



Arizona
Helping
Hands

PROGRESS IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT CHANGE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SEE HOW YOUR
DONATIONS HELPED

14,000+

ARIZONA CHILDREN IN
FOSTER CARE

**COMMUNITY
COLLABORATION**

SEE HOW MUCH MORE WE
CAN ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER

The mission of Arizona Helping Hands is to provide essential needs for children in foster care through our programs promoting safety, permanency and health.

The vision of Arizona Helping Hands is that every child in foster care is safe and loved.

Dear Friends,

I am thrilled by the growth and upcoming changes at Arizona Helping Hands! We know change is constant and even though it can be overwhelming, it is often for the better. Many say control is an illusion and that the unknown is our greatest obstacle. However, I know firsthand that when a group of like-minded people get together to evoke positive change, we have all that we need to move forward.

When my late husband, Judge Paul Donaldson and I founded Arizona Helping Hands 23 years ago in our garage, with very little money, we never could have imagined what it would be today. Because of you, this is all possible.

We take great pride in the way we serve children in foster care and their families. To see each precious child walk through our front door is enough to make anyone's heart skip a beat. Children with faces marked with confusion, fear, and bewilderment who often come to us from situations of turmoil and chaos. Children who may be so disoriented they can hardly contain their tears. Children who need hope.

At Arizona Helping Hands, we bring hope to children in foster care. We also provide essential items to children in foster care so they can feel safe and healthy. And, we help ease the financial burden for families who welcome additional children into their homes. Without the support of our donors, volunteers, community partners, board members, and staff, we could never accomplish the great work we do. If only my husband could see us now!

From the bottom of my heart, I thank each one of you for continuing to support the goals and mission of Arizona Helping Hands.

Sincerely,



Kathleen R. Donaldson
Kathleen R. Donaldson
Co-Founder

"Arizona Helping Hands is amazing. They gave us safety items for our home when we were working to be licensed, then when we got our first placement, they gave us a crib and clothes, and books and toys. We have 4 wonderful foster kids now, and events like the back-to-school event help out so much! I thought I'd be there to pick up some notebooks and pencils, and I left with so much for all of them! A suitcase, shoes, clothes, jewelry, toys, backpacks, and school items. We feel so blessed! THANK YOU!"

– Karishma, Foster Parent



Programs & Services

Back to School

In the fiscal year 2020/21, we prepared **3,994 children** in foster care for success in school with backpacks and school supplies.

Initially, the Back-to-School Program provided backpacks and school supplies during the back-to-school season. Today, Arizona Helping Hands provides backpacks filled with school supplies, as well as clothing and shoes, year-round to give children in foster care the tools they need to succeed. It is also an opportunity to fit in, have a fresh start, and create confidence that can last a lifetime. Since 2010, Arizona Helping Hands has provided 23,000+ children with the necessary supplies needed to attend school.

Funding for the Back to School Program was provided in part by the Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation.

Basic Needs

In the fiscal year 2020/21, we provided **4,120 children** in foster care with essential items.

In 2013, Arizona Helping Hands learned that many children in foster care did not have a safe place to sleep. We created the Safe Sleep Program to fill the void, providing 44 children with beds and cribs in the first year. In the same year, we were certified as a Qualified Foster Care Charitable Organization (QFCO) receiving tax credit donations. With this support, we expanded the Safe Sleep Program into what is known today as Basic Needs, our largest and signature program. Over the last eight years, we have provided 19,000+ children with twin beds, cribs and more successfully filling the needs of children in foster care.

The Basic Needs Program is made possible in large part due to our community partners, like Living Spaces. Since 2017, they have donated a total of 1,887 beds to Arizona Helping Hands.

Birthday Dreams

In the fiscal year 2020/21, we fulfilled birthday dreams for **2,986 children** in foster care.

For most children, blowing out the candles and opening presents is an annual tradition. But for Arizona's 14,000+ children and teens in foster care, many of whom have moved to different families or reside in a group home, they rarely have their birthdays acknowledged. In 2015, Arizona Helping Hands expanded our programs by introducing Birthday Dreams which celebrates children and helps lift their self-esteem. Each child receives a personalized birthday package filled with toys, games, puzzles, and books. Over the past six years, we have fulfilled birthday dreams for 20,000+ children in foster care.

The Birthday Dreams Program is made possible by our volunteers and through community support from collection drives!

Foster Footlockers

In the fiscal year 2020/21, we supplied **295 children** in foster care with footlockers.

Imagine a child who has already been through so much, living in a new place, it would be natural to be concerned that your prized possessions could disappear. Why should any child have to worry about the security of their favorite pair of shoes, or perhaps, the only photograph they have of their biological family? We started the Foster Footlockers Program to take away that fear. With this simple product, a footlocker accompanied by a lock and key, youth in foster care have one less concern and can rest a bit easier. Over the past four years, we have provided 500+ children in foster care with their very own footlocker.

The Foster Footlocker Program would not be possible without funding from our donors.

Licensing Safety Items (LSI)

In the fiscal year 2020/21, we distributed home safety items to **1,651 foster and kinship families**.

A safe home is the first step. When a family makes the life-changing decision to foster a child, their home must meet Arizona's Life Safety Inspection requirements. Arizona Helping Hands eases the pathway through our Licensing Safety Items Program. To alleviate the financial responsibility associated with assisting a child in need, we provide safety items to families undergoing the licensing process at no cost. Items include smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, first aid kits, safety locks, outlet covers, and fire extinguishers. Since 2016, Arizona Helping Hands has assisted 4,000+ families in becoming licensed foster care or kinship providers.

The Licensing Safety Items Program is made possible through a generous grant provided by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust.

Your donation has a direct impact on families like Karishma's and the children they love and protect in foster care.



\$35

Prepare a child for success in school with a backpack and supplies.



\$200

Provide a safe place to sleep including the bed frame, mattress, mattress protector, pillow, sheets, and blanket.



\$100

Celebrate a child's birthday by providing three new toys and a book.



\$100

Create peace of mind for a child by providing a locked trunk to store personal belongings.



\$150

Ensure a safe home environment with fire extinguishers, first aid kits, and more.



\$65

Brighten the holiday season for a child with a toy package.

Volunteers

424 Volunteers

5,483 Hours

\$156,484.82 Saved

At Arizona Helping Hands, our volunteers are essential to achieving our mission. With over 96% of our workforce coming from our dedicated volunteers, we have succeeded in serving more than 4,000 children in foster care and their families in 2021. Our volunteers work individually and in groups to fulfill birthday and holiday wishes for children of all ages in foster care year-round. Their work also ensures that new foster families have the beds, clothing, school supplies, safety equipment, and hygiene items they need so all children in foster care feel safe, comfortable, and loved.

All of this work totals 5,483 annual hours, 424 total volunteers, and more than \$156,000 saved so that 93 cents of every dollar donated to us goes directly to the children and families we serve. With our volunteers' tireless efforts, we can provide the highest quality service to our families.

"I know I am always making a difference when I volunteer with Arizona Helping Hands."

– Dorothy S., Volunteer Leader

Community Collaboration

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

Children in foster care need families but they also need a community. A community that supports them, raises their self-esteem, and provides resources and services so they can be safe and healthy. Arizona Helping Hands recognizes the importance of community and the role it plays in fulfilling our mission to make a difference for children in foster care. We are proud to partner with many local organizations that share the same passion to serve at-risk and vulnerable youth. This past fiscal year, we shared products with 116 organizations across the state providing them with the resources needed for children. We are also honored to have many partnerships in our community, state, and nation that provide essential items for the children in foster care that we serve. Thank you to all of our partners, old and new, who continue to support us and come together to do so much for children in foster care.



Our Team

Our team is comprised of intelligent, generous, hard-working people who are committed to Bringing Hope to Children in Foster Care. This diverse group of experts draws upon learnings from a variety of industries and backgrounds who come together to execute our mission with compassion and dedication.

Board

Kathy Donaldson
Co-Founder

Jay Spector
Chairman

John Smith
Vice-Chairman

Stacie Shelby
Treasurer

Kim Anderson

Nicole Edgington

Kevin Fox

Dr. Mary-Katherine Harper

Jennifer Kush

Sandra Yang Scirpo

Sarah Vedas

Board Members Emeritus

Gail Coronato

Debbie Frere

Stan Godbehere

Staff

Jodie M. Sprayberry
President & CEO

Robyn Bender
Director of Administration

Lori Calhoun
Marketing & Communications Manager

Jaida Dalton
Service Assistant

Greg Goodrich
Operations & Logistics Manager

Laura Grodsky
Volunteer Specialist

Lisa Herz
Event Coordinator

Don Middleton
Warehouse Assistant

Kristi Perry
Development Manager

Don Pruitt
Senior Warehouse Assistant

Patricia Rice
Data Entry & Client Services Assistant

Alison Schwartz
Administrative Assistant - Development

Kevin Steele
Accounting Manager



Thank You!

On behalf of the 14,000+ children in foster care in the state of Arizona whom we are privileged to serve, we want to express our sincerest gratitude to those who continue to support our organization. Progress is impossible without change. As an organization, we are constantly striving to grow, be better, and learn more. By welcoming new leadership, and the addition of several new team members, Arizona Helping Hands is embracing recent changes and looks to the future for opportunities of growth. Without our donors, volunteers, corporate and community partners, our work would not be possible. Thank you for your most generous, continued, and vital support. We cannot do it without you, and we greatly appreciate your willingness to lend a helping hand.

Sustainability

Arizona Helping Hands is committed to doing our part to protect the environment. In fact, this Annual Report has been printed on recycled paper. Here are some of the ways we practice environmental sustainability:

Backpacks

This year, we selected a new backpack so children in foster care can have a more durable product that can last long-term and promotes environmental sustainability. The exterior fabric of the backpack we chose is made from 100% recycled plastic water bottles and the leather accent on these backpacks are made from apples.

Clothing

Each day, we receive donations of gently used clothing from our community which is provided to children in foster care. By donating gently used clothing, we are keeping our landfills clear and our shelves full.

Recycling

As a warehouse, we receive a large amount of cardboard on a daily basis. All cardboard that is not used for storage is recycled along with any plastic products.

Building

Water is a valuable resource that we often take for granted. By watering the grass at night, much less water is lost to evaporation, allowing us to conserve water while the water stays on the plant for an extended amount of time. Natural lighting is an important tool in attaining sustainability and it is a free renewable resource. By utilizing sunlight through our beautiful windows, we use natural light as much as we can to maximize the benefits of daylight.

Building Expansion

Arizona Helping Hands has experienced tremendous growth since moving into the Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation Foster Family Resource Center in 2018. At this facility, we are positioned to grow and better meet the needs of the children and families. We are accommodating the ever-changing needs of foster families and continuing our collaboration with community partners statewide. As we grow our team and look to the future, we plan to enhance our space and are currently reviewing how to utilize it in the best way possible for our staff, clients, supporters, and volunteers. Stay tuned for exciting details.



Financials

Condensed Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2021 (with comparative totals for the year ended June 30, 2020)

| | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</u> | <u>11,231,973</u> | <u>5,034,481</u> |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Program Services | 8,339,912 | 4,168,498 |
| Supporting Services | | |
| Management & Other | 179,358 | 133,811 |
| Fundraising | <u>190,849</u> | <u>150,824</u> |
| | <u>370,207</u> | <u>284,635</u> |
| <u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u> | <u>8,710,119</u> | <u>4,453,133</u> |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS | 2,521,854 | 581,348 |
| NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR | <u>7,040,331</u> | <u>6,458,983</u> |
| NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR | <u>9,562,185</u> | <u>7,040,331</u> |

Condensed Statement of Financial Position

Year Ended June 30, 2021 (with comparative totals for the year ended June 30, 2020)

| | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>Assets</u> | | |
| Cash | 2,999,282 | 992,990 |
| Inventory | 1,699,436 | 1,155,233 |
| Fixed Assets, Net | 3,258,770 | 3,375,498 |
| Investments | 1,646,752 | 1,626,544 |
| Other | <u>90,760</u> | <u>134,899</u> |
| <u>TOTAL ASSETS</u> | <u>9,695,000</u> | <u>7,285,164</u> |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current Liabilities | 132,815 | 180,221 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | <u>—</u> | <u>64,612</u> |
| | 132,815 | 244,833 |
| Net Assets | <u>9,562,185</u> | <u>7,040,331</u> |
| <u>TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS</u> | <u>9,695,000</u> | <u>7,285,164</u> |



You have the power to make a lasting difference for children in foster care.

Include Arizona Helping Hands in your charitable bequest and estate plan by naming us as a beneficiary to wills, living trusts, IRAs or other life-income gifts. Your legacy gift will bring hope to children in foster care for years to come.

**Contact Jodie M. Sprayberry,
jsprayberry@azhelpinghands.org to learn more.**



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