



Child Crisis Arizona  
*Safe kids. Strong families.*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Child Crisis Arizona's Lunch for Love Raises over \$1.2 Million**  
*Annual Fundraising Luncheon Features Stories of Love, Courage & Resiliency*

MESA, ARIZ. (October 31, 2022) - Child Crisis Arizona welcomed 500 guests to its annual Lunch for Love fundraising luncheon on Wednesday, October 26, at the Arizona Biltmore Resort.

"We are pleased to announce that our Lunch for Love fundraising event surpassed our \$1M goal," said Torrie Taj, Child Crisis Arizona CEO. "This event is an integral piece of our fundraising strategy and provides for operations, future growth and sustainability."

Lunch for Love provides an opportunity for Child Crisis Arizona's board members and major donors to invite friends and colleagues to learn more about the organization's mission and vision, and hear stories about the impact the agency's prevention, intervention and education programs have on children, families and the community. The event was sponsored by The Bidstrup Foundation, Concord General Contracting, Desert Diamond Casino, Dignity Health, Ford Motor Company, Kathy & Dann Grubb, General Dynamics, Jaburg Wilk Attorneys at Law, Toyota Financial Services, Papetti Samuels Weiss McKirgan, VIP Mortgage Foundation, UMB Bank, and Wilde Wealth Management Group.

Board Member Karilee Ramaley set the tone for this inspirational afternoon by talking about Child Crisis Arizona's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the vision to grow and expand during the next decade.

"Over the decades, we have expanded programs to intervene during crisis, and implement long-term solutions to prevent child abuse and neglect," said Torrie Taj as she expressed Child Crisis Arizona's commitment to doing more for Arizona's most vulnerable children.

Child Crisis Arizona provided over 70,000 nights of safety to children this past year through its Emergency Children's Placement programs. Linda Manywounds shared her own experience as a child in the agency's emergency shelter. The services provided by Child Crisis Arizona helped her become the woman she is today—a successful entrepreneur and a family of her own. "I am so grateful that at such a critical moment, Child Crisis Arizona was there to serve as a piece of the puzzle in my life story" said Linda.

As Child Crisis Arizona provides its fifth decade of service to our community, the agency is focused on strengthening families, building community and saving children to ensure its vision of "*Safe Kids...Strong Families.*"

**About Child Crisis Arizona:** For 45 years, Child Crisis Arizona (CCA) has served the Valley's vulnerable children and families and is committed to preventing child abuse and neglect through education and intervention. CCA offers emergency shelter and residential for children and youth from birth to 21 and offers foster care and adoption services, early education as well community-wide parenting classes, workshops, support groups and much more. Since 1977, Child Crisis Arizona has positively affected over 80,000 children and families. Our vision is "Safe Kids. Strong Families."

To download event photos please visit:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/njccdepic189c3nbh0bj/h?dl=0&rlkey=ojlvx3jmn19qu5gicafdfy1c>

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