



RESCUE



FOSTER



ENRICH



THRIVE

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THE PAST YEAR

HAS TRULY BEEN AMAZING AT CRISIS NURSERY

The past year was filled with both bad and good news for vulnerable children and families in Arizona. The bad news was that Arizona's child welfare system was broken. Faced with an exploding number of child abuse reports, a nearly 60% increase in the number of children in our state's foster care system in just the past four years, and the discovery of thousands of alleged child abuse reports that had gone uninvestigated, the system was close to collapse.

The good news is that the public, Governor Brewer and the Arizona Legislature responded. A new Department of Child Safety was created and millions of new state dollars were appropriated to hire new staff and provide services to successfully maintain children in their own homes, expedite family reunification, or achieve permanency for children unable to safely return home. We all must remain vigilant that this newfound commitment continues in the years to come.

The bad news is that the skyrocketing growth in child abuse reports and removals is symptomatic that too many fragile families are in trouble. This year, Arizona ranked 46th¹ in terms of child well-being on a variety of scales. An alarming 24% of Arizona's children live in poverty and nearly half live in low-income families (less than \$47,700 for a family of four). Only 34% of our three- and four-year-olds participate in any kind of preschool program. And child care subsidies and cash assistance programs support far fewer children and families now than they did in 2009.

The good news is that we know what the precursors of child abuse frequently are: poverty, social isolation, maternal depression, substance abuse, and family and neighborhood violence. And we know what array of services work to mitigate these risk factors:

- Comprehensive, nurturing care for children that supports and partners with parents.
- Evidence-based home visiting and early childhood education that build protective factors in both children and parents.

- Assistance in goal-setting and helping parents navigate and connect with needed community resources and services.
- Supportive neighborhoods and communities that value all its children and support fragile families.

This Annual Report's themes are Rescue, Foster, Enrich and Thrive. These are the cornerstones of our programs at Crisis Nursery. Through the numbers, pictures and stories that follow, please join us in celebrating the successes of our children and families. We hope they motivate you to get more involved in the year to come by visiting or volunteering in one of our programs, staying abreast about policies and issues that impact vulnerable families and children, and by becoming an advocate for all of Arizona's children. They truly are all of our futures!

Our heartfelt thanks to our staff, volunteers and donors who together provided the children and families it is our mission to serve with the opportunities they needed to thrive.

With warmest regards,



R. Lee Fraley
R. Lee Fraley
Board President



Marsha Porter
Marsha Porter
Executive Director

For 37 years, Crisis Nursery has provided life-changing opportunities to more than 22,800 at-risk youngsters and their families, fulfilling our mission of "breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect."

We have expanded and evolved our programs to respond to the changing needs of some of the most vulnerable children and families in Greater Phoenix. Our four major programs served 1,874 children with safe, nurturing environments and developmentally appropriate services to help each child reach his or her full potential.

CHILDREN SERVED (AVERAGE AGE: 3 YEARS)

Children's Shelter	299
FACES (Families and Children Experiencing Success) Early Head Start & Preschool	167
Foster Care Program	215
Family Support Coordination	1,193
Total	1,874

FOOD SERVED

Meals	51,260
Snacks	34, 434
Total	85,694

CRISIS NURSERY CHILDREN DEMOGRAPHICS

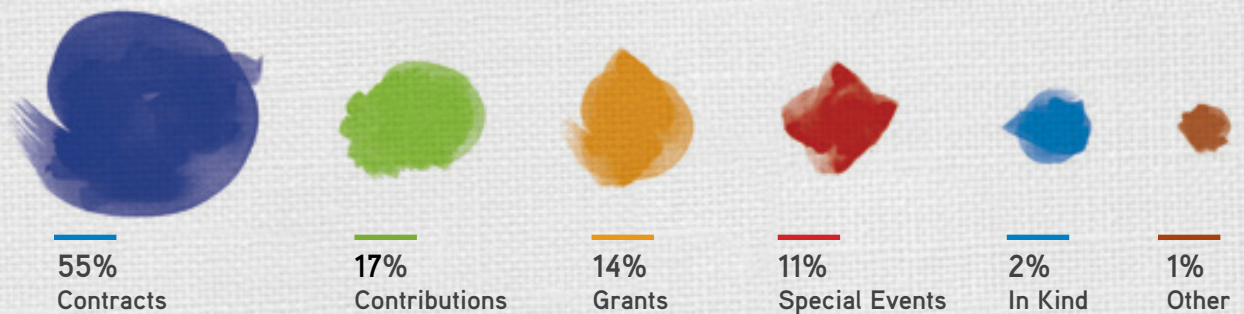
Hispanic	51%
Caucasian	20%
African American	15%
Multi-Ethnic	8%
Native American	6%

AGES OF CRISIS NURSERY CHILDREN

0-5 years old	79%
6-13 years old	21%
Average age:	3

TOTAL REVENUE

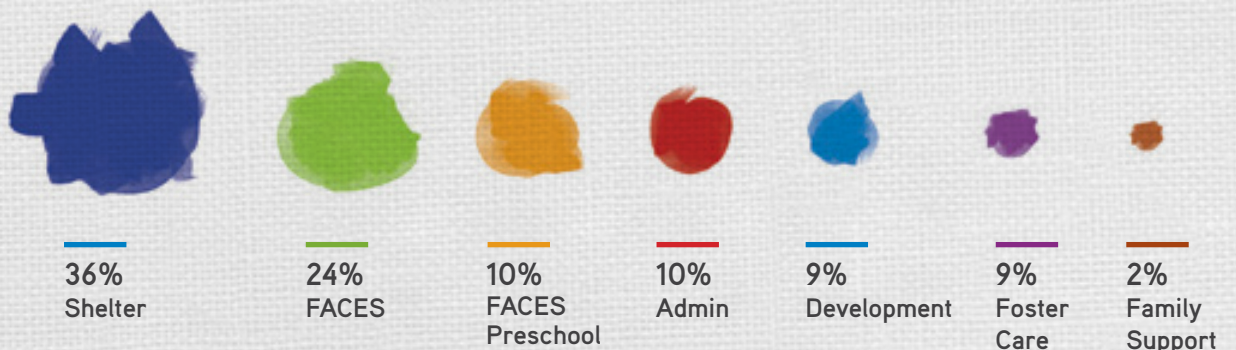
\$6,744,813



TOTAL EXPENSES

\$6,448,961

Audited



Our Children's Emergency Shelter and Emergency Day Respite programs provide comprehensive healthcare, nutrition and nurturing required for children to begin the healing, obtain critical life skills, and learn to be kids again.

Of the 299 children who were in our care last year, 68% were from Phoenix.

Our Foster Care Program recruits, trains and guides foster families to temporarily care for children who are in the DES system.

Our program served 215 children with 81% of them 5 years old and under.

Average number of days in care for a child: 178

Adoptions: 22
(45% – kinship families)

CLASSES TAUGHT

Total Individuals	123
Total Families	84
Families Completing	65
Families Licensed	36

CHILDREN'S SHELTER RESCUE

Shattering the quiet of a hot summer night, a Child Protective Services van pulls up at our Children's Emergency Shelter. Tawny and Lynn aren't crying — they're screaming. At one and two years old, they do NOT want to be held.

Mom has been arrested for child abuse, and in the process they find out she has already had four children severed from her in a different state due child abuse. These children will not be going home.

Tawny has welts on her leg, and is severely underweight (below the fifth percentile of other one-year-olds). Lynn's hair is so matted, it might need to be shaved off. Both are behind on immunizations and Lynn is cussing at everyone who comes near. But because of people like Kim, a Child Development Specialist at Crisis Nursery, Tawny and Lynn will be able to turn their nightmare into a success story.

Says Kim, "My job is very rewarding. I come to work at the Shelter every day because of the children. I know it's not pretty; you see children who are severely neglected in horrible conditions. You see bruises, distress and fear. But I also see, through my experience working at Crisis Nursery, that with care and stability the children can thrive. They change for the better and their behaviors improve . . . I have seen it."

CHILDREN'S SHELTER

CPS Utilization	89%
Community Overnight	7%
GRIC Utilization	2%
Community Day Only	2%
Total Days in Care	9,364

FOSTER CARE PROGRAM FOSTER

Amy has worked with Crisis Nursery throughout her social work career and decided to become a foster parent two years ago when she heard that kids were actually sleeping in CPS offices. Amy immediately went to a foster care orientation and linked up with Crisis Nursery.

Amy's plan was to foster kids who had the goal of returning back home. Her first placement, a six-year-old girl, was able to do just that. Three months into her second placement, Amy was approached by her CPS worker about possible adoption. Amy surprised herself when her immediate answer was yes.

The hardest part for Amy is looking back at the two and a half years her daughter had before she was placed in a shelter. It is hard for Amy to fathom the fact that when her daughter went to court there were no biological parents who fought for the amazing little girl who Amy now adores.

Says Amy, "Crisis Nursery has been the most supportive agency possibly for this journey. Throughout my fostering journey they have helped me navigate any issues or concerns I have. They have been available 24/7, and I thank them for that. Crisis Nursery has forever changed my life; I will always be an advocate for them because I think what they do for me and the community is amazing and extraordinary and they have given me my forever family with Ella."



FACES ENRICH

Just a few years ago, Jessica found herself in a very abusive relationship — emotionally, mentally and physically. Her children were removed from their home and Jessica and her boyfriend lost their apartment after he got her fired from her job. They began the next year homeless, sleeping in parks and doing anything they could for a dollar. One day, while at a resource center for the homeless, Jessica and her boyfriend got into a heated argument. The center referred Jessica to a domestic violence shelter where she stayed for one week. At the end of her stay, her boyfriend showed up, taking her home.

For the next few months, Jessica repeated the process of entering the domestic violence shelter and then returning home to her boyfriend, until finally she had enough. Jessica decided to leave for good, breaking up with her abusive boyfriend and entering the shelter for a long-term stay. By now the state was threatening to sever her rights from her children, and Jessica knew she had to step up and turn her life around. From that moment on she committed to the program and process that would allow her to get her children back.

Jump forward to present day and you see Jessica with a steady job, her own apartment and one of her children back in her custody. But "if it wasn't for Crisis Nursery's support, I don't know where my daughter and I would be at right now," says Jessica.

When she gained custody of her daughter again, Jessica needed to find a reliable daycare that she trusted, that was also affordable. She was referred to FACES and found that "FACES is more than daycare . . . You feel like you belong, like you can trust them with your child and know that your child is going to be safe in their hands." This was especially important because her daughter suffers from some medical conditions that take lots of attention and care.

Staff monitor Jessica's daughter around the clock and work with Jessica if she needs to work late. Jessica's Family Support Specialist even helps her to pursue her goals and talks with her when Jessica is feeling overwhelmed.

"Crisis Nursery has changed my life. It has opened my eyes to a lot more opportunities. It has empowered me. If they can do that with me, they can do that with a lot of other people. I know and I have faith in them."



Our FACES (Families and Children Experiencing Success) early education center received a 5-Star Rating by First Things First, one of only 23 centers in Arizona to earn this distinction. FACES prepares Early Head Start and Preschool children academically, emotionally and socially for success in school, while their parents receive the guidance and support they need to build stronger families through parent education, child advocacy training and connections with community services — assuring stable housing, healthcare and nutrition. FACES provided 16,000 days of care to 167 children last year.

FAMILY SUPPORT COORDINATION THRIVE

Our Family Support Coordination (FSC) program is a collaboration of seven human service agencies in Central Phoenix. The program's Family Support Coordinators visit at-risk families and children and help them connect them with community resources that stabilize their housing, food, health, education and employment. The program provided services to 692 families with 1,193 children.

CHANGE DOESN'T HAPPEN BY ITSELF

We could not continue to provide exceptional care to those who need it most without the support of our major contributors. On behalf of the children and families we serve — thank you!

\$1,000,000+

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Early Head Start

\$100,000+

The Friends of Crisis Nursery
First Things First
Gila River: Indian Community
The Kemper & Ethel Marley Foundation
Arizona Department of Public Safety (VOCA)
The Bob and Renee Parsons Foundation
The Steele Foundation
US Department of Education

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Mary and John Cooper/
The Cooper Family Foundation
Jerry Noble
Valley of the Sun United Way
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HOW TO HELP

FOSTER CARE CHARITABLE TAX CREDIT

Anyone who pays taxes in the state of Arizona, whether you itemize or not, is eligible to claim a tax credit of up to \$800 for couples and \$400 for individuals when donating to Crisis Nursery. This is not just a deduction — it is a tax credit that reduces the amount you owe to the state, dollar for dollar. Donate by December 31 online at give2014.org or mail your contribution to:

CRISIS NURSERY
2334 E. POLK STREET
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85006

LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN

Consider including Crisis Nursery's children and families in your estate plan. With careful planning, you may receive tax benefits and provide a way to fulfill your personal, philanthropic and financial goals. There are many ways you can give:

- A simple bequest
- A simple codicil
- Named beneficiary of an insurance policy, IRA or 401(k)
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Charitable Lead Trust

BE A CRISIS NURSERY GUARDIAN ANGEL

Guardian Angels are individuals who believe in our mission of breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect. These supporters are creating a lasting legacy by leaving an estate plan or naming Crisis Nursery as a beneficiary in their will, living trust or life insurance. It is the commitment, rather than an amount, that qualifies individuals to become members.



VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

Gift your time and talents to Crisis Nursery by becoming a volunteer. Last year, 2,279 volunteers contributed 19,959 hours to Crisis Nursery. The monetary value of their donated time amounts to \$450,075.45*. Join our Volunteer Team to help continue reducing program expenses!

Visit the Crisis Nursery website to find out how.

**According to Independent Sector, http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time*

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE FRIENDS OF CRISIS NURSERY'S ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA

FEBRUARY 21, 2015 The Friends of Crisis Nursery are hosting "Boots and Bling," their annual gala benefitting Crisis Nursery on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at Montelucia Resort & Spa. The reception begins at 6:00 pm, followed by dinner, dancing and a live auction — all for a good cause! The Friends of Crisis Nursery were able to raise \$500,000 through their efforts at last year's gala. Visit Crisis Nursery's website for more details and to purchase tickets to this fun and fabulous event.

K'S FOR KIDS RUN/WALK

APRIL 4, 2015 Join us at Reach 11 Sports Complex on Saturday, April 4, 2015, for a timed 10K and 5K race, as well as a Kids Dash for the eight and under crowd. Other family-friendly activities will be available along with our highly popular benefit raffle. Items up for drawing include Diamondbacks baseball tickets and a pair of running shoes from Road Runner Sports. Last year we were able to raise \$40,000. Visit Crisis Nursery's website for more details and to register for the event.

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