



WELCOME TO OUR

# Monthly Newsletter

*We're so glad you're here!*

We need help from our Mad Mom members.



**ZOOM every Monday Night 6 to 7pm**  
Spring Daylight - PST 6:00 | MST 7:00 | CST 8:00 | EST 9:00



MEETING ID: 278 888 6237  
PASSCODE: FAMILY



BY PHONE:  
DIAL IN - (345) 248-7799

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## Mental Health Day at the Capitol Monday, April 14th 9 am to 3 pm

- Registration for Mental Health Day at the Capitol is closed.
- Mad Moms can volunteer for set up and/or dismantle duties by contacting Twila Lake at [twilalake@gmail.com](mailto:twilalake@gmail.com) or Crystal Fox at [crystfox65@gmail.com](mailto:crystfox65@gmail.com).

- Set up begins at 7 am at the Capitol in Phoenix.
- The speaking and vendor portion is at Westley Bolin Memorial Plaza in the event bowl arena located in the center of the park. Look for signs with directions.
- Over 250 registrations have been received.
- Arizona Mad Moms is a sponsor, will have a table, and are hosting free raffle gifting.
- Clean up begins at 3:15 pm.



The address for the Capitol is 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, 85007. Wesley Memorial Park is east of the Capitol between Jefferson and Adams (Washington becomes Adams) and 15th and 17th Avenues.



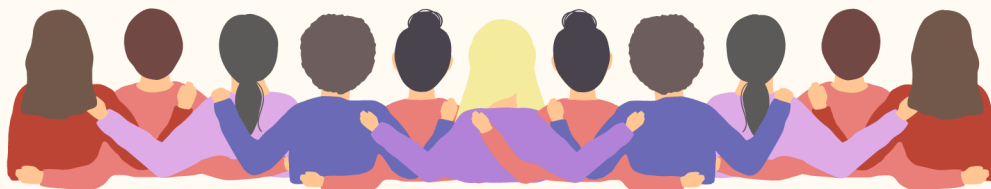
## MH DAY Agenda

*Crystal Fox is speaking.*

- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM: Registration & Check-In**  
Receive your event materials @ the Main Capitol entrance.
- 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM: Welcome & Speakers**  
Hear inspiring community leaders and mental health advocates.
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM: Lunch, Raffle prizes!**  
Enjoy a provided bag lunch for registered attendees. Meet your district legislator, and raffle winner's announced.
- 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Legislative Meetings**  
(Option 1) Small group meetings with your legislators.
- 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM: Request to Speak Sign-up Support**  
(Option 2) Get help signing up to speak at the 2:00 Committee Hearing
- 11:00 AM & 12:00 PM: Optional 45-min Capitol Tour**  
(Option 3) Limited to the first 90 participants to check-in.
- 1:00 PM: Proclamation on Senate Floor**  
Witness a special proclamation in support of mental health in the Senate.
- 2:00 PM: Committee Hearing**  
Observe a legislative committee hearing related to mental health.
- 3:00 PM: Event Conclusion**

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

## Arizona Mad Moms In-person Support Group Meeting



Held **weekly every Friday from 6-8 pm**



The location:  
**Grace Outreach Center**  
1530 W. Elliot  
Gilbert, AZ 85233



Meet us by the I-10 or 202

Contact:  
Twila Lake, Meeting Host  
(602) 550-3158  
[twilalake@gmail.com](mailto:twilalake@gmail.com)

Contact:  
Crystal Fox, RN, Co-Founder  
(602) 565-4606  
[crystfox65@gmail.com](mailto:crystfox65@gmail.com)

Moms and family members can speak of their experiences with their loved ones. This forum allows you to speak freely in a non-judgmental space and connect with others who experience similar journeys or are **"Moms In A Pickle."** You can gain valuable insights from these meetings that will help you feel more prepared and empowered on this journey. You are not alone in this journey. Mad Moms is here to support you. Whether your loved one is living with you, in a group home, incarcerated, or on the streets, this is the place for you.



The Association for the Chronically Mentally Ill (ACMI) sponsored several legislative bills. Arizona Mad Moms testified to House and Senate Health and Human Services committees on their experiences and how these changes in laws would have helped them with their loved ones. Some proposed bills did not get through both the House and Senate votes.

#### THIS IS AN ABBREVIATED EXPLANATION

- House Bill HB2944 - stops counting jail days as inpatient hospital treatment on (COT) court-ordered treatment.
- Senate Bill SB1604 - separates non-competent/non-restorable defendants from civil court-ordered patients in secure behavioral health residential facilities and enables facility openings.
- House Bill HB2492 - requires counties to pay for professional evaluation needed for guardianship.
- House Bill HB2706 - creates judicial oversight for court-ordered treatment the ability for a judge to order intensive services.

Please go to [azleg.gov](http://azleg.gov) to view the entire bills as written.



"Thank you all for your hard work this legislative session. We are winding down and awaiting final votes on bills.

So many of you trekked down to the capitol to proudly wear a "Mad Moms" T-shirt and sit thru committee hearings. So many of you hopped on your computers and sent out emails to lawmakers - often late at night. It has been a ginormous effort, and we are all proud of this hard work.

Mental Health Day at the Capitol is an important day of unity with our fellow advocates and lawmakers - I hope you can make it. Cheers," ~ Rachel Streiff



These are the four bills that made it to the next vote.

Mad Moms Spring Potluck/Picnic was Saturday, March 22nd



There were 30 families in attendance.

The Mad Moms picnic/potluck was a great success! It is a perfect site for hosting this picnic. There was an abundance of food and the picnic area at South Mountain is breathtakingly beautiful! Lots of privacy for our group and yet, out in the open venue of natural beauty.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE NEXT PICNIC IN THE



DETAILS WILL FOLLOW WHEN THE EVENT IS SCHEDULED.

#### Next Step Recovery Team - Cave Creek Outing

"We had an awesome time in Cave Creek! Five families joined us for a wonderful day, starting with lunch at the Horny Toad restaurant.

From there, we headed to the horse ranch in the Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area, where we got to pet and feed not just horses but also goats, a giant tortoise, and an adorable pig. The animals seemed to enjoy the attention as much as we did!" ~ Dee Rafferty



Y'all join our next adventure to be announced!



The passing of SB1309, **John's Law**, which mandates the collection of important information by the screening and evaluation agencies in the involuntary treatment process. **There is a new form to be used by moms and families with a SMI loved one.** The form is named "Arizona Crisis System Family/Support Collateral Form": Historical Information Provided by Family Member or Other Interested Party. It is on the webpage at [arizonamadmoms.com](http://arizonamadmoms.com) click on **FORMS**. You can complete the form on line (need Word 365). Or you can print and handwrite the information. By submitting this form to screening centers, doctors, professionals, first-responders, etc., you can have a voice in the treatment of your loved one. This form becomes part of the patient's medical record. It can be used multiple times. You can update it with new information and you need keep a copy for yourself. It can be helpful to track symptoms and behaviors. If you need help or have any questions, email [HELLO@ARIZONAMADMOMS.COM](mailto:HELLO@ARIZONAMADMOMS.COM) or call Debby Anderson at (602) 620-8193.



**The Discrimination Team of Arizona Mad Moms** (Team Leader is Crystal Fox) is looking for Mad Mom members to join her team. **People with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) often face legal consequences for actions that stem from their mental health conditions.** Wear your Mad Moms T-shirt and attend a trial(s)

for people with SMI **We are standing up to advocate against the criminalization of mental illness.** The team will attend court hearings and stakeholder meetings to gather pertinent information regarding upcoming cases. **The team** will identify gaps and failures in the courts and mental health systems. **Contact Crystal** to join this team and delve into the complicated court systems, please email [crystfox65@gmail.com](mailto:crystfox65@gmail.com) or **(602) 565-4606**.



**HELLO from our growing Communications Team!** Newsletter - Twila Lake & helpers, Website - Debby Anderson, Janet Nash and Maureen Petkiewicz and our **Social Media volunteer - is that YOU?** We are looking for a Social Media Specialist to join our Communications Team. Do you enjoy social media, Instagram, Linked In, X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, etc. We want to introduce our platform more on these and other social sites and **we need you!** Some experience, we will train you. **Contact Debby Anderson @ (602) 620-8193.**



## Terms/Acronyms of the Month:

DTS = "Danger to Self"

DTO = "Danger to Others"

PAD = "Persistent or Acutely Disabled"



These terms refer to legal criteria for receiving medically necessary "involuntary" treatment.

PLEASE EMAIL [CRYSTFOX65@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CRYSTFOX65@GMAIL.COM)

**Did you know?** ... that our Arizona Mad Moms Discrimination Team stands up to advocate against the criminalization of mental illness?



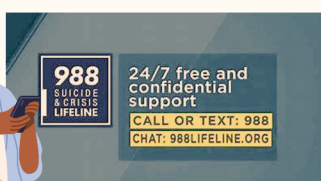
[www.arizonamadmoms.com](http://www.arizonamadmoms.com)

ACCOUNT SIGN IN

Sign in to your account to access your profile, history, and any private pages you've been granted access to.



NEED HELP?  
Call Debby Anderson  
(602) 620-8193



If you have an immediate psychiatric problem in your home or family, please call 988 to be connected to local crisis services.

If you must call for your local police, be sure to let dispatch know you are dealing with a psychiatric situation and ask for crisis-trained officers.

**Call 988 even for basic advice on a mental illness issues.**

The information in Mad Moms newsletters are not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional legal, medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment.