



BRETT HENKEL

Asst. General Manager, Big Two Toyota

The long hours as the assistant general manager of a large and busy vehicle dealership would keep most people's schedules packed from sunrise to dusk. But Brett Henkel finds the time to balance his professional obligations with community service contributions inspired by his personal drive to make a difference to those in need.

Henkel's extensive involvement with ICAN: Positive Programs for Youth was inspired by the association his employer, Chris Hoeye, and his family had with the organization.

ICAN is a free youth center in Chandler that serves at-risk teens, families and the community. Prevention programming teaches disadvantaged youth real-life skills that help them avoid the risky behaviors that are prevalent in today's society. Parenting classes and substance abuse education are also part of its services.

"Once I became involved with ICAN and saw first-hand what they do day-in and day-out for the youth here in Chandler, I was so impressed that I felt like I needed to help out in any way that I could," says Henkel, who serves as ICAN's chair of the board of directors.

Henkel has also been active with the ALS Association Arizona Chapter as a volunteer and donor. After losing his mother to Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis five years ago, Henkel has been even more committed to supporting others who struggle with the disease. One of his efforts is a walk that raises thousands of dollars for the cause each year.

A Valley native and University of Arizona graduate, Henkel, his wife CeCe and their three children make it a priority to give back to the community.

"No matter how many you reach, you always want to reach one more and have a positive impact on their lives," he says. —GY