LETTER from the CEO

40 years of safe kids and strong families

As Child Crisis Arizona enters its fifth decade of caring for the most vulnerable children in the community, I am keenly aware that we need to continue to be as vigilant in our work today as we have been since opening our doors in 1977.

In an ongoing effort to deliver the best quality services possible, our team has focused diligently on solutions. I am proud to share the results of these efforts to date for 2017.

In the first two months alone, our foster care and adoption team licensed 160 foster families and certified 72 adoptive parents. Most importantly, we had the joy of placing six children in forever families.

Together, with your help, we will continue to move forward as we have for the first 40 years. Your unwavering commitment to our work has made, and will continue to make, all the difference.

Thank you,

Torrie A. Taj, CEO

Child Crisis Arizona
Safe kids. Strong families.

Nationwide has a heart for kids

When it comes to corporate citizenship, Child Crisis Arizona has shared nearly a decade of partnership with our friends at Nationwide and Nationwide Foundation. This January we welcomed Associate Vice President Henry Hoffer to the Child Crisis Arizona board of directors.

Nationwide continued its ongoing sponsorship for the 2017 Downtown Soul Gala and selected Child Crisis Arizona as a recipient of its inaugural basic needs donation. The Nationwide Foundation recently awarded Child Crisis Arizona a $15,000 grant for emergency children’s shelter services. “Being a good corporate citizen is embedded in our culture, which has a very long history of generosity,” said Toby Amir Fox, a Scottsdale-based member of Nationwide’s Corporate Citizenship team. “We support Child Crisis Arizona because it works with kids and families in emergency circumstances and gives them support in their most critical times of need.”

Thank you Nationwide for “being on our side”!
A legacy of giving

When it comes to volunteers, Mary Riley Michel has been a gem for Child Crisis Arizona for more than 20 years. She first learned about Child Crisis Arizona when her employer, Marsh USA, provided pro bono risk management services to the organization. Shortly thereafter, she became a board member, serving on the human resources committee. She remembers one story in particular when the agency sheltered four siblings, keeping them together until the case manager found a foster home where they could live together.

“The work we do is critical and impacts one child at a time, one family at a time,” Mary said. “Often, it takes many years for us to learn how much difference our efforts made for that individual child or family.”

Mary now serves on the board of directors. When asked why she continues her involvement she replied, “I believe strongly that every child should be safe and healthy, and that it is important for the community to protect those who are most vulnerable. To that end, I have made a commitment to ensure there is always a safe haven by making a bequest to the agency. I encourage all of you to consider a gift to Child Crisis Arizona Foundation.”

For more information, contact Jodi.Stoken@childcrisisaz.org

Spring Happenings at Child Crisis Arizona

Programming has been busy delivering a myriad of offerings...

- Children from the emergency shelter enjoyed spring break with field trips that included a trip to Aimee’s Farm Animal Sanctuary where they learned how to braid a horse’s mane.

- Family Resources and Home Visitation coordinated a Spring Resource Fair, bringing dozens of local organizations to share information with the many families served by Child Crisis Arizona.

- Early Education Services opened in Mesa on March 3, enrolling 44 children in center-based Early Head Start and 66 children in home-based services.

- Child Crisis Arizona, in collaboration with eight organizations, coordinated an event highlighting the need to identify, train and license Native American foster and adoptive parents and the importance of keeping Native American children in their community to cultivate and preserve their culture.
With an eye towards the future, we continue to grow our giving society with donors who are vital to Child Crisis Arizona’s ongoing efforts to provide a safety net for children and families.

Giving commitments begin at $1,000 a year for five years. If you would like to learn more, please contact Justin.Duran@childcrisisaz.org.

We take this opportunity to thank the following individuals and businesses who are currently a part of this important initiative.

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- The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation

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- Wildflower Bread Company
- Susan & Larry Wilk
- Mark. R. Young
- Maira Zanrosso

[UPDATED AS OF DEC. 31, 2016]
Long after the last dance ended... the music continues thanks to the generosity of an amazing group of women – the Friends of Child Crisis Arizona – as well as the corporate sponsors and the 475 guests who share their passion to help children. Together they raised $400,000 for the agency’s programmatic needs.

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