

## FACT SHEET

**PSA Art Awakenings • Administrative Office**  
2255 W. Northern Ave. Suite A130  
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

**WHAT** PSA Art Awakenings promotes empowerment & recovery through the power of creative expression with children & adults (Title XIX, Non-TXIX, & GMHSA—depending on region) who are affected by serious mental health, general mental health and substance use challenges.

**WHEN** In the late fall of 2000, Art Awakenings was born out of PSA Behavioral Health Agency, a 501c(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 1971 whose mission is to enhance & empower the behavioral health community through creativity, innovation, recovery & diversity. PSA received funds from Rehab Services Administration to begin a consumer run business. Thus, PSA Art Awakenings began with four adult consumers creating & selling artwork.

**WHO** PSA Art Awakenings was founded by Sara Marriott, PSA Behavioral Health Agency President/CEO. To date, it has grown into a psycho-social rehabilitation & art therapy program that serves over 2000 adults & children throughout Arizona at studios in Downtown & NW Phoenix, Casa Grande, Tempe, Tucson, Parker, Bisbee, Douglas, Kingman, and Yuma, with mobile services in Cochise and Mohave Counties.

**WHY** Studios provide a safe, supportive environment for adults & children to foster exploration & development of artistic skills. Participants learn respect for self & others, personal accountability, & pride in accomplishments while developing enhanced self-esteem & wellness management skills.

**HOW** Led by Deputy CEO Karen D. Puthoff, members of the management team, expressive art therapists, artistic behavioral health specialists, behavioral health paraprofessionals & support staff including artists, peers/studio assistants & recovery support specialists, all work together to provide this national, state, & regional award winning program.

**A PSYCHO-SOCIAL REHAB PROGRAM** PSA Art Awakenings provides therapeutic art groups using the healing power of creativity to explore feelings & process issues while emphasizing community integration. Studios, known as “The place where the magic happens”, offer instruction in visual art, poetry, music, movement, & drama in addition to pre-job training & education. Peers are a vital component, facilitating groups, classes & offering peer-to-peer support, treatment & the “Buddy” system. Participants readily admit that creating art helps reduce stress & the intensity of their psychiatric symptoms.

**WAREHOUSE 1005 & 442 STUDIOS & GALLERY** Warehouses 1005 & 442 offer graduate level programs for artists who are ready to develop their skills in a more independent, entrepreneurial environment. The main goal is to empower & enhance artistic skills so that the artists can become productive members of the Phoenix & Tucson art communities. Artists retain 70% of sales generated revenue.

**GALLERIES & ARTISTIC TREASURES SHOP** Participants gain personal awareness & professional skills by creating artwork for exhibit & sale at the Phoenix, Casa Grande, Tucson & Old Bisbee Galleries, community art shows & venues, special events. Staff assist artists in selling their work from which they retain 80% of sales revenue generated through art exhibitions, First Friday Art Walk (Phoenix), First Saturday (Tucson), Bisbee After Five, & Art in the Alley (Casa Grande).

**OLD BISBEE GALLERY** Historic Bisbee is home to PSA Art Awakenings’ first freestanding gallery. As part of the local arts scene, the shop features work from our artists throughout the state & offers kiln firing services.

**YOUTH INITIATIVES** PSA Art Awakenings also offers structured, creative activities and art therapy targeting youth & families in individual & group settings. Programs focus on cultivating wellness in the family, community, & educational environment with numerous community outreach & collaborative projects offered throughout Maricopa, Cochise, Pima, Yuma, Pinal & Mohave counties.

**CARF ACCREDITED** Recognized as providing services that are measurable, accountable & of the highest quality. Art Awakenings has exemplary status.

**2015 National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
Inspiring Hope Award for Artistic Expression—Recipient**



### FUNDING SOURCES

- ADHS/DBHS & AHCCCS
- Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care
- Cenpatico Integrated Care
- Health Choice Integrated Care
- Gila River Indian Community

### MANAGEMENT TEAM

Karen D. Puthoff, Deputy CEO  
Mark Montgomery, Chief Clinical Officer  
Michele Kaplan, Clinical Director  
Eliza Homer, Regional Clinical Director,  
Antonio Pasos, Artist in Residence

### SITE ADMINISTRATORS

Nicole Gordon, Maricopa County Director of  
Adult & Youth Services  
Janet Fuhriman, Pima & Cochise Counties  
Director  
Cristina Pasos, NW Phoenix  
Renee Caccamese, Tempe  
Patricia Quiroz, Yuma/Parker  
Ian Carbajal, Douglas  
Susan Rich, Bisbee  
Joy Thayer, Casa Grande  
George Perez, Warehouse 442  
Rebecca Southall, Kingman