

2020-2021
ANNUAL REPORT



#### **Board of Directors**

#### **OFFICERS**

Chad Akin, Board Chair State Farm Insurance

Raveen Arora, Chair Elect
The Dhaba

Jihan Cottrell, Past Chair Cox Business

Suzy Greenwood, Treasurer
Arizona Tax Advisors

Mark Holthaus, Vice Chair Edward Jones

Megan Martin, Vice Chair SRP

Kyle McIntosh, Vice Chair *MAC6* 

#### **DIRECTORS**

John Bauer

Dignity Health

**Tom Binge** 

Renaissance Financial

Ashley Bunch
APS

Sarah Clifford

Davis Miles McGuire Gardner

**Josh Diker** 

Wells Fargo Bank

Jayashree Ganesan

TCH – The Centers for Habilitation

**Brent Cope** 

Tempe St. Luke's Hospital

Clark Landrum

Waste Management

Joaquin Perez

Lumen

Julie Rodriguez

Phoenix Sky Harbor

**EX-OFFICIOS** 

**Andrew Ching** 

City of Tempe

Brian McCartin

Tempe Tourism Office

**Kate Borders** 

Downtown Tempe Authority

Kristin Irwin

Arizona State University

# **Letter from the Outgoing Board Chair**

The 2020-2021 physical year has been one of the most challenging and unpredictable times in our country's history. The economic and social disruption we have experienced has affected the business climate in ways that were simply unimaginable, so thank you for placing your trust in the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.

At the Chamber, we have adapted our processes and changed the way we work to ensure we are delivering on our promise to be the voice of business, connect professionals with each other, and promote our membership and their businesses within the community.

Over the past year, we have:

- Changed the way we do business we were the first to transition to high quality virtual events and as a result, other Chambers learned from us and followed our lead. We have offered thirteen live studio signature events with more than 5,500 attendees over the past twelve months.
- Been a resource for business owners we quickly became the one-stop-shop for helping business navigate changes in governmental regulations/loans and today we are facilitating business academies and providing other resources to help companies large and small adapt to a changing environment.



Chad Akin

■ Solved problems – we have connected members to supply chains, connected the city to Hownd for the BuyNowSaveLocal campaign, and collaborated with Desert Financial to establish a microloan loan program for local merchants. We have also been a leading voice for SB1377, which protects businesses and organizations from undue litigation because of the pandemic.

We are also looking forward; the Board of Directors has used the turbulence of the past year to introduce a new three-year plan that is rooted in our mission to serve as the voice of business, be a catalyst for economic growth, and champion for a strong community. I am eager to see how this vision will benefit the Tempe business community in the years to come.

In such a challenging economic climate, it is reassuring to know 80 Tempe businesses chose this year to join the 500+ members who already know the value the Tempe Chamber of Commerce offers its membership. It has been an honor to chair the Chamber's board of directors over the past year. Thank you to Anne Gill for your leadership, the Chamber team who exemplifies the mission in everything you do, and to the board for providing the guidance that makes Tempe the best place to do business in the valley.

Sincerely,

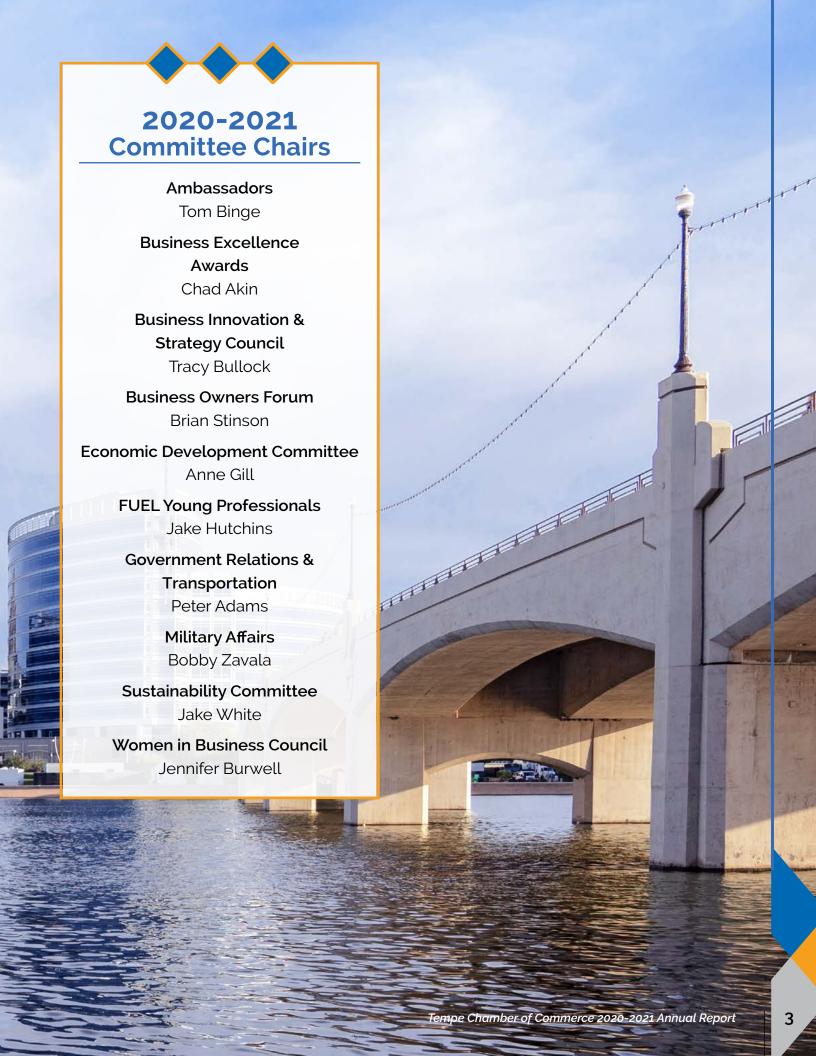


Chad Akin

#### **CHAMBER FOUNDATION**

The Tempe Chamber Foundation carries out the charitable and education objectives of the Tempe Chamber that positively impact Tempe's quality of life. **Tempe Leadership** is a program of the Tempe Chamber Foundation, and more than 800 dedicated individuals have participated since its inception in 1985. Tempe Leadership also offers the **Tempe Youth Leadership** program and Tempe Cares.

In addition, the **Career Ready Tempe** youth workforce initiative in partnership with the City of Tempe aims to help prepare and develop Tempe youth to participate in the future workforce by connecting youth to college and career readiness support and partnering with Tempe employers to provide paid internship opportunities in fields that are in-demand.





## Covid-19

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Tempe Chamber advocated on our member's behalf to assure that federal, state and local agencies and elected officials understand the economic damage that COVID-19 and the related public policy responses inflicted on the Tempe business community.

Tempe businesses are the backbone of our city's economy and the spirit of building the future. Our workplaces are rapidly changing and how you conduct business is evolving faster than ever before. As the trusted source of information for our business community, we have and will continue provide resources and information to help businesses through the economic recovery.

# **Tempe Chamber Business Academy**

The "Tempe Chamber Business Academy" launched its inaugural class in 2020 during the height of the pandemic. Developed by the Chamber's Businesses Innovation and Strategy Council, the curriculum was designed to give businesses and business leaders the knowledge they need to grow their companies and strengthen our community. Opening with a 3-week intensive geared towards pandemic and economic recovery for businesses, Academy participants also received structured training in various disciplines ranging from customer acquisition, to marketing, to human resources, to finance. Held virtually, the inaugural 7-month course, consisting of 90-minute classes was taught by expert instructors and was well received.

#### We've Moved!

The Tempe Chamber of Commerce has relocated its office to the MAC6 business campus to accommodate a need for space and future growth. The short move from its previous headquarters took place on March 13, 2020.

The Tempe Chamber has been part of the fabric of Tempe more than 112 years, and our valued partnership with MAC6 and will provide room to expand our team, streamline our operations and better serve our members. The office MAC6 has created for us will accelerate the momentum the Chamber has created over the past several years with our dedicated team members, and focus on being a champion for a strong community.

# CHAMBER by the NUMBERS



Membership Retention Rate



New Members



539 Active Members



# **Digital Marketing Efforts**

**EMAILS** 

269

Email Campaigns Sent **WEB** 

24,518

Unique Users (29% Increase)

**338,995**Recipients

69,530

Page Views (6% Increase)



#### Social Media



**2,632** Followers Post link clicks up **51.2%** 



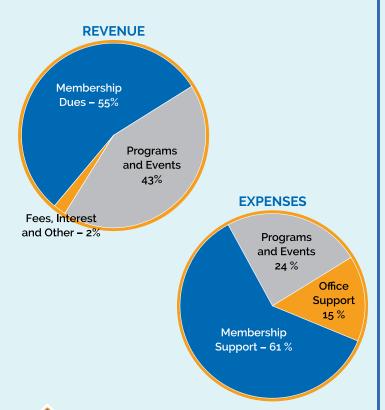
**1,925** Followers **19%** increase in followers



**2,199** Followers **66.7%** increase in posts



**8,007** Followers **115%** increase in mentions & retweets





#### **Event Stats**

**200** Events and

Meetings

**13**Live Studio
Signature Events

**5,500+**Registered
Attendees

**10**Pandemic Recovery
Webinars



#### **Community Volunteer Efforts**

Over **140** hours of member volunteer time:

**325**Safety Supply
Kits Delivered to
Tempe Small Business

Drive-Up Toy Drive
Toys For Tots

**Donation Drive** Treasures 4 Teachers

> Blood Drive Vitalant

### Advocacy



Days of session: 162
# bills introduced: 1,774
# bills signed into law: 381\*

# chamber-supported bills signed into law:

As of press time the State Legislature was still in session.

#### COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



















#### **COMMUNITY INVESTORS**







#### **COMMUNITY LEADERS**

**APS** 

Arizona Coyotes Copperstate Farms **EMD Electronics** MAC<sub>6</sub> **Markitors** 

Mode Public Affairs Resound Southwest Airlines United Dairymen of Arizona Video West Viasat

#### **CHAMBER STAFF**

Anne Gill, IOM

President/CEO

Sukki Jahnke, CMP

Vice President of Marketing & Programs

Erika Acorn

Vice President of **Business Development**  Mark Tarabori

Membership Relations Specialist

Julie Flanigan, CPA

Director of Finance

**Jazmine Reyes** 

Marketing Consultant

Michelle Kauk

Social Media Consultant



The Tempe Sustainability Pledge is a growing community of businesses committed to reducing their environmental footprint. Sustainability helps businesses manage resources and cut costs. Taking the pledge is free and offers a useful information on how your business can take steps to improve our community through sustainable practices.

Thank you to our **Sustainability Supporters** 

#### Platinum level





Gold level







Annual Report layout and design by



**Thomas Rodriguez** 

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#### NEW ADDRESS!

1438 W. Broadway Rd. #213 Tempe, AZ 85282 Phone: 480-967-7891 Email: info@tempechamber.org Website: www.tempechamber.org





