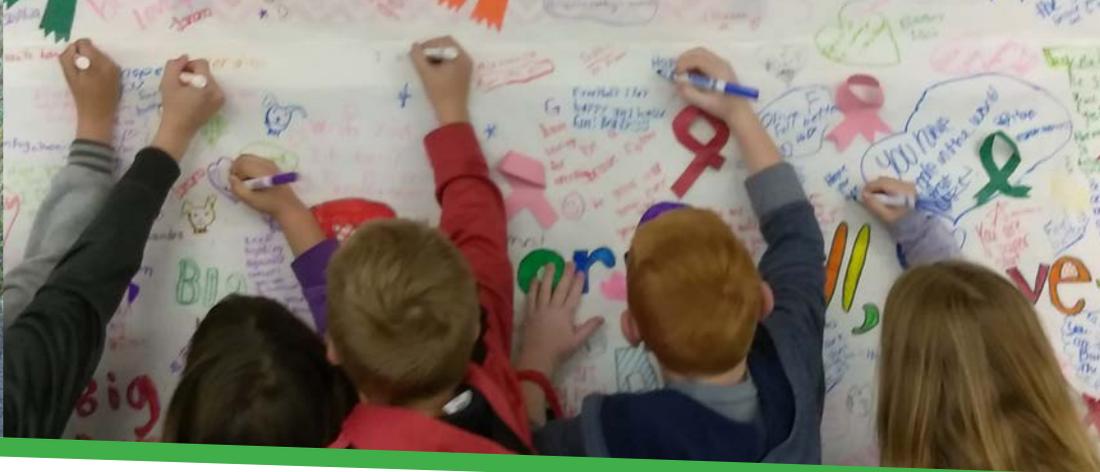
"Epic Rides raises funds for BAG IT through the annual 24 Hours in the Old Pueblo presented by Tucson Medical Center because, much like the informed preparations necessary to complete our 24-hour relay race, BAG IT plays a critical role in supporting the endurance often necessary to beat cancer."

- **Todd Sadow**
President, Epic Rides

Three stellar organizations serve BAG IT every step of the way by offering reduced pricing or an in-kind donation for their services, never sacrificing the excellence which has earned each company their fine reputation in the community:



COMMUNITIES SU



The students and staff at Paradise Honors Elementary in Surprise, AZ chose BAG IT as their "Dollar for Duds Day" beneficiary this year. Students and staff donated to BAG IT to be able to dress down for the day in the cancer awareness color of their choice. They also created a mural to honor loved ones.



Thank you to students from the photography class at The Gregory School who participated in a class assignment to take photos for the BAG IT website and social media platforms. It was a unique learning experience for the students as they creatively captured images of the bag contents and its beneficiaries while also representing the spirit of BAG IT as an organization. For BAG IT, it was a wonderful opportunity to receive some innovative new photos and to share with these students the important role of BAG IT in our community.



We so appreciate Ventana Medical Systems, a cancer diagnostics company of Roche, and their ongoing support of BAG IT in all the ways that make a difference. Every summer they invite their interns to participate in a community service project for BAG IT and having them on our team for those few hours is of great benefit. For the interns, hearing the story of BAG IT and those we serve gives them perspective about the "bigger picture" in the cancer world and why the work of both organizations is so critical to patients and their families.

"I have consistently given out BAG IT bags for all newly diagnosed cancer patients since starting with the program. Patients respond positively as the program offers empowerment and ownership of the disease when feeling the most vulnerable and helpless. Many patients return to follow-up appointments with the notebook in hand. I appreciate the effort that BAG IT makes to compile this great resource for newly diagnosed cancer patients."

- Jody Jenkins, MD, FACS

SUPPORTING BAG IT



"We have been volunteers for several years, having been made aware of this amazing program by our cousins. We are pleased to help in any way we can. We have extensive family histories of cancer and have experienced the sheer terror and helplessness that comes without knowing the nature of treatment and prognosis. As BAG IT volunteers, we've spoken with many survivors who have told us how the information provided was crucial to their understanding of their illness and in being an effective participant in their treatment. We volunteer with BAG IT because we believe in their mission."

- Stan & Heather Rykowski, Glendale, AZ

BAG IT Ambassadors

Volunteers participated in training to learn about the updated version of the bag and prepare them to support BAG IT by volunteering at community events around the state. These events allow us to showcase BAG IT, connect with recipients of the bag and support other organizations. With our limited staff we cannot be everywhere, but thanks to our BAG IT Ambassadors we can!



Phoenix Ambassadors



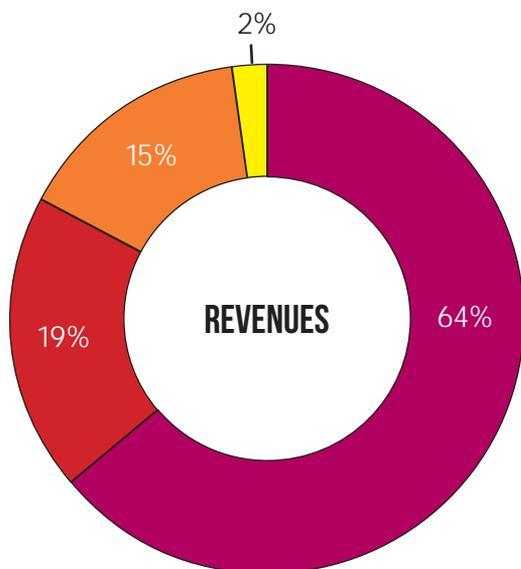
"I am honored to be a Volunteer at BAG IT because of my experience with cancer. My mother, my sister and my sister-in-law each died of cancer and their deaths had a profound effect on me. When introduced to BAG IT, I found a haven that provided educational content and contact information for assistance, doctors, treatment centers, patient advocates, grief support and more. I wish I had BAG IT's information during my mother's and sister-in-law's crisis'; my sister Pam was fortunate to receive one and embrace the contents. There are not enough words to express my gratitude to Sherri Romanoski for her vision of BAG IT. As founder and cancer survivor, she opened up the eyes of the oncology world to the very depths of what a cancer patient experiences. I am proud to be a part of this unique organization."

- Deborah Mulvihill, Tucson, AZ

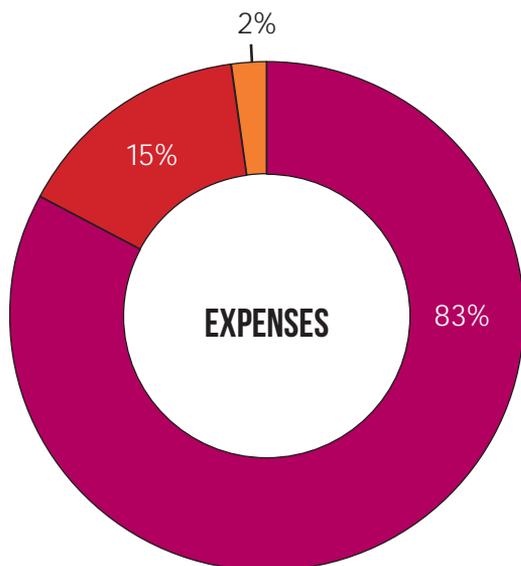
VOLUNTEERS

83% of our expenses go directly to our programs that educate, support and empower patients, caregivers, and other cancer advocates through: BAG IT bag distribution, ESCAPE to Thrive leadership conference, trainings of medical providers and community partnerships and collaborations.

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



- Business Community: \$188,890
 - Foundations: \$56,500
 - Individuals: \$44,156
 - Other: \$7,053
- Total: \$296,599**



- Program Services: \$275,695
 - Fundraising: \$51,450
 - General/Administration: \$7,142
- Total: \$334,287**

**The figures above represent unaudited numbers.
FYE 6/30/17

FINANCIALS

Many Thanks to the Following Major Supporters

Donations of \$20,000 and more



Donations of \$10,000 and more



William and Mary Ross Foundation

Donations of \$5,000 and more

Arizona Lithographers
 Country Fair White Elephant
 Dorothy Harmsen & Bill Harmsen Sr.
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Donations of \$2,500 and more

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Honor Health
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Donations of \$1,000 and more

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Donations of \$500 and more

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Commerce Bank
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Paradise Education Center
 Phoenix Oncology Nursing Society
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 Dr. Alan Schwartz
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Donations of \$250 and more

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 Marilyn Atha
 Darlene Brady

Canyonlands Healthcare
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