



Teens in Foster Care

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

How you can help

Child Crisis Arizona's newest foster care programs address the needs of teens & youth

Teenage years are full of difficult lessons. From managing school and a job to learning to make friends, date, or drive. For teens in the foster care system these lessons are also often mixed with feelings of abandonment and learning to trust.



Sewing with Sue: Child Crisis Arizona staff, Sue Sauer, teaches boys in the group home to sew. The boys gain a variety of skills, confidence in their workmanship and cheer each other on as they work.

Facts about teens in foster care

- Teens enter foster care through no fault of their own.
- Only half of teens who age out of the system will be gainfully employed by age 24.*
- Less than 3% of children who have aged out of foster care will earn a college degree.*
- 20% of teens in the foster care system will be homeless at age 18.*
- There are currently more than 4,300 teens in the foster care system in Arizona. (AZ DCS monthly operational report, July 2021)

**Stats from the National Foster Youth Institute*

Shelter/Independent Living for Foster Youth Program

Newest to Child Crisis Arizona's program family, 60 youth ages 16-21 years have an opportunity to live independently while still being a part of the child welfare system. They are provided with apartments to live in, meals and guidance from case managers who act as navigators, helping teens complete high school, pursue post-secondary education and develop work skills.

Destination Diploma Chandler

Teens identified as "youth on their own" through the Chandler Unified School District are provided clothes, hygiene products, tutoring and support to stay in school and successfully graduate.

Teenage group home

Child Crisis Arizona operates a group home for boys ages 11-18 in the foster care system. This homelike setting provides 24/7 care and aims to meet their physical, mental, educational and emotional needs.

Child Crisis Arizona has now expanded foster care services to include children from birth to 21 years old.

Fall Focus: Teens in foster care



Interested in helping provide a home for a teen in need?

We invite you to attend our next virtual Agency Meet & Greet to learn more. Call **602-385-7526** or email Kelsey.williams@childcrisisaz.org for more information. Upcoming dates:

- October 5
- October 19
- November 2
- November 16
- December 7
- December 21

"The best part about working with teens and young adults, is being able to teach them new things and the great things about life; to show them that they were never truly abandoned, and there will always be someone there for them who will step up and show them compassion, love, and guidance."

~ Alexander
Independent Living Residential Advisor

Myths about teens in foster care

MYTH 1 Teenagers don't want to be adopted.

Ultimately everyone wants to feel like they belong. Teens in the foster care system have often faced a lot of challenges but still have hope they can be loved and accepted like any other child.

MYTH 2 Teenagers don't want to learn from me.

Teenagers still have a lot of growing to do. Many teens in the foster care system may not have been taught how to keep a budget, drive a car, ask someone on a date or even properly clean their room. Your guidance during this time is vital to ensuring their success as an adult.

MYTH 3 Teens have too many behavior issues and may be dangerous.

Kids enter the foster care system through no fault of their own. Sometimes this trauma leads to unhealthy survival strategies. Seeing healthy habits from someone they trust can have a surprising impact on a teen.



Did you know our family education classes offer a series of teen and tween topics?

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● One parent shared...

Classes pertaining to these topics and more can be found at childcrisisaz.org/what-we-do/education-and-tools-for-families/classes-workshops/
New schedules are posted quarterly.

"I was interested in taking parenting classes from Child Crisis Arizona but had put it off. Now that classes are offered online, I had no excuse. Classes I've taken covered social media and accessibility to drugs, dangers of Fentanyl, and how to prevent, recognize, and respond to child sexual abuse. While some of the information was frightening to hear, it was empowering to learn steps I can take to protect my children, talk with them about tough subjects, and empower them to use their voices."

Corporate Donor Spotlight

WillScot Mobile Mini

Child Crisis Arizona treasures its corporate partnerships and knows that their support makes a difference to children and families in the community.

"WillScot Mobile Mini has been a proud supporter of Child Crisis Arizona for many years," shared Davida Redmond, Director, Inclusion & Diversity and Community at WillScot Mobile Mini. "Again this year we are proud to partner with them and we are so grateful to be a part of all the great work that they do in our local community for children and families."

This wonderful partnership has included back to school donation drives and facility improvements, culminating this spring as a presenting sponsor for Child Crisis Arizona's 2021 gala.

How you can help impact more children in 2021

- 1 Create more opportunities for children with an IRA Rollover-Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD).**
You can transfer funds from your IRA directly to Child Crisis Arizona. Learn more at [impact.childcrisisaz.org](https://www.impact.childcrisisaz.org)
- 2 Link Child Crisis Arizona to your Amazon Smile & Fry's rewards card accounts.**
This simple change costs you nothing but the donations add up for Child Crisis Arizona.
- 3 Start a Facebook or Instagram fundraiser.**
Ask family and friends to join you in getting involved in increasing awareness of immediate needs.
- 4 Take a tour and invite your friends.**
Find dates for our virtual tours at [childcrisisaz.org/day-in-our-life-tours/](https://www.childcrisisaz.org/day-in-our-life-tours/)

Early Education: 300 children and counting...

This summer Child Crisis Arizona celebrated an expansion of the Early Head Start program in Phoenix. The program will now serve an additional 60 vulnerable children daily through onsite and in-home services, including the preschool-age children living in our Emergency Children's Shelter.

We invite you to join us virtually...

FRI Oct **01** 2021
DAY

9:45 - 10:30 am

brunch for
LOVE

Register and view the program at:
[childcrisisaz.org/brunchforlove2021](https://www.childcrisisaz.org/brunchforlove2021)



Child Crisis Arizona

Safe kids. Strong families.

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FOLLOW US:    

Stronger Together: 2

Opportunities to utilize both of your AZ State Tax credits



You can make an impact on the lives of children, youth and families

1
QFCO

Child Crisis Arizona is a Qualified Foster Care Organization (QFCO). Receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of up to \$500 for an individual or \$1,000 filing jointly. **QFCO code: 10012**

2
QCO

Our affiliate organization, FANS Across America is a Qualified Charitable Organization (QCO). Receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of up to \$400 for an individual or \$800 filing jointly. Donate at **fansacrossamerica.org**. **QCO code: 20430**

Taxpayers can make donations to either or both organizations to the allowable limits.

For more information contact Justin Duran at **480.304.9471** or **justin.duran@childcrisisaz.org**

**Please consult a tax advisor. These tax credits are only available to individuals who file taxes in Arizona.*

CHILD CRISIS ARIZONA OFFICERS:

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