Child Crisis Arizona is so grateful to CoBiz Financial for being selected as beneficiary for two years of Biz Bash.

Since 2001, the CoBiz Financial Biz Bash has distributed millions of dollars to local nonprofit organizations in both Arizona and Colorado. Biz Bash was created to be an engaging, fun and distinctive community event. CoBiz’s goal is for all guests to have an amazing evening while they dine on delicious food and drinks, enjoy a rocking concert and bid in a high-end silent auction.

This year, on September 29 it was held at The Venue Scottsdale, starring Aaron Neville.

“We are so honored to work with members of the CoBiz Financial team,” says Torrie Taj, CEO of Child Crisis Arizona. “This event supported the needs of Arizona’s children. It allows us to continue our mission at Child Crisis Arizona of ensuring the safety of children and strengthening of families.”

“Thank you, CoBiz, for two amazing years as a beneficiary!”

Greg, a single father of three, did not have an easy childhood, experiencing domestic violence and abuse. Greg built walls around himself and pulled away from the world. When he needed help, Greg found Child Crisis Arizona to help him survive parenting and stop the cycle of abuse. “Each class opened more doors and I learned what was in my control and what I had to let go,” says Greg. Greg has felt those walls he built up begin to tumble down. “Our society as a whole needs the information shared in these classes. I thank Child Crisis Arizona and their teachers for their work.”
On Thursday, with nearly 600 guests at the Arizona Biltmore Resort, Child Crisis Arizona hosted its annual board fundraising luncheon. It’s the very same lunch Child Crisis Arizona announced its new name one year ago and since then has served more than 5,500 children and families.

“In our first year as a merged organization we have already experienced the benefits of thoughtful and impactful growth. We are helping children by doubling our Early Education Services and adding service to 112 through Early Head Start children in Mesa. We have also expanded our parenting education program out in the community in an effort to meet struggling families where they are by partnering with Goodwill, Fresh Start and Maricopa County Libraries to name a few,” says Torrie A. Taj, CEO.

Also, Thalia Ambrosia (pictured above), 19, a past shelter resident turned Child Crisis Arizona volunteer, spoke at the event. At 5 years old, the unsteady cycle of neglect and abuse for Thalia and her brothers came to an end when Child Crisis Arizona welcomed them into the Emergency Children’s Shelter. “For the first time in my life I felt like I was wanted, and like I had a home. The employees and volunteers who worked there were not just staff to me, they were my guardian angels. Instead of doing the minimum required to get by, they went above and beyond to make sure I felt not only safe, but happy,” says Thalia.

A special thank you to event sponsors: The Bidstrup Foundation, General Dynamics, Talking Stick Resort, Ford, Bank of Arizona, Jaburg Wilk and Macy’s.

Doug Diehl was introduced to Child Crisis Arizona in 2005, by fellow board member Mary Michel. Since then Doug has served on the finance committee, joined the Board in 2011, and secured his employer, Northern Trust, as a financial sponsor since 2012. Philanthropy is a key component of corporate social responsibility at Northern Trust. In 2015, Northern Trust contributed more than $18 million to charitable organizations around the world. Northern Trust employees reported they volunteered nearly 150,000 hours to local and civic charitable activities in 2015. Diehl, alongside the board and staff, hopes to see more positive strides in our community to break the cycle of abuse and neglect.

“I am motivated by the lives that are changed and the stories Child Crisis Arizona tells. Together, we create an environment of safety and empowerment. The children will go on to great things if given the opportunity,” says Diehl. “The work of Child Crisis Arizona is so important in protecting those that are the most vulnerable in our community. I am proud of the Child Crisis Arizona team, in the stewardship of resources, and in the quality care delivered every day,” continues Diehl.

Thank you, Doug, for your dedication and service!
EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

SUPPORT CHILD CRISIS ARIZONA DURING the HOLIDAYS

Last year, we asked, you answered and we were able to provide a happy holiday to many children and families. Can we make a difference together again this holiday season? You could host a Wish List drive, give a financial gift or have your employer select our agency as your holiday charity of choice.

We have an abundance of toys at holiday time but we need help collecting these items for the children in our care:

- Pajamas
- Clothing gift cards
- Socks and shoes (SIZES BIRTH TO 10)
- (see full Wish List)

If you would like to get involved, we look forward to hearing from you!

lauren.cassidy@childcrisisaz.org

Volunteers make the day-to-day operations of Child Crisis Arizona possible. The volunteers’ hard work and dedication is invaluable to our ability to care for the children.

Recently Child Crisis Arizona hosted a special appreciation event for our volunteers. The volunteers got to experience an evening of magic and illusion with long-time Valley performers Roland Sarlot and Susan Eyed of Carnival of Illusion at Mesa Arts Center. The evening was made possible through a grant from Vantiv. We handed out special awards to several volunteers. We want to take this opportunity to recognize volunteers who were nominated by Child Crisis Arizona staff as outstanding volunteers:

- Magician’s Assistant
- Cathy Fujino
- Magic Wand
- Jackie Forbes
- Abracadabra
- Bob Foley
- Juggler
- Jane Bayhem-Lesselyong
- Illusionist
- Karen Connick

Child Crisis Arizona is excited to announce FREE Friday Family Activity Nights in Mesa!

Strong families grow and learn together, and Child Crisis Arizona is proud to offer creative activities uniting parenting with play.

How do Family Activity Nights help strengthen families?

1. Attachment and Bonding are terms we often hear in relationship to families. Secure attachment is represented by a child showing distress and the caregiver responding appropriately.

2. “Positive” communication promotes bonding and learning while “bad” communication causes conflict and struggle. Bad communication can take place between anyone in a family – parent to parent, parent to child, and child to parent.

3. Positive Learning Environments are crucial to a child’s learning. If children are safe, they are free to explore.

CLICK HERE for the Family Activity Nights schedule.

To register visit childcrisisaz.org or call 480.834.9424.
YOUR 2016 Foster Care Tax Credit CAN HELP

Your opportunity to give has increased!

WISH LIST

- Clothes, shoes, grocery, entertainment, gasoline and oil change gift cards

To donate items, please drop off or mail to 817 N. Country Club Drive, Mesa, AZ 85201.

Check out our...

HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are multiple ways to support Child Crisis Arizona:

- Take a shelter tour
- Volunteer
- Donate

To give a gift, please contact Justin Duran, Development Manager at 480.834.9424 or justin.duran@childcrisisaz.org.

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