

Arizona's Children Association Thrive Mentor Program

For more than 100 years, Arizona's Children Association (AzCA) has stayed true to "Protecting Children, Empowering Youth, Strengthening Families," serving more than 42,000 children, individuals and families in all 15 counties in the state each year. Arizona's Children Association provides a myriad of programs, across every county in the state, each tailored to the needs of the particular child, individual or family. Arizona's Children Association is one of the oldest and largest not-for-profit child welfare and behavioural health agencies in Arizona. We believe that every child deserves a permanent home that is safe and nurturing and we strive toward that goal. All programs are family focused, strength based, culturally sensitive and outcome driven.

Arizona's Children Association's Thrive Mentor Program is a state-wide one-on-one mentoring program which enhances support for foster youth ages 16-19 who are "aging out" of the foster care system.

AzCA is in need of mentors. Thrive trains mentors to be well versed in the needs of young adults who have experienced foster care. A successful match will help mentees achieve reduced rates of homelessness and teen pregnancy, increased rates of graduation, job stability, social skills and healthy adult connections.

www.arizonaschildren.org/thrive

To be an AzCA mentor you must:

1. Be at least 21 years of age
2. Have at least one year experience working with teens
3. Be able to pass a background check and acquire a level one fingerprint clearance card
4. Attend an in-person interview
5. Attend initial and on-going trainings
6. Be able to commit to a two-year relationship with your youth
7. Be available, supportive, compassionate, and consistent with your youth

Arizona Women's Education and Employment

Arizona Women's Education and Employment – AWEE has been *changing lives through the dignity of work* for over 35 years. Since 1981, AWEE has transformed the lives of more than 200,000 women, men, Veterans and young adults across Arizona. AWEE's programs have helped them gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to transition to higher wage employment and move from poverty to a life built on sustained employment and financial self –sufficiency.

One in three Arizona families is considered working poor and over 40% of Phoenix single mother-led households and 18% of men in Arizona are living in poverty . AWEE serves women and men, many of whom are single parents raising their children, and young adults. Participants include domestic violence survivors, Veterans, and victims of chronic poverty, including the underemployed and the unemployed.

Through AWEE's workforce development programs participants obtain skills that provide the foundation for a long-term career path. Our workshops are designed to meet the tailored, comprehensive needs of all participants re-engaging in workforce opportunities. At AWEE we teach, we coach, we connect.

The AWEE Mentoring Program supports participants in achieving their goals of obtaining employment, supporting their family and regaining their economic independence. Providing someone with the opportunity to earn dignity through work is giving them the power to change their life and the lives of those they love. AWEE trains Mentors in successful mentoring best-practices and provides support for both Mentor and Mentee. AWEE's Mentors offer Mentees valuable advice, experience, skill development, communication skills, new perspectives, networking and career advancement through goal setting and other proven techniques. AWEE's mentoring staff works with the Mentor and Mentee to create a successful partnership. The staff also provides ongoing support to both Mentor and Mentee for one year to assist in fostering a professional relationship and provide community resources.

AWEE's goal is to provide a Mentor –Mentee relationship for every AWEE participant via group facilitation and one-on-one partnerships. We are currently recruiting volunteers from all professional fields to become AWEE Mentors and be instrumental in the lives of those who are committed to personal and financial independence. AWEE participants often have barriers to employment including necessary workforce skills, transportation, financial literacy and basic needs.

For more information on Arizona Women's Education and Employment – AWEE visit www.awee.org. For information on the AWEE Mentoring Program, call direct at 602-223-4333.

AWEE provides an employment based gender specific mentoring program that focuses on assisting participants in overcoming barriers to move into sustained and stable employment. AWEE staff delivers support to the Mentor - Mentee relationship by

providing workforce development workshops and individual guidance. Mentors are provided with industry best practice training to enhance their skill sets and understanding of their role. AWEE's community connections provide resources for overcoming challenges or barriers for the participant to achieve employment goals. Mentees come to AWEE from diverse backgrounds and situations. They may have long term work history and education or they may be re-entering the workforce from incarceration, as dislocated workers, a returning Veteran or someone who is homeless. Mentee needs vary and are assessed on an individual basis.

Be A Leader Foundation

Did you know?

- An estimated 68% of all jobs in Arizona will require a post-secondary education by 2020?
- In Arizona, for every 100 children in ninth grade, 68 will graduate from high school. Only 19 of the original base of 100 students (19%) will enter a 4-year postsecondary program within one year of high school graduation and only 9 will complete their bachelor's degree within six years.

The Be A Leader Foundation (BALF) exist to help improve these statistics and provide our students with the opportunity to complete in our ever increasing global society. In 1995, the founders of BALF created the Roosevelt Community Technology Center (RCTC) in South Phoenix to provide the community with free access to technology and the Internet. It was then that the founders began to mentor young students who would frequent the center and soon realized the need to instill in them a college-going mentality.

The mission of the Be Leader Foundation is to increase the number of college-going students by inspiring and empowering elementary and high school students to become college bound, focused and prepared through leadership training and mentoring. Our ***theory of change*** rests on the belief that providing youth with guidance, mentorship, resources and empowerment enhances their chances of pursuing a college education. We know that year-round structured programming that is focused on a well-defined path to college, significantly improves the educational outcomes of our target student population. Our PIPELINE of programs instills a college-going mentality early on in a young person's life beginning in elementary school, continuing into high school, and into their undergraduate programs including internships and graduate school. The following link will provide a detailed description of each of our college-going programs <http://www.bealeaderfoundation.org/programs/>

The Be A Leader Mentoring program has been designed to provide each individual with the opportunity to choose the level of commitment and time they are realistically able to contribute to a student while juggling their personal and professional lives. Our group-

mentoring model provides our facilitators with the support needed to lead our highly interactive workshops while mentors are able to interact with groups of students in a college-going environment. In our Senior Boot Camp program in particular, Mentors are asked to work one-on-one with high school seniors at workshops and assist them throughout their “college application process.” It is our goal that through one-on-one interaction with our students, mentors will be able to build long lasting relationships and guide our students during a crucial point in their academic lives. Workshops are held once a month at the ASU Mercado in Downtown Phoenix from 11am to 1pm. Over the span of the program, we cover topics ranging from resumes to the college and financial aid application process, which can be overwhelming for students, particularly for students who are first in their families to attend college. Our Senior Boot Camp program (SBC) has been created with these students in mind and with our mentors support we can ensure that every one of our seniors reaches the ultimate goal of attaining a college education.

The Be A Leader Foundation is currently seeking individuals interested in becoming Senior Boot Camp Mentors. Our goal is to recruit a minimum of 40 mentors by July 216. Interested potential mentors will have to complete the online application, background check form and a mentor orientation. The online application can be found at www.bealeaderfoundation.org/sbc-mentor-application

More information regarding the Be A Leader Foundation can be found at www.bealeaderfoundation.org

We are absolutely convinced that every student regardless of their socio-economic status, if given the proper college-going resources and mentoring has the ability to obtain a college degree. We can't possibly assume our students are receiving the attention and guidance they need to navigate the college-going process when “In Arizona, the student to counselor ratio is 861:1, a lot higher than the national recommendation of 250:1 (American School Counselor Association 2013). Our students are attending schools where critical educational resources are consistently being cut leaving them in a less competitive environment. A majority of our high school students attend schools where on average 25% of students don't graduate on time and for those who do only 40% end up enrolling in a 2 or 4 year postsecondary institution upon graduation. Even more concerning is that of those who end up at these institutions only 25% will graduate with a degree or certificate within six years (*2015 Thriving Together Baseline Report*). Often times we see students that have all the academic skills and behaviors in place but are lacking “college knowledge”. A student can hold a 4.0 grade point average student but if he/she does not know the ins and outs of the college application process including financial aid, they will often times fall through the cracks. The complexity of the financial aid system and the lack of information often result in thousands of students, who otherwise would have qualified for financial aid, to not complete the necessary forms and steps to receive such aid.

We can set out to achieve our mission of increasing the number of college-going students in our state without the support of our mentors to help make the dream of a post-secondary education a reality for every student!

Big Brothers Big Sisters

For more than 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 6 through 18, in communities across the country. We develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

Being a Big Brother or Big Sister is one of the most enjoyable things you'll ever do. Not to mention, one of the most fulfilling volunteer experiences in Phoenix, AZ. You have the opportunity to help shape a child's future for the better by empowering them to achieve. And the best part is, it's actually a lot of fun. You and your Little can share the kinds of activities you already like to do.

Play sports together. Go on a hike. Read books. Eat a pizza with extra anchovies. Or just give some advice and inspiration. Whatever it is you enjoy, odds are you'll enjoy them even more with your Little and you'll be making a life-changing impact.

www.bbbsaz.org

Florence Crittenton's Mentoring Program

Florence Crittenton of Arizona is a non-profit 501C(3) organization that has served Arizona's girls and their families for well more than a century. Today we offer a comprehensive continuum of care designed to help at-risk girls from 10 to 21 overcome issues of abuse, neglect, teen pregnancy, teen parenting, and behavioral and/or mental health problems.

We also deliver charter education for students in grades 9 - 12 as well as community-based services for youth and families. Our Girls Leadership Academy of Arizona, community-based services and other programs extend our innovative programming to serve a greater number of girls and young women in our community. Most important, Florence Crittenton creates safe environments where girls and young women can discover the support of a caring community and the possibility of a bright new future.

WINGS (Women Involved in Nurturing Girls' Self-Esteem) is a mentoring program made available to Florence Crittenton's residential and community-based clients ages 10-17. Throughout a mentor's six-month commitment, she role models positive behaviors, acts as a support system and exposes her mentee to new opportunities.

Florence Crittenton is actively seeking female mentors over the age of 21. Due to contract regulations, mentors are asked to provide a Level 1 Fingerprint Clearance Card, annual TB test and CPR/ 1st Aid certification. If interested, please contact Ashley Faye at afaye@flocrit.org.

www.flocrit.org/volunteer

Future for KIDS

Future for KIDS mission is to provide mentor driven out-of-school time programs and camps that focus on academics, athletics, and ethics to improve the lives of youth who face adversity. Our vision is that all children have the resources for a bright future. Founded in 1991, former Arizona Cardinal Rodney Smith wanted to provide at-risk youth with the opportunity to participate in organized sports camps surrounded by positive role models. Twenty five years later, we execute 3 large scale sports camps per year, a 26 week youth mentoring program, and a week-long summer camp focusing on positive life choices and responsibility.

Our youth mentoring program, 'Discover Your Future', is our *signature positive youth program* geared towards youth in grades 3-6. We partner caring adult mentors with youth in a 1:4 ratio for 26 weeks to help guide youth through ethics discussions, academic and literacy assistance, and athletics. In the Fall of 2016, we will begin our 'LEAD' program designed to continue mentoring and guiding youth in grades 7-8 - focusing on leadership skills, strengthening youth's confidence and resiliency.

We are always recruiting caring individuals who want to make a deeper connection with the youth in our community by providing a safe, comfortable environment for them to learn and grow. Our volunteer mentors must be at least 16 years of age and have the ability to dedicate 2 hours, once a week, for 26 weeks to our program.

For more information, please visit our website: <http://futureforkids.org/ways-to-make-an-impact/>

MentorKids

MentorKids USA is a Christian ministry that recruits, trains and supports mentors who empower youth facing tough life challenges to reach their God given potential and become transformative members of their families and communities in the name of Jesus Christ

"MentorKids has focused efforts in two neighborhoods located in south Phoenix near 32nd St. and Broadway and North Phoenix near 32nd St. and Greenway. Volunteers serve as mentors, tutors, and activity leaders as they engage young people and transform lives."

<http://mentorkidsusa.org/for-mentors/become-a-mentor/>

www.facebook.com/mentorkidsusa

New Pathways for Youth

Since 1989, New Pathways for Youth has positively impacted the lives of more than 5,500 at-risk youth, with dramatic and demonstrable success. In its first year, New Pathways provided mentoring services to 40 youth from the Greater Phoenix area. Today, there are over 500 youth served annually. Throughout its history, New Pathways has developed programming that transforms the lives of at-risk youth through the power of mentoring.

New Pathways serves youth whose needs go far beyond simple assistance, companionship, confidence building, and minor academic or career guidance. For our youth, environmental circumstances (poverty, gangs, substance abuse, violence, etc.) have resulted in problematic and disruptive attitudes and behaviors. Therefore, we employ a kind of mentoring that requires very different considerations such as time commitment, mentor skill sets and training needs, mentor recruitment, and match support strategies. Our Transformative Mentoring elements include: 1-1 mentoring matches; structured life skill and personal development workshops for mentors and youth; enrichment and service learning projects to support match bonding and emotional connection; and ongoing mentor training and match support.

New Pathways for Youth is always looking for dedicated adults to join our community of inspiring and inspired individuals! Each year New Pathways matches 150 new youth with volunteer adult mentors. The most important attributes for prospective mentors is an open heart and a willingness to transform a young person's life. Mentors complete a concentrated mentor training, imparting to them the skills to provide youth with acceptance, belonging and the opportunity to envision and create a better future.

The first step to transforming the life of a youth is to attend a Mentor Introduction Session. Introduction sessions are held on Tuesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. and on the

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at 1001 East Pierce Street, Phoenix. Please email info@npfy.org to register, or check out our website at npfy.org.

Our prevention and intervention methods create a culture of healing and resiliency where youth have the opportunity to achieve their greatest potential. By building positive relationships through mentoring, New Pathways for Youth designs supportive environments that teach new possibilities and the essential skills to achieve life goals.

<http://www.npfy.org/get-involved/mentor>

Omega Youth Leadership Academy (OYLA)

An award winning 9 month comprehensive youth development program designed to effectively **empower** and **educate** males of color 5-12TH grades on how to face and overcome social and community challenges through bi-monthly workshops and educational enrichment activities. The program serves as the core male empowerment initiative of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Phoenix metro Phi Iota graduate chapter.

A community based organization since 1996, we have helped 100's of youth pursue and attain various forms of higher education. Our annual flagship activities are: West Coast College Excursion college tours trip to USC, UCLA, Long Beach State, project based mentee designed Living Above the Influence Conference for Youth, Parent Action Network Cohort, various group service-learning projects, and our annual Youth Recognition Luncheon

MISSION

To inspire and educate males of color grades 5 - 12 to realize and attain their **academic goals** and **personal potential**. This takes place through culturally competent leadership and academic workshops, service-learning, and educational enrichment activities such as national college tours.

GOALS FOR EACH MENTEE

- Increase social & interpersonal skills
- Increase self, cultural, & community awareness
- Increase high school graduation rate
- Increase higher education & career exploration *attainment*
- Increase health and wellness life style

Mentees: Our program is open to males 5th-12th grade that are interested.

Mentors- We are always looking for professionals to share their careers pathways through presentations to youth. We are also open to mentors offering our OYLA mentees educational trips to business or sponsoring educational enrichments activities such as sporting events, movies, or museums.

www.oyla-usa.org

Project Alpha

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation began collaboratively implementing Project Alpha in 1980. Project Alpha consists of a series of workshops and informational sessions conducted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity brothers and is designed to provide education, motivation and skill-building on issues of responsibility and relationships for young males ages 12-17 years old.

Project Alpha Curriculum & Activities:

- Conflict Resolution
- Decision Making & Problem Solving
- Self-Worth & Peer Pressure
- Community Service
- Public Speaking
- Politics & Voting

Join Project Alpha every second Saturday of the month from 10am-12pm at the Salvation Army KROC CENTER.

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