

Sandy was an educator by profession (a doctorate in education and a leader of the charter school program), and, after retiring, continued to be an educator by volunteering for BASIC. She was one of our most active, supportive and generous BASIC board members. Sandy served as President for several years (~2012-14). While president, she oversaw the modernization of our Bylaws, wrote our mission statement and helped design our first brochure, led a several-part retreat aimed at defining our strategic goals, and revitalized the scholarship committee. She was the perfect leader always thanking people for their contributions to BASIC...when she was the workhorse!

She created BASIC's first named memorial scholarship: The Williamson Memorial Scholarship, named after both of her sons who predeceased her. Sandy was a big supporter of our Basic scholars using community college to get a relatively inexpensive start in their post-high school education. Honoring her intent, the Board awarded Williamson scholarships to students attending community college who planned to transition to 4-yr programs. They include such success stories as Natalie Spiekerman, Jamie Blakeley and Lorenzo Vilches.

Sandy engaged others in her support of BASIC, even getting her sister Kaye to contribute to Learning Academy. She was always open to adding new ways to help the children of Borrego learn and succeed, and served as an important education resource at the start of Learning Academy.

When she and John decided to sell their home in Rams Hill, Sandy decided to give the contents and artwork to BASIC to sell. We made ~\$20,000 from that generous gift, which has seeded our reserves. Many board members have something in their homes that was acquired from that sale!

Even after Sandy and her husband left Borrego, she was always willing to chat about new ideas for educating Borregans and for fundraising. She never really left BASIC completely.