To provide Arizona's children a safe environment, free from abuse and neglect, by creating strong and successful families.

**LETTER from the CEO**

**The Legacy Love Builds**

Forty years ago, in 1977, this agency was born out of a commitment to the community to provide a safe harbor for the most vulnerable children. In November, Child Crisis Arizona will honor and recognize forty years of its vision of Safe Kids, Strong Families and the mission set forth by our founders to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect.

In exploring how to honor this milestone the first question we asked ourselves was how do we honor and pay respect to all those who have come before us to build this incredible organization? There are so many to thank – the founders, the funders, the boards of directors, the staff, and of course the community who has made sure all along that this topic is not lost, and those who kept up the fight and kept us afloat when times became difficult.

It is the combination of all of these factors that has become our collective Legacy. Legacy became the word we decided was most important in describing our work. A legacy is defined as “something handed down from a predecessor.” And there it was. Child Crisis Arizona is **The Legacy Love Builds**.

Our work is ongoing, growing and we are determined to continue to build upon the foundation of which was set forth by our predecessors.

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**Thunderbirds Help Child Crisis Arizona Build A New Kitchen!**

Construction is now underway to remodel the kitchen in our Emergency Children’s Shelter. Child Crisis Arizona ensures that the children living in our Emergency Children’s Shelter receive three nutritionally complete meals and two healthy snacks each day. Last year alone we served approximately 44,000 meals and snacks!

Managing that much food preparation has taken a toll on our existing outdated residential-style kitchen. Thankfully, Thunderbirds Charities provided Child Crisis Arizona with a matching grant for a new commercial-style kitchen. This grant, in conjunction with matching funds contributed by Executive Council Charities and The Sunrise Foundation, will help Child Crisis Arizona improve all areas of food preparation, including – receiving, storing, preparing, cooking, serving and clean-up.

We are incredibly excited to have the support of Thunderbirds Charities in the renovation of our Shelter kitchen. With their matching grant, we will be able to continue feeding and nurturing Arizona’s most vulnerable children for years to come.

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Photo courtesy of FrontdoorsNews.com
As a young lawyer Becky Burnham knew she wanted to be actively involved in supporting a charitable cause, she just wasn’t sure which one. That all changed when she was invited by one of the founders of Child Crisis Arizona, Betsy Taylor, to take a tour of their Emergency Children’s Shelter. Becky fell in love with the agency’s work and the children who were in the shelter. She’s been an active supporter of the organization ever since.

Becky joined the board of directors of Child Crisis Arizona in 1982, where she served two terms including time as Board President. Her time with Child Crisis Arizona didn’t end there. Becky joined the volunteer group The Friends of Child Crisis Arizona and today, serves on the Child Crisis Arizona Foundation Board.

Thirty years later, Becky is still just as passionate about the work of Child Crisis Arizona as she was when she took her first tour. “What has kept me involved for so many years is Child Crisis Arizona’s ability to adapt and change based on trends in the child welfare system,” she says, “no matter what, Child Crisis Arizona has continued to answer the call. [They’ve] always been incredibly mindful of resources and have continued to make sure funding goes directly toward programs that kids need.”

Fall Happenings at Child Crisis Arizona

“Celebrate Fall!” & Tailgate with Group Connection

October’s theme will be “Sports Tailgate,” an outdoor experience focusing on gross motor skills with fun, sports related games. Read more about our Home Visitation Program on our website childcrisisaz.org/what-we-do/education-and-tools-for-families/in-home-visitations/.

Te Necesitamos!

If you are bilingual and looking for a way to make a difference in the lives of Arizona’s children, we want to hear from you. We are currently looking for bilingual volunteers to work with the children in our EHS program. To learn more visit childcrisisaz.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer or consider joining us for our next Volunteer Orientation on Thursday, October 19th from 9-10 AM at our administrative offices, located at 817 N. Country Club, Mesa, AZ 85201. For more information about becoming involved as a volunteer with Child Crisis Arizona, visit childcrisisaz.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer.

Family Engineering Night with AZ Science Center

Everyone had fun playing and learning at our Family Engineering Night with the AZ Science Center. At the event children and parents participated in all kinds of engineering related activities, working together to solve puzzles and build their own inventions. A recent grant for STEM activities from Cox Communications will ensure our families enjoy many more Family Activity Nights focused on science and technology.
Child Crisis Arizona has been creating forever families for 40 years.

In November we celebrate National Adoption Month. Many of the families in our program select to finalize on National Adoption Day, Saturday, November 18th, at the State Capitol. With a goal of finding children in the state child welfare system permanency we continue to encourage and invite families to consider both foster care and adoption.

Are you someone who will open their heart and home to a child in need of a family?

Learn more about what this process entails at our next Foster Care & Adoption Orientation. Visit us online at childcrisisaz.org/what-we-do/adoption-foster-care/.

Here are just a few of the most recent forever families created by Child Crisis Arizona. Read their stories and learn more about foster care and adoption on our award winning blog ~ childcrisisaz.org/blog/… to be inspired.

JANUARY
- Brinton Family
- Semmons-Snodgres Family
- Headley Family
- DeRuyter Family
- Reeves Family

FEBRUARY
- Evans Family
- Roberts Family
- Vasquez Family

MARCH
- Cobbs Family
- Wolf Family
- Vanasse Family
- Harris Family
- Purdy Family
- Burton Family

APRIL
- Elam Family
- Newman Family
- Frohardt Family
- Bowers Family
- Gomez Family
- Schoch Family
- Countryman Family
- Shoemaker Family
- Leybeck Family
- Clement Family
- Yazzie Family

MAY
- Schuck Family
- Alfaro Family
- Fauset Family

JUNE
- Madsen Family
- Royalty Family
- Saldana Family
- Steel Family
- Taggart Family
- garduno Family
- Ludwig Family
- Neill Family

JULY
- Schroder Family
- Springfield/Gautheir Family
- Corn/Gomez Family
- Lopez Family
- Wilcoxen-Remington Family
- Adams Family
- Dvorak Family
- Martinez Family

AUGUST
- Yackshaw/Norton Family
- Brink Family
- Leota Family
- Moore Family
- Deshler Family
- States Family
- Bedolla Family
- Magdaleno Family
- Svoboda Family

SEPTEMBER
- White Family
- Nolting Family
- Alverio Family
Together, Child Crisis Arizona and you, our community of supporters play an important role in ensuring all children are safe.

The **qualified charitable foster care tax credit** is one opportunity to share your passion to help Arizona foster children. Arizona law allows you to contribute up to $500 individually and $1,000 jointly to Child Crisis Arizona as a Qualifying Foster Care Organization (QFCO) and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit against your 2017 tax liability.*

*Please consult with a tax adviser. The tax credits are available only to individuals who file taxes in Arizona.

**BUILD A CHARITABLE LEGACY**

The Legacy Love Builds ~ IRA Rollover

Did you know that making an IRA charitable rollover gift can benefit both you and our mission? If you are 70 ½ or older and don’t need your RMD, you can make a gift of up to $100,000 this year from your IRA to help further our mission.

**Making an IRA Gift**
- You will pay no income tax on your gift
- Your donation is the start of your own charitable legacy
- You can use your IRA in the way you want
- Your gift will be used to support Arizona’s most vulnerable children & families

**Taking Your RMD**
- You pay income tax on your distribution
- You may not need or want the money
- Your tax dollars go to Washington
- You are limited by the RMD rules

Contact your IRA administrator to get started or contact Jodi Stoken at jodi.stoken@childcrisisaz.org