

For Immediate Release: March 8, 2016

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**SIXTH ANNUAL WINE, WOMEN & HORSES CHARITY EVENT AT TURF PARADISE
RAISES \$50,000 FOR CHILD CRISIS ARIZONA**

Mesa, AZ --The 6th Annual Turf Paradise charity event Wine, Women & Horses to benefit Child Crisis Arizona held Saturday, March 5 raised \$50,000 for Child Crisis Arizona, who serves the Valley's vulnerable children and families. In its six years, the event has raised a grand total of \$215,000 for Child Crisis Arizona.

More than 400 women gathered at Turf Paradise donning their best derby attire and outrageous hats to support the agency's profound impact on abused children and vulnerable families in the Valley. The event chaired by Serena Simms. "Serena and Turf Paradise have been amazingly generous in hosting this event year after year," says Torrie A. Taj, Child Crisis Arizona CEO.

The day included black, white and red polka dot décor, a raffle and silent auction, a hat contest and of course wine and plenty of horse racing!

Money raised from this event will directly benefit the children and families of Child Crisis Arizona. "The goal of this event is to raise important funding for the agency's emergency children's shelters and to support the more than 21,000 Arizona kids in out-of-home care who need safe and loving homes. We are so grateful for our sponsors, donors and attendees who stepped up to help these children and families who deserve better," remarks Serena Simms.

"The number of children in out-of-home care shows that the services Child Crisis Arizona provides and the generosity of donors like Serena and Turf Paradise is more needed than ever before. The reality is, we need to be here to respond to the crises faced by our most vulnerable children and their families," said Taj. "Our shelters and foster families provide safe, happy structured environments for children to thrive and grow. The positive impact our volunteers and professional staff witness in children who stay with us is heartwarming and validates that we need to exist and continue to grow," continues Taj.

Operating the only emergency shelters for children threatened with abuse and neglect from birth to 11 in the Valley, Child Crisis Arizona provides hope and services to vulnerable children and families. It is also the leading agency in our state to license, train and support foster and adoptive families, and provides early childhood education and resources for families through its early education services, parenting classes, workshops and playgroups.

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