

## VIEWS FROM JACKSON STREET

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Much too often we "use" and/or "abuse" one of God's most precious gifts, "Time"....

Let us remember that "age" alone does not bring about appreciation for "Time"

However, positive constructive action truly does.....





We are fortunate enough to have some of the best staff and partners this side of glory. We thank each one of you, as we could not do this without you!



As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, Arizona OIC relies on donations, private sector funding, and special events for its operations. While grants were available when Arizona OIC was founded many years ago, over the past several decades public funding and grants have been disappearing. As a result, Arizona OIC has been actively developing its private sector relationships and partnerships, whereby companies rely on Arizona OIC to train their entry-level workforce. If your organization is interested in becoming involved as a Corporate Sponsor of OIC, please contact us at gene.blue@azoic.org or call 602-254-5081.

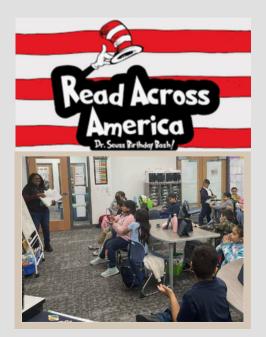


JOB DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE Contact Janet Shines 602-254-5081, ext. 103.

#### **GED PREPARATION**

One of our most successful programs is our sponsored GED preparation course. 96% of the students who take the GED test have been successful due to this course. Full scholarships are available for dedicated students. Come into the office to fill out an application and register for this class.







Read Across America Week is celebrated from March 2 to 6, it begins on the birthday of the beloved author, Dr. Seuss. The month of March, in fact, is dedicated to reading. Thank you to our AZOIC boardmember Theresa Harper who volounteered to read to chidren at Kennedy Elementary school in the Roosevelt Elementary School District.

### **MARCH 2023**

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

My Name is Michelle Sura, I started attending Arizona OIC in 1990/1991 for GED Classes. 6 Months into attending classes, I started working for AZOIC/Rio Salado as a Teacher Assistant part-time, while trying to receive my GED Certificate. In 1992 I went in for an interview with Ebony House, Inc. recommended by Mr. Blue, CEO of AZOIC. Interview went well and I got the job at Ebony House, Inc., June of 1992 thru the present 2023 (31 Yrs), working for Mr. Freeman, CEO. Ebony House, Inc. is a 30+ Year Company that invests in helping Men, Women and Children with Substance Abuse Treatment. I'm very Happy, Appreciative, & Blessed I found Arizona OIC. Thank You!!





My name is Keniece Wright and I had the honor and privilege to be apart of the summer youth program at AzOIC. I worked at a library for one summer and also a doctors office for another summer. It taught me the importance of being a responsible and independent person. It enabled me to pay for my own school supplies and things of that nature for the upcoming school year. Which I was extremely proud of. I also had the advantage of partaking in the entrepreneur program. The program allowed me to step in a more innovator role and explore what it would be like to start my own business. I'm currently employed at Verra Mobility as a event specialist. My company is a global leader in smart mobility technology that makes transportation safer, smarter and more connected. This will be my eighth year with the company. I'm truly thankful for the opportunities offered at AzOIC. It has molded into a accountable and dependable person in the workforce.





My experience in the Summer Youth Work Experience Program was a great one. During the program I met some amazing people who were great resources. They provided good information, training, and amazing opportunities. The staff at AZOIC continued to support me once the program ended. They followed up with me and provided information for scholarships and part time job opportunities that helped me through under grad and grad school. I graduated from Northern Arizona University with a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science. I am now in my second year of grad school at Midwestern University. I'll graduate with my doctoral degree in Physical Therapy in 2024. Being a Summer Youth Work Experience Program participant helped to provide a foundation for my current journey. The independence of having funds to assist with my own needs and the knowledge that I gained were valuable then and now. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity.



Alumni? Contact Dalyn Blue-McLaurin @ 602-254-5081 to share your story.

#### **MARCH 2023**

## HAPPENING IN THE VALLEY OF THE SUN

