

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arizona Foundation for Women Donates \$278,500 to 18 Valley Non-Profit Organizations

PHOENIX, AZ – Jodi Liggett, Chief Executive Officer of the **Arizona Foundation for Women** (AFW), a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that invests in and promotes innovative solutions to fulfill the unmet needs of Arizona's women and children, proudly announced today that 18 Valley organizations will receive \$278,500 to carry out the mission of the organization. "We are absolutely thrilled to be able to contribute such a substantial amount in these difficult economic times to help these worthy organizations carry out their important work," said Liggett.

There are a number of separate funds managed by the **Arizona Foundation for Women** that provided the grants this year. The **Deborah G. Carstens Grant Fund** and the **AFW General Grant Fund** support organizations that motivate and empower women and girls to take responsibility for their economic lives by developing skills, building self-esteem and identifying challenges that impede their success. The following organizations were awarded grants:

2011 Deborah G. Carstens Grant Fund Recipients

AZ South Asians for Safe Families	\$7,000	Domestic Violence Awareness for S. Asian Community
Central AZ Shelter Services (CASS)	\$12,000	Dental Assistant Training
Girl Scouts of Southern AZ	\$7,000	Prevention Services for Children of Incarcerated Mothers
Helping Hands for Single Moms	\$15,000	Scholarships for Mother's Attending College
Homeward Bound	\$15,000	Financial Education
Improving Chandler Area Neighborhoods	\$7,000	Youth Empowerment
Maggie's Place	\$15,000	Financial Literacy
National Advocacy & Training Network	\$7,000	Domestic Violence Prevention Programs
A New Leaf	\$15,000	Conflict Resolution Classes for Children of Domestic Violence
Sojourner Center	\$15,000	Legal Advocacy
Teen Life Line	\$10,000	Life Skills for Teens
Wellcare Foundation	\$15,000	Healthcare for Single Mothers

In addition, the **Kids Are Not for Sale in Arizona Grant Fund** was created in response to the fact that the State of Arizona is the second “worst” state in the nation with respect to human trafficking, particularly the sexual trafficking of young girls. Arizona is a source, destination, and transit state for human traffickers, who’s “business” thrives in the cities, rural areas, and along interstate highways in Arizona. This fund supports efforts to end child prostitution in Arizona and help sex trafficking victims, was awarded to six groups that have programs that support this mission.

Kids Are Not for Sale in Arizona Grant Fund

ASU College of Public Programs	\$15,000	Statewide Training in Victim Recognition
ASU ESUBA	\$15,000	Mentorship for Survivors of Sex Trafficking
Girl Scouts, Cactus Pine Counsel	\$15,000	Child Trafficking Awareness Programs
Greater Phoenix Youth at Risk	\$15,000	Grooming Prevention Program
International Rescue Committee	\$15,000	Services to Victims of Trafficking
Planned Parenthood	\$13,500	Staff Training for Identification & Referral of Trafficking Victims

AFW General Grant Fund

The **Arizona Foundation for Women** has made a \$50,000 donation to the Parachute Fund, which is a program run by the Diane Halle Center for Family Justice at Arizona State University to provide critical emergency funds to victims of domestic violence. These funds directly assist in providing food, shelter, medical and legal assistance to women and children in immediate crisis.

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*The **Arizona Foundation for Women** works to enhance the lives of women and children by investing in innovative solutions to society’s most critical challenges. The Foundation addresses three interrelated areas of strategic focus: Safety, Health, and Economic security (SHE). These priorities form the foundation of the SHE Counts!® movement, in which research, funding, convening, and advocacy are all aligned toward common goals. To fund its activities and grant-making, the Foundation hosts the **Sandra Day O’Connor Awards Luncheon** each year. For more information, visit azfoundationforwomen.org.*