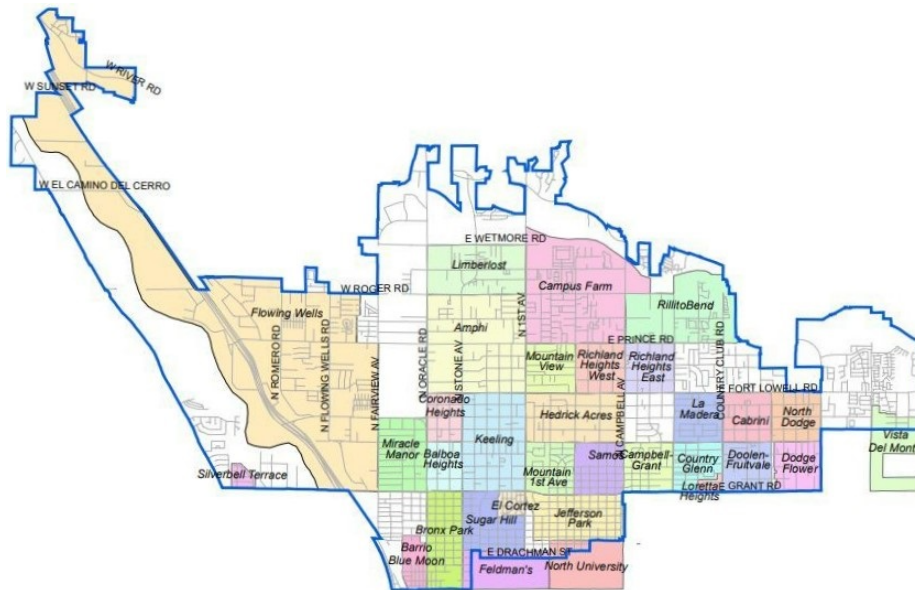
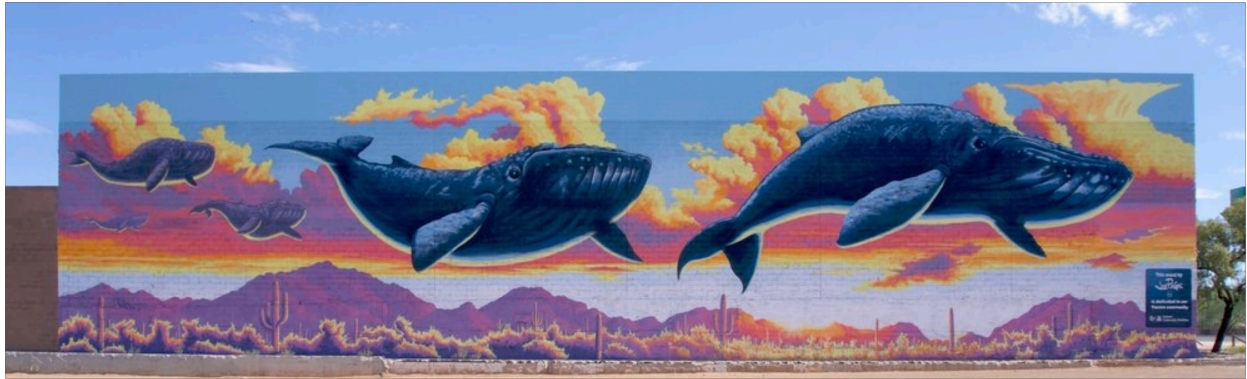


## Ward 3 is Our Home



## Council Member Kevin Dahl's Ward 3 News and Updates: Friday, April 4, 2025

### Friends Of Ward 3



By Arnie Bermudez

Some of the most stressed environments in the entire City are within Ward 3. It has the highest number of encampments and the highest rate of homelessness. There is also substance misuse and elevated incidents of crime. The City is busy doing its best to address these issues; we all know that is still not enough. So, as the famous Beatles song goes, Ward 3 needs "a little help from its friends." This is how the non-profit "Friends of Ward 3" (FOW3) was born. We covered its founding in our August 13, 2024, newsletter, and the non-profit has since been busy.

The aim of the organization is to get more assistance to those residents of Ward 3 who are the most vulnerable. Their vision, as stated on their [website](#), is "A Ward 3 where every resident has the resources and opportunities needed for a fulfilling life in a thriving, safe, and sustainable environment". Heading up the non-profit is President Nigel Brooks, with some assistance from board members John Kovack and Daniel Dempsey. Recently, FOW3 launched a website where the public can catch up and stay informed about their most recent endeavors and with a way to keep in touch and donate.



Friends of Ward 3 President Nigel Brooks.

This is of special importance because with donations, FOW3 can then redistribute the funds to help with other projects that would bring needed improvements to areas of Ward 3 such as the newly renamed "Danny Lopez" Park. The organization has put together care and hygiene packages for the unhoused residents of the ward and even given gifts to disadvantaged children in the ward during the holidays. In addition, they have organized drives to gather and package basic needs items to assist the unhoused.



The FOW3 board members Daniel Dempsey (left) & John Kovack (right) with President Nigel Brooks in the center.

Friends of Ward 3 is picking up steam and looking for more friends that could contribute. If that is you, please feel free to reach out to Nigel at [friends@fow3.org](mailto:friends@fow3.org) or donate at <https://tinyurl.com/4ssey3vz>. Any little bit helps.



## **Strategic Plan Discussion Document**

**July 1, 2025**

### **Aspirational Statements**

Ward 3 is a diverse community with areas of affluence and poverty. Friends of Ward 3 is a Charitable Network of volunteers with personal and/or professional ties to the community.

#### **Mission:**

We network, volunteer, and raise money to improve the lives of residents in Tucson's Ward 3 through charitable giving.

#### **Vision:**

Our vision is a Ward 3 where every resident has the resources and opportunities needed for a fulfilling life in a thriving, safe, and sustainable environment.

#### **Values:**

We value:

- Volunteerism: Contributing to our local community to provide a solid support system.
- Collaboration: Partnering with local organizations and stakeholders to maximize resources and outcomes.
- Community: Building strong and sustainable relationships within Ward 3.
- Impact: Making meaningful and lasting contributions to the community.
- Inclusivity: Ensuring that our efforts reach the diverse populations of Ward 3.
- Integrity: Conducting our work with transparency and ethical practices.

**Guiding Principles:**

- Having shared mission, vision, and values.
- Treating everybody equitably.
- Helping others to reach their full potential.
- Striving for environmental sustainability.
- Leveraging opportunities between individuals and organizations for economic development and employment.
- Building strong social networks with the community to make Ward 3 a safe and welcoming place.
- Making fact-based decisions through open discussions.
- Managing our resources conservatively.

**Value propositions:**

For volunteers - a great learning opportunity:

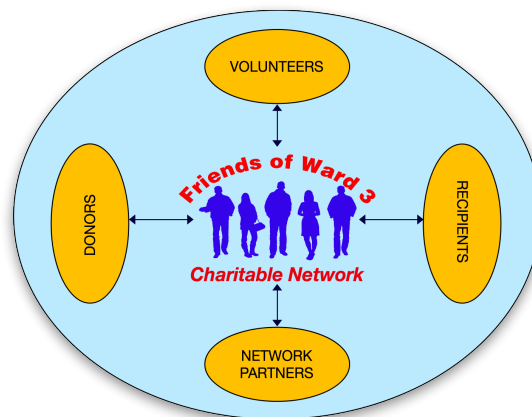
- Doing good and making a difference leading to positive societal impact.
- Gaining knowledge about the Ward 3 community and acquiring personal development skills.

For donors - an opportunity to put back:

- Partnering with an all volunteer organization with very limited overhead.
- Responding directly to the needs of the local community - tackling homelessness, poverty, and supporting low income families with children.
- Improving infrastructure for safety, security, and shade.

**Areas of focus**

- Social welfare:
  - Clothing kits
  - Friendraisers
- Health - sanitary kits
- Environment
- Education:
  - Educational kits emphasizing reading and mathematical skills
  - Bike safety

**Enterprise Strategy****Position and posture:**

As a charitable network of volunteers, we address local needs and foster community development by partnering with individuals and organizations including the Ward 3 office, neighborhood associations, the community-at-large, for profit businesses, and other non profits.

Our work focuses on funding local initiatives that promote education, the environment, health, and social welfare.

We also participate in “friendraisers” - network events and projects to help local communities, mixing fun and purpose.

#### Differentiating factor:

We differentiate ourselves from others by being a “hands on” volunteer organization with limited overhead who contribute financially to the causes in which we believe. We foster a special relationship with the Ward 3 office.

We narrow the gap between where the community is and its possibilities by transforming aspirations into better lives.

#### Constituencies:

As a volunteer organization, we raise funds through contributions from donors and make awards to recipients in Ward 3. We work with network partners with whom we make and receive referrals for volunteers, donors, and recipients.

#### Our volunteers are:

- Experienced professionals with a passion for community involvement and improvement.
- Young people who wish to contribute to the community and gain knowledge and skills,

Volunteers are welcome to participate in all various network events and projects.

#### Our donors are:

- Individuals and small business. proprietorships
- Organizations:
  - For profit businesses
  - Other non profit organizations

We receive contributions as donations and grants that are either unrestricted or restricted for specific awards and operating expenses.

#### Our network partners are:

- Ward 3 office (primary) - a unique partnership, which helps identify urgent needs, introduce residents to local government, and connect problems with solutions
- Neighborhood associations
- Communities-at-large
- For profit businesses

- Other non profit organizations

Our recipients are:

- Individuals and families
- Communities-at-large
- Other non profit organizations
- Neighborhood associations

Our awards consist of grants, kits, and projects. We promote vocational scholarships through referrals to network partners, and other awards for which we lack resources or where there is a better fit.

We conduct projects on behalf of a community, or in collaboration, with assistance from network partners as appropriate.

We donate our time to recipients through “friendraisers.”