

ALEX WARREN June 2019 Honoree

Alex is an Enrollment & Eligibility Manager for Jewish Family & Children's Service, a behavioral health and social service non-profit based in Central Phoenix. Alex is also a therapy dog owner and trainer, and she goes well beyond the call of duty by voluntarily bringing her own therapy dog, Wrigley, to one of our clinic sites to work with patients. (children, adolescents, and adults), who have suffered trauma or who have a serious behavioral health diagnosis. In fact, Alex recently purchased another dog who she will begin training on her own time and at her own expense to work in another of our clinics. One of our clinic directors let us know that a patient with severe Autism came into the clinic and was so unstable that the staff thought they'd have to hospitalize him. The staff brought in Wrigley, who dramatically calmed the patient down enough so that he could be regulated enough to participate in his therapy. Wrigley has also been brought in to console patients who recently experienced a sexual assault, providing them comfort and peace. Alex is very passionate about the good that therapy dogs do for our clients, and she works tirelessly to provide our clients access to them. None of this is part of Alex's job. She volunteered to drive Wrigley over to our clinic site multiple times a week so that he can work with our patients, and now she is working to bring in another therapy dog, for which she is not being compensated. Alex does all of this out of the kindness of her heart and out of her passion for what these dogs do for others. She truly is a hero and a positive role model for everyone in that she demonstrates the importance of stepping forward to lend a helping hand not because there's something in it for her, but because it's the right thing to do.

Hanna Guthrie