



**Dear Paula and the AZWP Leadership Team,**

**1/15/2024**

Thank you all for the years of dedication and support for organizations like Sounds of Autism, Inc. We would not be able to complete our missions without foundations like yours and cannot express the gratitude we have for you and your commitment.

For the last 12+ years, Sounds of Autism has been working to create the path for our Families of Autism, including others At-Risk. This year we are excited to share that we launched our PHASE 3 program called Workforce Development. We originally began with 3 Adult Students “Boots on the Ground” in our West Valley 40000 Sq Ft Warehouses learning Life, Job and Safety Skills while serving other Families in Need. This model has been such a blessing to our At-Risk Adults. They have learned a ton about survival, supporting others, compassion, and empathy and multiple solution-based skills that would get them closer to a more independent Adult Life. In the last 4 months alone, our team and other collaborative partners worked together to serve over 20,000 individuals in need and we have already agreed on a game plan for 2024 to continue serving many more as we educate our workforce Adults on sustainable Life, Job, and Safety Skills while serving others.

We are proud to announce we currently have 20 students to date, that are now working with us. as well as multiple community leaders, First Responders and Educational Leaders who continue to learn and find best practices to support our At-Risk/Autism populations while serving other At-Risk communities. We refer to this as a Unified Responder Communities which is

now are Movement, with a Peer-to-Peer Component. The success for 2023 moving into 2024, is our UNIFIED culture is truly coming together.

We look forward to the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, event and meeting all of you in person. Please let us know if you need anything on our end to participate.

See you soon and thank you again for everything.

**Sincerely, Cricket Barrientos**

Founder Sounds of Autism, Inc.

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