

**PHOENIX, Ariz.** (July 11, 2023) - Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley (BGCAZ) is announcing six exceptional additions to its 2023-2024 Board of Directors. From business leaders to chief executives, these outstanding community leaders will lend their expertise to the financial, structural, and policy decisions that guide the organization and assume fundraising efforts to expand BGCAZ's programs and services.

The new appointments are:

- **Latasha Causey, President, Phoenix Raceway**
- **Dawn Jones, Chief Diversity Officer, Intel**
- **Ayensa Millan, Managing Attorney, CIMA Law Group**
- **Mark Mooney, Vice President – Underwriting Systems and Product, CopperPoint**
- **RJ Muller, Director of Public Affairs, COX Communications**
- **Michael O'Connor, Owner/Managing Partner, Rio Grande Waste Services**

These individuals earned a place on the board as a result of longstanding commitment to their communities and passion for BGCAZ's mission of empowering young people to reach their full potential. More information on each of the new board members is below.

#### **Latasha Causey**

As President of Phoenix Raceway, Latasha Causey oversees the promotion and operation of a top motorsports and entertainment destination in Phoenix. She is the first African American female to hold this role in NASCAR's history. Over the last 20 years, Causey has worked for various financial organizations like Bell Bank and USAA, having a vast knowledge of the community development and human resources fields. A native of Phoenix, Causey was named one of the Most Influential Women in Arizona in 2021 and a 2018 Outstanding Woman in Business by Phoenix Business Journal.

#### **Dawn Jones**

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#### **Ayensa Millan**

Ayensa Millan has over 10 years of experience handling criminal, immigration, and personal injury matters. Her past work with various firms and nonprofit organizations strengthened her belief that there is a need for compassionate and effective legal representation, and compelled her to form CIMA Law Group, PC. In 2014, she received a "40 Hispanic Leaders Under 40" award for her work and commitment to her community, and in 2019 she was appointed as Legal Consultant to the Mexican Consulate in Phoenix.

#### **Mark Mooney**

Mark Mooney joined CopperPoint in 2019 and was promoted to his current role as Vice President, Underwriting Systems & Technology in 2021. Mooney is responsible for managing the design and implementation of automation solutions for policy systems as well as the development of overall underwriting product strategy and implementation. Prior to joining CopperPoint, Mooney held leadership positions at Union Standard Insurance Group and QBE North America.

#### **RJ Muller**

As a Public Affairs professional with the Cox Communications Public Affairs team, RJ Muller has distinguished himself as a strategic community and philanthropic leader in the Phoenix market. Since joining Cox in 2004, his tenure in public affairs has included oversight of Cox's philanthropic efforts, Cox Volunteers, Cox Charities, and Digital Equity programs. Muller was honored as one of the Phoenix Business Journal's "40 Under 40" award recipients and as Arizona Business Magazine's "Generation Next for Technology." Muller is also a graduate of Valley Leadership's Leadership Institute and the FBI Citizens Academy.

### **Michael O'Connor**

Michael O'Connor is the owner/managing partner of Rio Grande Waste Services, Inc. in El Paso, Texas. He is the former owner/managing partner of Premier Waste Services, Inc. which he successfully sold to Waste Connections in April 2021. With 27 years of experience in the solid waste industry, he has worked from the back of the truck to nearly every facet of the business. As an active member of the National Waste & Recycling Association, he currently serves as the Arizona Chapter Chair, Arizona Representative for the Services Board of Governors, and is a member of the Board of Trustees. At the 2019 Waste Expo, O'Connor was presented with the Chapter Leadership Award.

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### **About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley**

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley offers affordable after-school and summer programs for 16,000+ young people in grades K-12. At 30 Clubs across the Valley, BGCAZ provides award-winning programs designed to change the lives of young people. For over 75 years, BGCAZ has been creating equity and opportunity for youth through academic, social, and workforce opportunities. We help young people make healthy decisions and focus on social and emotional development to build resilient young adults. Most importantly, we work to develop strong character and leadership skills by creating positive connections to caring adults and their community. For more information visit [bgcaz.org](http://bgcaz.org). Follow us on social media at @BGCArizona.