Dear Friends,

What a difference a year can make! Last summer, Arizona’s Child Protective Services (CPS) system announced its goal of dramatically reducing their use of shelter care for young children who needed protection. The future role of our Children’s Shelter was unclear at best - for the past 29 years we had been the first stop for many of these young children entering the foster care system.

Over the past year, CPS has achieved much success toward attaining its goal. More services have been put in place to preserve families and avoid removal of children altogether. More young children are being placed directly in family foster homes. And those children placed at our Children’s Shelter are experiencing shorter stays. On the whole, this is good news for children entering Arizona’s child welfare system.

But it has also been good news for Crisis Nursery and the families and children who need our services. Last year we were able to provide shelter and support services for 200 young children placed voluntarily by their parents due to a temporary crisis; children and families who in the past we had to turn away because of lack of space. Our FACES program, through a new partnership with the City of Phoenix and long-term financial commitments from members of our Champions for Children Society, was able to provide transportation, Head Start, wrap-around child care and family support services to an additional 24 preschoolers and their families.

Crisis Nursery’s mission of breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect was indeed furthered through our increased ability over the past year to serve more families and children in our community before tragedies occur and no other good alternatives were left.

453 children and their families took steps to break their own personal cycles of abuse, neglect, homelessness and despair through the services of Crisis Nursery. They and we are deeply appreciative of all of you who made that possible- our volunteers, our employees, our donors and our ambassadors.

As we look forward to our 30th year of service we hope that you will continue to help us provide these children and families with the opportunities they need to experience hope and success.

With warm regards,

Anne Christensen  
President

Marsha Porter  
Executive Director

Crisis Nursery is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.
Moving forward...

In 2006-07, a number of new initiatives will enable Crisis Nursery to serve more children and families:

**With the acquisition of Marcus House**, our shelter capacity has expanded by six to serve 42 children.

**With reconfiguration at FACES**, we have added two more spaces in our toddler classrooms and can now serve 72 children.

**With the addition of Crisis Nursery Resource Families**, we will be able to recruit families to provide temporary, home based care for more children unable to live with their own parents.

**With community partnerships and other support services**, we will serve more children who are at risk for entering the foster care system.

**With the launch of the Crisis Nursery Endowment**, we will ensure that the services and programs of Crisis Nursery will be available for children and families for years to come.
It’s been a busy year at Crisis Nursery - but no matter how busy we get, it all comes back to why we are here: to provide safe havens and caring environments for both children and families to grow and have the opportunities they need to experience success.

Our programs provided 26,601 days of care for 453 children, a 22% increase over last year.

These numbers do not begin to reflect the countless number of times children were taken to school, parents were counseled, children were met with individually, meals were prepared and served, children were bathed and stories read.

**Community volunteers** provided 10,884 hours of their time to directly or indirectly care for our children – valued at $196,347... (PRICELESS).

**The Friends of Crisis Nursery** raised over $479,660 this year alone. Throughout the past 27 years, they have contributed over $10 million in support of our programs.

**What did it take to care for 453 children?**

- 99,179 hours of direct staff time
- 10,884 hours of volunteer time
- 53,565 meals were served at the Shelter and FACES
- 12,191 baths were given to children at the Shelter
- 6,520 loads of clothing, bedding and towels were laundered at the Shelter
- $151,000 worth of donated clothing and supplies including:
  - 39,167 diapers and pull-ups
  - 2,850 pairs of socks
  - 1,617 pairs of underwear
  - 261 pairs of pajamas and
  - 1,289 shirts...
Crisis Nursery’s Children’s Shelter provided emergency shelter to 361 children aged infancy to ten years old.

Our Shelter operated at over 93% capacity — providing 12,284 days of care.

How do children come to our Shelter?

- 200 community placements were made voluntarily by parents due to a temporary crisis or for respite.
- 153 Child Protective Services (CPS) placements were because of abuse or neglect or because they simply had no place to call home.
- 27 children were placed by the Gila River Indian Community for placement of children in their custody.

At the time of admission, children were experiencing crises due to the following:
- Child neglect or abandonment - 62%
- Parental substance and/or alcohol abuse - 44%
- Homelessness - 38%
- Parental medical or psychiatric treatment - 29%
- Domestic Violence - 24%
- Child abuse: physical, sexual and/or emotional - 18%
- Parental incarceration - 17%

Our Shelter population was young with the average being 3 years of age.

67% of the children who lived at our Shelter last year were admitted with one or more siblings.

Shelter staff transported children to 192 medical, behavioral health and dental appointments held outside of our facilities.

For those 330 children who left our Shelter:
- 58% returned to parent (average stay of 16 days).
- 24% went to relatives (average stay of 24 days).
- 8% went to foster or adoptive families (average stay of 80 days).

Consistently, over 50 children (often in sibling groups) are turned away each month because there is simply not enough room.

Healthy Families

Healthy Families Arizona is a home based, voluntary program serving families at risk during pregnancy and after the birth of a baby. A Healthy Families Team of six is housed at Crisis Nursery and supervised by Southwest Human Development.

In an average month, our Healthy Families Team served 78 families and they made 179 home visits. Over 90% of the children served were current in their immunizations by a year -18 month interval when staying with the program.

As of March 2006, 100% of the families served have their children linked to health insurance and have seen a primary health care physician.
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If we missed your name inadvertently we apologize, please call and let us know.