



WALLOP! for San Antonio Youth Literacy

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Relocating to San Antonio in 2010, I knew it was only a matter of time before I “got involved” in the community. Fundraising, special events, teaching, training, and community service projects abroad - I have been an active volunteer for years. Contributing and making a difference are core operating principles, I believe we are all called to GIFT the world with our time, treasure, and talent!

Known as the “yes” gal, often spreading myself thin in the past, I decided to be more STRATEGIC this time. Knowing I was ready to contribute at a board level, I was looking for an organization:

- That aligns with my passion – empowering kids with self-worth and self-confidence
- That could benefit from my experience, skills and talents
- Whose time commitments fit my schedule, so I could participate fully
- That is positive and forward thinking, solution oriented, and wants to GROW

Enter Kim Ford, CPA and partner at Hill & Ford, and a catalyst in my journey. We met at SAKS during a NAWBO Holiday Mixer and struck an instant friendship. Kim’s passion is to eliminate the cycle of poverty through education is exhibited in her service on the board of SAYL (San Antonio Youth Literacy). Over the last year, at her invitation, I have attended SAYL events, donated books in lieu of birthday presents, and got to know this organization. This school year, we became reading buddies at a local elementary school. Recently, when a board position opened, she called to see if I was interested.

I had pledged to be strategic... I requested the “Duties for Board Members” and met with the Executive Director and Chairman of the Board. SAYL aligns with my

passion and the open board position desired a special events and fundraising background – my skill set. Of course, I said YES!

SAYL, like many other amazing non-profits in San Antonio, is doing great things! I look forward to contributing my **WALLOP!** and to making a difference in our community.