



April 25, 2013
10:00 a.m.

Catholic Charities Community Services
4747 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, 85013

Engaging and mobilizing faith communities to improve the quality of life for vulnerable and impoverished people through a statewide collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

Minutes

I. Welcome, Invocation & Introductions

Chair Dr. Gary Kinnaman welcomed attendees. Brian Steele provided a word of prayer.

(As a reminder, information regarding this Council may be found on the Council's web site, www.GodEnriches.org. This site name was chosen because it is also our State Motto. Meeting archives may be found on the web site at the bottom of the "About Us" page.)

II. Guest Speaker, CEO Brian Steele, Phoenix Dream Center (PDC)

Pastor Brian provided attendees with a brief overview of the PDC and played a moving video to demonstrate the impact PDC is having in the community. PDC's rallying cry is "find a need and fill it, find a hurt and heal it."

He spoke of the "Life Recovery" program that is a Christian-based residential recovery program that helps men and women to overcome life-controlling issues. He next talked about "The Rescue Project" that addresses the specific needs faced by female victims of the growing sexual exploitation industry.

Brian spoke of their recent efforts regarding foster care where they provide furnished suites for young single men and women between the ages of 18 and 21 who have aged out of the Foster Care System.

To tour the PDC (Grand and 33rd Avenues), please contact Brian directly via email at bdsteele@phxdreamcenter.org. You can learn more at www.phxdreamcenter.org.

III. Updates

- a. ArizonaSERVES. ArizonaSERVES partnered with Hope & A Future and Casey Family Programs to premiere the movie "Camp" last Friday in Scottsdale. Approximately 300 faith, government, business, nonprofit and civic leaders attended the premiere and heard from Governor Brewer, Director Carter, Pastor Crist, and the movie Director Jacob Roebuck. The movie highlighted children in foster care and the volunteers who love them. More information is here: www.thecampmovie.com.

To learn more about ArizonaSERVES, please speak with Task Force members who also participate on our Council (Gary Kinnaman, Judith Fritsch, Scott Neuman, Sofia Tobar, Billy Thrall, Jane Wabnik, Chuck Fitzgerald); The next ArizonaSERVES Task Force meeting is Friday, May 17, 2013. It is always open to



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the public. An agenda will be posted on May 15, 2013 at www.ArizonaSERVES.gov on the "Task Force" tab.

- b. HopeFest Phoenix was last Saturday, April 20th at Chase Field. Billy Thrall spoke of the event; 140+ service providers, 100+ churches, 15,000+ attendees, 2,500 volunteers, costs approximately \$250,000. This year's event included a component similar to Project Connect. If you would like more information, please visit www.cityserveaz.com or contact Billy directly at billy.thrall@cityserveaz.com
- c. Children's Heart Gallery. Chuck spoke about this initiative that features children (in Arizona's foster care system) who are in need of a forever family. These children have been designated as available for adoption by our court system. The gallery is available on-line at www.ChildrensHeartGallery.org and will also be available beginning in May 2013 for display around the state.

The official launch is May 17th at Pure Heart Christian Fellowship. Here is the invitation <http://wvhsa.acfbci.org/files/2013/04/Invitation-for-CHG-2013.pdf> or you may contact Chuck for more details.

- d. Arizona Blue Ribbon. An initiative to celebrate Arizona's Foster Families; this is in addition to all of the other events that already exist and is not in competition with them. The idea is to provide a fun activity for these families, free of charge. The inaugural event will be on May 11, 2013 at Chase Field, it will include a game between the Diamondbacks and the Phillies. Sponsors/Donors are needed as it cost \$20 per person for a ticket and food. Please forward this flier <http://arizonablueribbon.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/DONATE.pdf> to your networks; all information is at www.ArizonaBlueRibbon.org
- e. Hunger Conference. "Fighting Hunger Together: The Arizona Food Bank Network Conference" is on Wednesday, May 1, 2013. Registration and details are at <http://www.azfoodbanks.org/index.php/conference>
- f. Member Updates

Traci Gruenberger spoke of Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest's efforts to train up community organizations and members on the issue of Disaster Preparedness. More information is available here: <http://www.lss-sw.org/disaster-services.asp>; to schedule a free workshop in your community contact Fran at (480) 396-3795 or fmheins@lss-sw.org

Joyce Lopez-Powell spoke of Valley of the Sun's financial coach training efforts, and reminded attendees of a great community partner "Stardust Building Supply." Joyce also updated folks about the current Medicaid expansion efforts in Arizona. For more information regarding one of these items, please contact Joyce directly at jlopezpowell@vsuw.org.

IV. New Business



Arizona Council
on Faith-Based and
Community Initiatives
God Enriches

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- a. Chuck Fitzgerald introduced John Frick as a new Community Engagement Director in the Department of Economic Security's Office of Faith and Community. Many Council members have known John for some time now, as he has worked on anti-poverty initiatives world-wide, most notably with Food for the Hungry. John joins Erin Raden (she joined the Office at the beginning of the year) and Chuck as further evidence of Director Carter's commitment to community engagement, and its importance for serving socially and economically challenged Arizonans. Welcome aboard John!!!

V. Closing Remarks and Adjourn

The next Council meeting is Thursday, May 23, 2013 at Catholic Charities, 4747 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chuck Fitzgerald
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