

# The Synapse!

## Arizona's Terrific Pillows

Hello members! In the season of giving, why not give back to your community by helping inform third through fifth graders about emergency preparedness? Through the American Red Cross, in partnership with Disney, your chapter can get involved with the state service project, the Pillow



Case Project. The Pillow Case Project is typically a 60 minute presentation that is presented by an American Red Cross volunteer. These presentations are shaped to focus around hazards that are important and relevant to your local community. When the presentation is completed the students will receive a pillow cases which they can decorate with important information such as their families meeting ground and their parent's phone numbers in case of an emergency . These pillow cases can be filed with flash lights, water bottles, batteries, canned food, and more. Afterwards the children can tuck these pillow cases away under their beds ready to be taken in the case of an emergency.

Your State Officer team believes that with your help, we can reach our goal of 500 elementary schools. Whether it's becoming a volunteer or assisting with the presentation, discover how your HOSA chapter can get involved by contacting the American Red Cross.

If you are interested in more information on how your chapter can get involved please refer to: <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/school/preparedness-education/the-pillowcase-project>



## The Pillowcase Project

**Learn. Practice. Share.**



## Past State Officer!



**Brett Olson**  
**Region 1 Vice President**  
**2014-2015**

Like any other curious sophomore in high school, Brett Olson was one in search for a club in which he felt he belonged in, one that would allow him to discover his calling and the future health professional that he wanted to become in this world. The club that provided these two aspects and much more, was HOSA: Future Health Professionals. During his first year, Brett became an active member by attending meetings and going to fall and state conferences. While he enjoyed being an active member in the club, he wanted to become something more than one who was attending the meetings. In his junior year, he became his HOSA advisor's teacher's assistant, where he took the time to learn the details of what it meant to be a chapter officer and leader. Entering his senior year, Brett became a candidate for chapter president, to which he was elected. Upon his induction, he led his fellow members to fall and state conference, where his chapter was recognized and awarded the Gold Chapter Level. The excitement and leadership skills he received as a chapter officer, motivated him to want more. With the help of his HOSA advisor, Ms. Gunnerson, he completed the application process and was interviewed and was slated as the Region 1 Vice President. The feeling that he felt when elected was one that meant a great deal to him because he understood the minimal opportunities chapters such as his received in the northern region, in comparison to the larger Phoenix chapters. During his time as Vice President, he learned a multitude of skills such as exceptional speaking, etiquette dining, and acquiring leadership traits that others would look to. The one trait that has become valuable to Brett was the ability to learn to cooperate with others, in the aspect of effectively applying that particular skill when it came to leading large groups.

## Past State Officer!



By the same token, Brett states that “Mrs. Shovlin was the most incredible part of the journey.” He expresses that every crew needs a leader to guide them into the sunset, to which she did plus more.

Now, as Brett has recently finished his term of office, his schooling and health profession goals have been going according to plan. From his experiences working in the obstetrics department of his local hospital, he has found that the hands-on applications and techniques learned are ones that can’t be taught in school. It is evident to him that as nurses, there are certain tasks and procedures that make the job more efficient and easy, but provide the patient with comfort and sincere care. Brett expresses the gratitude he’s felt since working at his local hospital, thanking God every night for the opportunity to make a difference in those he serves.

Brett plans to pursue his nursing degree at Northern Arizona University after this semester. As a result of working in the obstetrics department, he’s chosen to become a registered nurse with a specialization in neonatal care. Likewise, he has found his calling in the field of health care and has decided to enlist into the Air Force, where not only will he be serving our country, but providing care for the premature and newborn infants of the brave men and women who protect our freedom we are so greatly granted.

This past state officer continues to work towards his goals and has indeed discovered his purpose in the health profession he has chosen to pursue, Brett hopes that his work in the medical field will make a difference in those he serves.