

THE JEWEL OF GILA COUNTY

A SPECIAL REPORT

12/23/2018

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There are two old sayings “an expert is anyone from fifty miles away” & “a prophet is no good in their own country.”

Is this what happened here in Payson, Arizona? Is this why people and organizations around the country know about this and the people of Payson and Gila County don't?

Maybe it is because this community has always thought of 99.7 FM KPJM–LP “The Bridge” as just another radio station, because they never took the time to find out all the rest. Maybe they were not exposed to their mission statement located at www.kpjm-fm.com to reach out into our community to encourage young and old alike to avoid drug and alcohol abuse and to provide help for those caught in the trap. This mission is being fulfilled to the point that the National Association of Broadcasters took note and instructed other TV and Radio Stations to follow their example.

Soon, other organizations outside our community began to inquire about “The Bridge” mission of KPJM-LP, Inc. and now are offering to help. They were sad to learn this 501 (c) 3 charity has not received the local help it deserves.

Maybe a short history will help our community understand what is going on, why others are so interested and how it happened.

When asked how it happened, Michael Day said that on 1/07/2011, Pamela Newman was a server at Famous Sam's in Payson Arizona. She sat down next to him, put her arm around him and said, “Teach me how to become the female version of you.” He replied, “Impress me.” So she wrote in a \$100.00 tip on his bill. Michael said, “she was cute enough and I was impressed enough to allow it.”

Years later on 10/27/2013, while Pamela was going through her self initiated two month long non-medical based and nutritional based family run detox program, she told Michael she needed him to do something for her to keep her busy

enough to not be tempted to go back into a lifestyle of drugs. He suggested that they build an FM radio station together. Pamela happily agreed, but initially thought it wouldn't become a reality.

On 7/30/2014, KPJM-LP started broadcasting the 24/7 worldwide anti-addiction/anti-abuse broadcasts on the radio frequency of 99.7 FM. The broadcasts were accompanied by the most popular format of music to date which is adult contemporary music.

A short time later, the Arizona Association of Broadcasters picked up on KPJM-LP's messages, and on 1/14/2015, instructed ALL radio and television stations to follow KPJM-LP's lead. One Headline said " Broadcasters inspired by PAYSON ARIZONA's new LPFM radio station kicks off national opioids campaign." The meaning of LPFM is a low power, non-profit FM radio station.

On 3/22/2015, the Payson Roundup published a story about KPJM-LP and their mission, which prompted local residents to call our local Payson government, questioning why this problem in our community was being kept secret and what they intended to do about it. This resulted in a public meeting held on 4/22/2015 at the Payson High School Auditorium to discuss this issue of drug abuse for the first time.

Sometime later on about 7/4/2016, Rev. Elton Mellum (the author of "Walking Through Walls." The historically proven to be effective seminar showing drug and alcohol abusers what their problem really is and how to overcome it) heard their mission and decided to join in.

On 9/14/2016, it was reported that Pam and Elton's anti-addiction / anti-abuse messages made it all the way to President Trump, who then announced the world wide opioid epidemic and what he intended to do about it.

On 4/20/2017, 99.7 FM KPJM-LP began re-broadcasting Doctor's House Call, by Doctor Robert Gear of Payson Health and Wellness Center, every Thursday night from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

On 7/20/2017 Tom Mozzetta of Pop Music 100 (the organization that rates the top songs and artist) invited 99.7 FM KPJM-LP to join them to become one of the fifty radio stations of their choosing to participate in the music ratings.

On 10/10/2018, the 5 year anniversary of Pam's recovery from meth and Heroin, Thomas Gabriell (a grandson of Johnny Cash, who himself suffered severe addiction) called the radio station during Pam's weekday "10 'O' Clock Talk" live radio show to congratulate her and to share his story with her on the air. This broadcast was played live on 50 USA Radio stations, and worldwide on the Internet stream.

As of 10/22/2018, after reading the Mission Statement of KPJM-LP, Inc. the Phoenix Suns have been sending basket ball tickets to hand out as a promotion for this Mission, and they have included KPJM-LP, Inc. as a potential recipient of their annual \$25,000.00 financial support charity grant.

On 11/07/2018, Alice Cooper's Classic Rock organization, also dedicated to stopping drug abuse, invited Pamela to tour their youth facility and to discuss working with KPJM-LP, Inc. to create a youth facility here in Payson.

On 12/04/2018, the United Way Foundation also told Pamela that KPJM-LP, Inc. is qualified as potential for their financial support.

People around the country and around the world pick up on the messages of 99.7 FM, KPJM-LP. Constantly, 40 countries listen online. The disappointment is that "The Bridge Mission" of which 99.7 FM KPJM-LP is the voice of, has received almost no financial support from Payson, Arizona or from Gila County. Perhaps that is because until recently, it was always thought that 99.7 FM KPJM-LP was just another radio station, until it was recently discovered that they are in fact a charity with a powerful and important mission to reach out in our community to encourage young and old alike to avoid drug and alcohol abuse. And to provide help for those caught in that trap. And then we discovered the rest of their mission called "the bridge" and that list is long.

Other examples of what KPJM-LP, Inc. **“The Bridge”** does are:

- Working with **Toys for Tots**. And brought them to Gila County this year.
- Helping find places and help for homeless children.
- Helping homeless and abused women.
- Providing the seminar **“Walking Through Walls”** to help users, abusers and families understand what the problem is that leads to these behaviors and how to overcome that problem.
- Collecting and distributing school packs with supplies for the economically deprived.
- Recommending and providing historically proven to be effective counseling and consulting for those struggling to find a better life.
- Promote the efforts of other local charities with radio broadcasts.
- Broadcasting messages of inspiration, motivation and hope, hourly on 99.7 FM KPJM-LP broadcasts.
- Direct financial assistance to those who qualify and are in need.
- Broadcasting wellness messages.

And the list goes on and on...

Perhaps it is time for Payson and Gila County citizens to recognize this mission jewel in their midst, and financially support this mission before being embarrassed by the lack of insight and support for this local charity that is really reaching out and touching lives.

In answer to a question we’ve been asked. Yes, you too can help this important mission by going to www.kpjm-fm.com and click on the **“Paypal”** link, or the “donate \$20.00 per month” picture.

Payson is our home and your home, but the need for our messages reaches across the Rim and around the world. You are a part of it now!