



ourfamilyservices

Newsletter

ourfamilyservices.org | (520) 323-1708 | **Summer 2023**

Pima County Anti-Trafficking Coalition

Our Family Services has partnered with Professor Roe-Sepowitz in forming the Pima County Anti-Trafficking Coalition. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, PhD, is a social scientist focused on developing innovative and impactful research on emerging social issues, especially those affecting women. She is an Associate Professor at the ASU of Social Work and the founder and director of the ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research. She leads numerous initiatives working with community partners including law enforcement, social services, and survivor support organizations in multiple states.

The coalition was created to form partnerships that will respond to the support needs of victims of trafficking in Pima County. Professor Roe-Sepowitz has formed nine other similar groups around Arizona. The coalition invites anyone serving victims of trafficking, city council personnel, child welfare staff, law enforcement, juvenile and adult corrections, probation officers, and court related partners to be involved. By bringing providers that serve victims of human trafficking together in Pima County the coalition aims to bring those new partnerships and agencies into the anti-trafficking field.



The goal is to build an effective coordination of care with enough capacity to serve victims in Pima County. The coalition will consist of discussing a plan to achieve those goals and communicate the services to providers in dire need. The coalition had their first meeting August 29th which was held at Our Family Services.

ASU School of Social Work

**Office of Sex Trafficking
Intervention Research**

ASU School of
Social Work
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Congratulations, Jamie Snyder

We are excited to share that our Chief Executive Officer, Jamie Snyder was appointed to Governor Katie Hobbs Interagency and Community Council on Homelessness and Housing. The council is charged with developing and implementing a plan to address homelessness and will serve as a central policy development and planning resource for the state on the issues of housing insecurity.

Jamie will work with other community leaders to develop effective and sustainable solutions to end homelessness. We look forward to what the council will accomplish!



Jamie's Corner



I am excited to share with you a significant milestone in my vision for Our Family Services and our mission to end homelessness! The Board of Directors has voted to create a 501©(4) advocacy branch of Our Family Services that will: secure government support and resources to address the underlying causes of homelessness and poverty.

This new branch will be called Our Family Advocacy and will leverage the power of political advocacy and policy advising to influence legislative measures that move the needle on expanding affordable housing and supportive services for houseless youth and families.

This next step in our journey builds on our previous advocacy efforts and success in effectively influencing change in our local community. You may recall that Our Family advocated for the "Fight for 15" campaign that sought to ensure all workers have access to a livable wage that can support themselves and their families. In 2021, our community wide efforts were successful, and voters passed the \$15 minim wage increase! This year, we joined the Zero Fares Tucson campaign that sought to keep public transportation free. We supported this initiative to ensure that all of our neighbors can access essential services such as food resources, medical appointments, and employment opportunities. Our efforts were successful, and the city extended free transit fares!

We invite you to join us on this advocacy journey and we will keep you informed of our progress, events, and other opportunities along the way. Together, we can end homelessness and ensure everyone has a safe and affordable place to call home.

Jamie Snyder
Chief Executive Officer

Thank You Phoenix Pride



Phoenix Pride is known as a leader in the metro Phoenix LGBTQ+ community. Their foundation focuses on contributing to non-profit organizations and programs that serve LGBTQ+ individuals. We are grateful to have been selected as one of Phoenix Prides Community Grant recipients! It was an honor to stand along side other wonderful organizations.



Photo from left to right: Sierra Durr, Heather Lopez, and Kaitlyn Dowding.

Back To School Kick-Off

Our Family Service's Culture Squad organized a "Back To School" potluck for our employee's to kick off the school year. Culture Squad is the name of the committee that was formed out of an inclusion, diversity, and equity training with John-Peter. The Culture Squad focuses on making Our Family Services a fair place to work. The Culture Squad had their first Lunch N' Learn where an employee presented about something new for other employee's to learn about.

Having Fun With Geico

Did you know Geico has a Fast Pitch Program designed to give their associates the opportunity to pitch for funds for their favorite charity?

Daniel is currently an associate for Geico. Daniel also use to be an employee for Our Family Services and worked at Reunion House, which is where he got his inspiration to represent Our Family Services at Geico's Fast Pitch Program. Daniel shared a heartfelt story of a youth he worked with at Reunion House.



Geico Fast Pitch Finals

Daniel hit a home run and was able to secure \$6,500 for Our Family Services. Daniel's presentation did a great job at sharing what Our Family Services does for our community. Thank you Daniel for representing us in the Fast Pitch Program.

Geico Cares Fast Pitch Fair

As a follow up Geico welcomed us back for their Fast Pitch Fair. During this event we had Geico volunteer's put together first aid kits for our Street Outreach Team. We appreciate everyone who helped out and took the time to get to know us.



THANK YOU!

A special thanks to the following foundations, clubs, and businesses who donated or held fundraisers for Our Family Services from FY22-23.

100 Teens
Arizona Cardinals Charities Fund
Arizona Community Foundation
Arizona Department of Corrections
Benevity
Big Lots, Inc.
Blue Canoe Marketing
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
Connie Hillman Family Foundation
Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation
EC Group
Eliot Spalding Foundation
Fred and Christine Armstrong Foundation
Grapevine, a DAF of Social Good Fund
Kautz Family Foundation
Knisely Family Foundation
LGBTQ+ Alliance Fund
Long Realty Cares Foundation
National Bank of Arizona



O'Rielly Family Foundation
Phoenix Pride Incorporated
PICOR Charitable Foundation
Pima Dermatology
QuikTrip Corporation
Stone Canyon Community Foundation Fund
Sundt Foundation
The Carl and Mabel E. Shurtz Foundation
The HS Lopez Family Foundation
Tohono O'odham Nation
Tucson Appliance Company, L.L.C.
Tucson Federal Credit Union
Tulsa Community Foundation
Union Pacific Foundation
United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona
Washington Federal Savings
Wells Fargo Foundation
Whole Foods Market
William L. and Ruth T. Pendleton Memorial Fund

Our Family's Senior Leadership

Jamie Snyder, Chief Executive Officer
Alma Lopez, Chief Equity & Human Resources Officer
Colleen McDonald, Chief Program Officer
Joshua Travis, Chief of Staff

Our Family's Board of Directors

Julian Easter, Michael Bush, Cyrus Cameron,
Iliana Perez, Kathryn Field, Mary Ojeda, Larry
Cochran, Kevin Skinner



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Our Family Services publishes this newsletter three times a year. If you no longer wish to receive it, please let us know.

GIVING TUESDAY

Save The Date!

Giving Tuesday is November 28th.

Our Family offers a first step out of homelessness for hundreds of youth each year, providing not just a safe bed but the opportunity to build a community of support and stability. Last year we housed close to 400 youth in FY23.

Can't wait until Giving Tuesday?

Donate today at ourfamilyservices.org and under "Donate". Your gift will go towards our Giving Tuesday.



**CURRENT
IN-KIND NEEDS**

**Cleaning Supplies
Hygiene Supplies
Toilet Paper Baby
Wipes
Gift Cards to:
Target, Wal-Mart,
Walgreens, CVS
Underwear**

**Disinfecting Wipes
Sunscreen
Umbrellas Hats
Fans Sunglasses
Cooling Towels Lip
Balm Water
Deodorants
New Socks**

**For more information or to arrange a drop
off time please email:
info@ourfamilyservices.org**