

GREAT THINGS

A newsletter of Child & Family Resources

Winter 2016



Emily Gaylord, DPT, AzEIP Physical Therapist, assists Kasen with balancing and steps to walk towards his mother.

YOU'RE HELPING KIDS WALK

At 16 months, coaxed forward by his father, Kasen, balancing on his own, took four steps. A child's first steps are always magical, but these were particularly sweet for his parents, because they had to work so hard for him to take them.

Born at 26 weeks, Kasen spent six months in the NICU. He was so fragile when he was born his parents couldn't hold him for a full month. A cerebellar stroke was a grim outcome of his undeveloped baby body. Home and recovering from multiple surgeries, Kasen's family enrolled in our Arizona Early Intervention and Prevention (AzEIP) program. Emily Gaylord, DPT, started working with him and his family on the development of physical skills, sitting, balancing, standing, at last, steps!

Kasen is one of many kids who finds help through the programs you support. For parents in Healthy Families, it's support as first-time parents; for child care providers, it's crucial workshops on child development; for young girls in our teen program it's discovering their voices.

Your support makes a difference to all of them. So that a child like Kasen can take his first steps.



CONTINUE SUPPORT

Consider making a donation today! Please see the donation envelope enclosed, call our Development Officers
Tucson Morgan Matchett
at (520) 320-4031
Phoenix Laine Seaton
at (602) 688-5556

ChildFamilyResources.org/donate



Resolutions for a Truly Impactful 2016

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that 2016 is shaping up to be a happy, healthy, and prosperous year for you. Because you are a supporter of children and families, I look forward working with you in 2016 on big issues in Arizona. Join us in a few “resolutions” that will truly make a difference in 2016.

Vote for Education

In 2015 Arizona generated an unexpected \$300 million surplus from tax revenue in our gradually improving economy. While it might be tempting as citizens to cheer for tax breaks—the better, long-term solution to building a healthy Arizona is to invest the surplus in children and education.

Our state legislature began the new session on January 11th, and we will have plenty of upcoming opportunities to urge our legislators to make education a priority. Please stay tuned via our e-newsletter and social media about specific issues and legislation that call for action!

Make Paid-Sick Leave a Reality

Child & Family Resources has been part of a coalition working to bring earned sick leave as a basic benefit to all people working in the city of Tucson. While this might seem like a little thing, in fact over 100,000 Tucsonans do not have any sick leave, paid or unpaid at their jobs! Workers should not have to worry about losing their jobs or discipline because they are sick or need to care for an ill loved one.

Help build the case for paid sick time. If you are a doctor, school nurse, teacher, or anyone witnessing the public health effects of parents not being able to take paid time off, please share your story with the community action team building the case, call at (602) 251-0447 or email Debra Lukac at DebraLukac@cox.net.

Thank you for working with us on such big and important issues for Arizona. Together we can make 2016 great for everyone.

Eric Schindler



STAY IN TOUCH!

Stay up to date with advocacy efforts on our FaceBook page:

Facebook.com/ChildFamilyResources

or subscribe to an RSS feed of our blogs:
ChildFamilyResources.com/news-notes

Be sure to check out Eric's monthly blog, *Corner Office*, at www.ChildfamilyResources.org/news-notes

CHAMPIONS

for CHILDREN & FAMILIES

imagine a future

APRIL 19, 2016 | 11 AM - 1 PM | DOUBLETREE | TUCSON

Call for
NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who is working to make the future brighter and better for children and families in Arizona? Nominate them for a Champions for Children & Families Award! To download the nomination application, visit www.ChildFamilyResources.org/Events



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Don't miss out on one of the biggest events of the year!
Contact Morgan Matchett at (520) 320-4031.

2015 CHAMPIONS for CHILDREN & FAMILIES

PHOENIX



**MARTHA K. ROTHMAN LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Phoenix Mayor
Greg Stanton

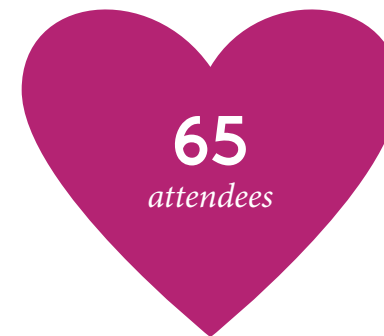
Thank you to all who attended our first Champions for Children & Families event in Phoenix! Held on December 3rd at the University Club, it was a wonderful opportunity to bring together and recognize champions in the Valley who have helped improve the lives of children and families in need.

The special evening was led by TV3 news anchor **Nicole Crites** who served as Master of Ceremonies. **Holly McCutcheon**, a client of our Arizona Early Intervention and Prevention (AzEIP) program, shared her moving story of the journey she and her son, Elijah, had to take to find the support they needed.

We were proud to recognize **Carmella Dodge** with our Giving Heart Award for her passion and commitment to our Maricopa Center for Adolescent Parents as a dedicated volunteer. We were thrilled and honored to recognize **City of Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton** with our Martha K. Rothman Lifetime Achievement Award for his tireless work advocating for children and families over many decades. We look forward celebrating our Valley champions again in 2016!

GIVING HEART AWARD

Carmella Dodge



Efrain tries the tricycle



Lakeshore Learning Materials Donation Leads to an all New Experience

Lydia Medina, MSW
Vice President of Family & Community Services
Child & Family Resources

Recently, **Andrea Dunlap of Lakeshore Learning Materials** donated a tricycle to our Maricopa Center for Adolescent Parents (MCAP). When we received the tricycle, I took it first to the classroom where our young moms were working on their general equivalency studies. Seeing how small it was, they of course loved it and gushed over how cute it was.

I then went to our toddler room to present it to the children and as luck would have it, they were outside on our playground, so it was perfect timing.

I rolled the tricycle out and Efrain, age 2, was coming down the slide. He stopped and stared at the tricycle and, with a very serious face, began walking all around it.

"Try it," I said. "Try it."

Efrain reached out and touched the handlebar but did not get on it.

His 3 year-old sister said, "I will show you!"

She hopped on and rode away returning quickly to give her brother a chance. She encouraged him, too, "Try it!"

So, finally, Efrain got on. We showed him how to push the pedals, but soon enough, he was pedaling on his own. Rosario, another sweet boy of 2 who is only just now developing language was standing nearby watching the goings on and he nervously pulled at his shirt near his tummy and quietly said, "Try it, try it!"

Efrain rode over to Rosario and Rosario got on and slowly began walking the trike around the playground. The two boys had not seen a tricycle before and it was a very exciting experience for them both!

Thank you, Andrea Dunlap and Lakeshore Learning Materials for such a wonderful gift and for supporting our work at Child & Family Resources!

Great Awards

Non-Government Grants Fiscal Year 2015-2016

\$20,000

Connie Hillman Foundation

\$15,000

Helena Harvey Endowment
Ohio Children's Foundation

\$10,000

Anonymous

\$5,000

Arizona Diamondbacks
Phoenix Rotary 100

\$2,500

Tucson Electric Power
Arizona Public Service
Valley Anesthesiology Foundation

\$4,600

Arizona Community Foundation
of Gila Valley

\$1,000

PICOR Charitable Foundation
United Way of Sierra Vista & Cochise County

Honor Gabe Zimmerman: Register for the 2016 Triple Crown!



Gabe Zimmerman, one of the people killed in the tragic shooting on January 8, 2011, was a Child & Family Resources board member and a wonderful advocate for children and families. To honor Gabe, his father Ross, who now serves on our board of directors, and the organizers of Southern Arizona Roadrunners created the Gabe Zimmerman Triple Crown, a series of three run/walk events.

In honor of Gabe's commitment to children and families, Arizona Roadrunners donates \$10 from any registration for the Triple Crown to Child & Family Resources. This year, the community raised over \$8,000! We use the funds here at Child & Family Resources to support the health and wellness programs in our offices.

Let's keep Gabe's spirit alive! Register for the series of three runs/walks now at www.azroadrunners.org.

Ross Zimmerman and Eric Schindler

Why-A-Will Workshops

You do everything you can now to make sure your family is happy and healthy. Planning for the future ensures they will be taken care of no matter what happens. A will helps you voice your values and alleviates your family from the burden of trying to guess your final wishes.

Join us for a free workshop with a top estate planning attorney!

- March 4 / 11 am / Northwest YMCA
- March 8 / 9 am / Easter Seals Blake Foundation
- March 11 / 1 pm / Child & Family Resources
- March 16 / 6 pm / Reid Park Zoo
- March 21 / 10:30 / Junior League
- March 29 / 1:30 / Easter Seals

All workshops are 1 ½ hours • Registration required

To register contact Morgan Matchett
at (520) 320-4031 or MMatchett@cfraz.org

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GREAT THINGS welcomes your story ideas, comments, and any letters you would like to share about our programs. Send correspondence to cfr@cfraz.org.

Partner with teens to prevent pregnancy, school drop-out, drug use and suicide

Coach child care teachers so children excel in school

Help families succeed

Child & Family Resources' mission is to work in homes and communities to:



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