BYTE June Highlights

Welcome to BYTE's June Recap! Summer is well under way. This month we're celebrating a new program partnership to deliver adaptive tennis and art to adults with developmental disabilities. We're also excited to highlight a recent interview with a BYTE contributor, Jennifer Risher. Jen has supported BYTE's growth over many years and she shares why she's chosen to invest in grassroots development at the border.

Thank you for continuing to make our work possible and for supporting kids and communities on the US/Mexico border!

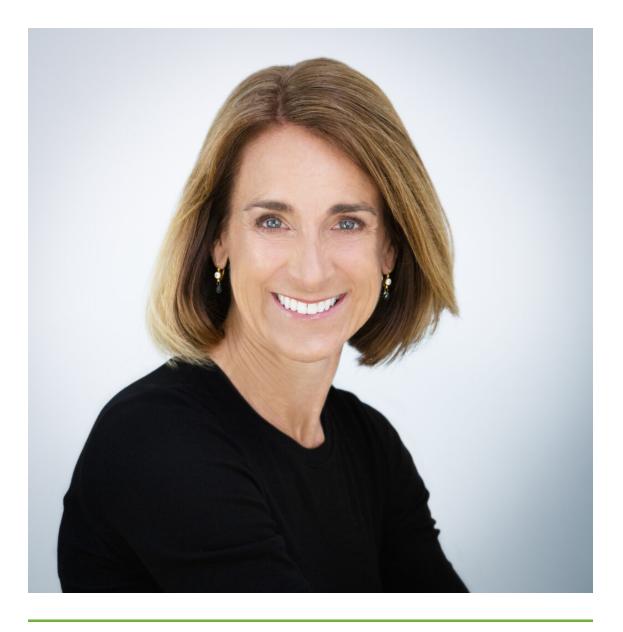
Things are heating up on the courts!



This month BYTE offered a 10-under tennis workshop to the instructors from the Nogales Municipal Institute of Sports! This opportunity is helping elevate tennis in Nogales Sonora, through a school based strategy. BYTE's team is also supporting the formation of an adult tennis league, offering expertise in USTA resources and content.

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Contributor Spotlight: Jennifer Risher



We are pleased to introduce Jennifer Risher, a thoughtful contributor and friend to BYTE. Jen's background is in tech and she began her career as a recruiter, then product manager for Microsoft. Jen has evolved her social impact over the years through innovative philanthropy strategies, such as the <u>#HalfMyDAF</u> challenge. Jen and her husband David Risher established HalfMyDAF to inspire increased charitable giving during COVID-19. Since 2020 it has helped invest over \$19 million in the non-profit sector, supporting diverse grass-roots organizations around the globe. A former Amazon executive, David also founded and runs <u>Worldreader</u>, a global non-profit providing access to literacy resources in developing countries.

Jen mentions that her involvement in BYTE has been meaningful because it

blends a sport that she loves with community development. She first learned of the organization as a member of the <u>California Tennis Club</u>, in San Francisco California.

Jen explains:

"I met Charlie at the Cal Club and he was building this great cross-cultrual tennis program. This resonated with me because I think its important to bridge cultures and learn about each other. Especially now when the world feels so divided. Im thrilled because I think tennis is not only a physical and active sport, but it also focuses on emotion and strategy. So it strengthens all the pieces you need to grow as a person."

Jen and David's investment approach has been annual, unrestricted grants that can be deployed for BYTE's most urgent needs. This sustaining operational support demonstrates their confidence in the BYTE team. Jen stresses that "funding is important and giving can happen in so many different ways. I appreciate BYTE's work and knowledge of their community."

Jen's philanthropic goals include expanding investments for projects led by minority women and continuing to promote equity and closing the wealth gap. She suggests that there are many out there with resources and the motivation to give and contribute to stronger communities. Her objective is to educate those with capacity on the most effective strategies to deploy these charitable investments for large impact.

BYTE is thankful for our partnership with Jen and her willingness to share a little about her motivations. We're excited to have her confidence in our approach to youth and community development.

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Program Highlight: Santa Cruz Training Program



BYTE is proud to announce an organizational partnership with Santa Cruz

Training Programs! SCTP supports adults with developmental disabilities, offering a range of community and employment services to its members. This opportunity to expand BYTE's adaptive sports and art programs was accessed through a grant from the <u>Community Foundation for Santa Cruz</u> <u>County</u>.

Like many of its institutional partnerships, BYTE adds its value to incredible work already being done in the community. In this way, BYTE supports amazing local organizations, who in turn provide access to hard-to-reach populations. BYTE built its operations and credibility using this model and over 7-years we've created a powerful network of stakeholders who contribute to our success.

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Please stay tuned for more updates and highlights in our next BYTE Newsletter!

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