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Nonprofit Profile



CRISIS NURSERY – BREAKING THE CYCLE OF CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

Since 1977, Crisis Nursery has provided a safe haven for more than 20,000 children in Greater Phoenix through child-centered and family-focused programs and services.

Each of their programs supports their mission: to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect by strengthening families and addressing the social, psychological, and developmental needs of each child. Families can turn to them at the beginning of a crisis situation when the opportunity to create lifelong change is greatest.

THE CHILDREN'S SHELTER

The longest-serving shelter in the Valley, the shelter provides a safe haven for children threatened with abuse and neglect and a



lifeline for parents facing emergencies leaving them temporarily unable to care for their children. Last year, Crisis Nursery provided 9,360 days of care and comprehensive services to 300 young children and helped them transition safely home or to new foster or adoptive families.

The Children's Shelter also offers a Day Respite Program to families facing emergency situations. This is a temporary, nonresidential safe haven for children as parents handle crises, such as medical and mental health issues, homelessness, domestic violence and court visits.

Available at all hours of the day, the shelter staff can accept admissions or answer any questions whenever they arise. The shelter welcomes children up to 8 years old for overnight or day stays – these can be planned in advance or on an emergency basis. The length of stay is contingent on the needs of the child and their family.

While in the shelter, each child has access to medical services, social services, education and crisis counseling. Working with the parents and placement agencies, the Crisis Nursery is able to create a discharge plan to ensure the child's safety and reintegration.

FACES OF CRISIS NURSERY (FAMILIES AND CHILDREN EXPERIENCING SUCCESS)

The Crisis Nursery not only provides support to vulnerable families and children, they provide comprehensive early childhood education. FACES Early Childhood Education provides education services to high risk pregnant women and families with children under the age of 3 years old.

The overwhelming poverty, violence and lack of affordable services and transportation create barriers for many families. By helping to remove some of the barriers, Crisis Nursery strives to aid families in

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the pursuit of their goals.

With a year-round, full day center based program at the Virginia G. Piper Child and Family Center, Crisis Nursery serves 48 toddlers (1-2 years old) and 45 preschoolers (3-5 years old) in classroom settings.

With the goal of forming healthy and strong teacher-student relationships, Crisis Nursery maintains a low teacher-child ratio. Between that and small group sizes, the children are given individualized attention. Children receive two meals and two snacks daily to meet their nutritional needs and myriad opportunities to develop the physical, social and emotional skills they will need to succeed in school. Parents are welcome in the classrooms and receive monthly home visits from their child's teacher to build strong home and classroom connections.

Family support specialists pay weekly home-based visits to an additional 36 pregnant women and families with children under the age of 3 years old. During these visits, the specialist introduces activities that promote good parenting skills and healthy childhood development. The program also seeks to connect these families with much needed community resources and services.

The program also hosts bimonthly gatherings for the families to come together and reduce social isolation and develop a stronger sense of community.

FOSTER CARE

While the first goal of Crisis Nursery is to help children return safely to their birth families, the families cannot always maintain a safe environment. In those cases, Crisis Nursery works with the state of Arizona and Gila River Indian Community to find a safe and permanent home for each child.

Foster families through the Crisis Nursery open their hearts and homes to child victims in the custody of Child Protective Services. Last fiscal year, through the efforts of 60 foster families, Crisis Nursery was able to provide 26,574 days of care to the 162 children entrusted to their care.

Crisis Nursery offers training, supervision and ongoing support to foster families – including relatives who are willing to provide a safe home to a child or to siblings.

FAMILY SUPPORT COORDINATION PROGRAM

Collaborating with six other human service agencies, Crisis Nursery works with families with young children facing multiple challenges. Coordinators help parents set goals, navigate systems of care and connect with needed community resources and services. This collaborative began receiving referrals in November 2012 and in its first eight months of operation provided services to 302 families with young children living in Central Phoenix.

Last year, the Crisis Nursery helped over 900 children. With the help of their donors, their foster parents and their many programs, they hope to have an even stronger year in 2014.

CRISIS NURSERY

2334 East Polk Street

Phoenix, AZ 85006

(602) 273-7363

www.crisisnurseryphx.org





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Nonprofit News

► **Ryan Rapp & Underwood** presented **Phoenix Children's Hospital** with a \$5,000 check and an additional \$700 in walk participant donations at the second annual Ignite Hope candlelight walk. Partnering with Sandra Day O'Connor High School's cheer and dance teams, Ryan Rapp & Underwood brought over 40 walkers to participate in the 1.7 mile candlelit walk from Central and Thomas to the hospital.



► **Make-A-Wish® Arizona** has announced a partnership with the **Barrett-Jackson Auction Company**. That partnership will unfold at

the 43rd annual Barrett-Jackson Collector Car Auction. Barrett-Jackson and Bugatti will auction off one of its most exclusive Bugatti events and the first of its kind to be offered for sale in the United States. The money raised will benefit the Arizona-based charity and the approximately 400 wish kids in Arizona that are currently waiting for their one true wish.

► **Talking Stick Resort's** on-site florist, Christine Price and Raul Nunez, one of the property's bakery chefs took home the grand prize for their glam full-length gown in "The Secret Garden" charity event. The event, not only commemorated **Biltmore Fashion Park's** 50th anniversary, but also raised monies for five local charities. Thirty-seven designers participated in the competition, which required that designs be made entirely of organic materials. Proceeds from the event were donated to five local charities including **Phoenix Children's Hospital, American Cancer Society, Fresh Start Women's Foundation, Phoenix Metropolitan Men's Chorus** and **PANDA: People Acting Now Discover Answers**.

► **Grand Canyon University** made its official debut into the Western Athletic Conference men's basketball season on Jan. 2 by donating all proceeds from the game to a local nonprofit



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organization. All ticket and concession sales from the game against Texas Pan-American, which took place at GCU Arena, will benefit **Phoenix Dream Center**. In addition,

GCU matched any donations made to Dream Center on that day.

► **The Arizona Republic**, gave \$3.8 million in 2013 to agencies serving victims of child abuse, domestic violence, the elderly, and programs supporting education and literacy, and arts and culture.

► **Phoenix Children's Hospital** gets its largest donation ever. **The Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation** gave a \$10 million donation that will be "seed money" for something the Phoenix Children's Hospital said the Valley desperately needs. They are using the donation to build a new \$40 million emergency department.

► **Serah Blain** took four weeks off from her job and left her home to live on the streets in order to raise money to keep the **Phoenix MANA House**, a transitional living center for Marines, Army, Navy and Air Force female veterans open in spite of lacking federal funds. Her goal was \$56,310, the equivalent of \$2 for every homeless person in Arizona in 2012. Blain managed to raise nearly \$40,000, including \$10,000 from a single donor.



► The **Phoenix Suns** and **Phoenix Mercury** announced a new multi-year partnership with **Watertree**

Health, a leading provider of free prescription discount cards, with a focus on finding solutions to the rising cost of prescription medicines. As part of the partnership, Watertree Health will distribute their Free Prescription Discount Card to fans in attendance at select Suns and Mercury home games.

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FundRaising Phoenix



3.1.14 - 21st Annual Beach Ball

The Phoenix Children's Hospital is holding the 21st annual Beach Ball benefiting The Ronald A Matricaria Institute of Molecular Medicine. The institute helps unlock genetic codes and develops medicine in real time to help the patients at the Phoenix Children's Hospital.

LOCATION: *The Phoenixian Resort*

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

WEBSITE: [http://](http://phoenixchildrensfoundation.com/events/beach-ball/)

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3. 8.14 - Run To Fight Children's Cancer

Grand Canyon University's Run to Fight Children's Cancer is an annual event that features a 10K run, a 5K run/walk and a quarter-mile Cancer Survivors' Walk. The Run to Fight Children's Cancer is a lively and inspirational event that brings more than 3,000 runners and spectators to the GCU campus, offering hours of family-friendly fun, including jump castles, arts and crafts, music, professional sports team mascots and other entertainment. Proceeds from the upcoming race will benefit Phoenix Children's Hospital and the Children's Cancer Network.

LOCATION: *Grand Canyon University*

TIME: 7:30 a.m.

WEBSITE: <http://www.runtofightcancer.com/>

3. 23.14 - Tri for the Cure AZ 2014

The 8th Annual Tri for the Cure AZ, will benefit Susan G Komen for the Cure. Tri for the Cure AZ has raised over \$250,000 for cancer research and prevention.

LOCATION: *Chandler High School*

TIME: 7:00 a.m.

WEBSITE: <http://triforthecureaz.com/>



INAUGURAL WHITE HAUTE

The Inaugural White Haute by Couture Customs to benefit St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance was held Dec. 14, 2013 in Scottsdale. Nearly 300 of the Valley's movers and shakers attended the event, dressed in their finest white, in support of the oldest food bank in the country.

"When you work in the luxury auto industry, it's really important to remember that there are so many who have fallen on hard times, and they need our help. That's why it's imperative to us that we give back to the community that's given us so much," said Sy Salari, CEO of Couture Customs. "St. Mary's Food Bank is one of the most incredible organizations in our Valley."

Couture Customs wants to thank everyone that jumped on board to help create an evening to remember. Michael Costello, a "Project Runway Allstars" alum, showed his Winter Wonderland Collection. JN Jewels, the Valley's official jeweler of the Phoenix Suns created a grand finale jeweled headpiece worthy of royalty. Local coloratura soprano Anna Vivette mesmerized with her haunting vocal performance, while Josh Vietti, hip-hop violinist from LA, brought the house down.

Guests sipped on libations – courtesy of Belvedere Vodka, Chandon Champagne and Smartwater – and noshed on delectable treats by local favorite Coup Des Tartes. They also had a chance to view one-of-a-kind autos, like the Fisker Couture Customs customized for singer Alicia Keys.

Plans for the 2nd Annual White Haute are already underway. Visit www.couturecustoms.com for more information.

