



**Coconino Coalition for
Children & Youth**
Connect. Inspire. Engage. Act.

2020 Candidate Questionnaire

**CCC&Y is a non-partisan organization and will not endorse candidates. We do support educated, engaged and participatory communities. Thank you to all the candidates for your willingness to serve the community, and especially, by answering this questionnaire, helping voters to become informed.*

The responses from the candidates will be uploaded to our website <https://coconinokids.org/candidates-2020/> as received without edits.

Directions: Please provide **your** response for the questions and information below without referring to another candidate. **Questionnaires that mention another candidate will not be posted.**

Candidate Name: Art Babbott.

Office: **AZ House of Representatives - Legislative District 6.**

The mission of CCC&Y is: Igniting collective action to cultivate, honor & empower resilient, thriving communities.

The vision of CCC&Y is: We envision a holistic community where all children of Coconino County are increasingly free from trauma experience and all have equitable opportunities that build resiliency.

Please describe how your leadership and sphere of influence will impact this mission and vision; paying special attention to issues involving education, child welfare, environmental equity, and criminal justice reform?

Much of CCC&Y's work is focused on bringing capacity, opportunity, healing and empowerment to children, their families and our communities. The Arizona Legislature should be a valued partner in these efforts by promoting educational opportunity, supporting healthy families, and reforming our criminal justice system. Greater resources and support for early childhood education, counseling, and mental health are examples of legislative opportunities consistent with the Coalition's mission and vision. Currently the House of Representatives lacks empathetic voices with experience in strategically targeting resources to confront the social determinants that influence health and educational disparities. I will be a strong voice for interventions to address the foundational causes and conditions of challenges for youth and their families.

If you find yourself faced with issues that are new to you or not fully understood by yourself, how do you plan to be influenced and make informed decisions?

For 15 years in local government I have built respectful and trusted relationships with diverse individuals, families, organizations, and businesses. I listen well, work hard and solve problems. Rigid ideological thinking and behavior is why we are in the dysfunctional hyper-partisan mess we are in right now. Good ideas and smart solutions don't come from just one party or perspective. Sometimes they come from the right, sometimes they come from the left, and sometimes they come from non-partisan organizations like CCC&Y. As an Independent, I will support efforts and initiatives based not on what monied special interests or party ideologies they serve, but on how they address real challenges and create genuine opportunity.

Lastly, is there anything further you would like to share with us?

Our political system is broken. Hyper-partisan politics as usual in Arizona is not serving the interests of our children and families. Huge amounts of money are being spent on this race by political parties and outside interests. I am running as an Independent and don't take dark or corporate PAC money because I don't want to be beholden to anyone other than the communities I serve. If elected, I will continue doing what I have always done -- build trusted and respected relationships and solve problems. If you want politics done differently in Arizona, send someone different to do it.