You made 2016 a banner year—because of you, our Champions for Children & Families events in Tucson and Phoenix exceeded all expectations! As donors and supporters of our mission, you pulled through spectacularly. You nominated more people to win awards than ever before. You invited friends and family to join in the Champions celebration, amplifying the message of our mission. You donated more than ever before to support children and families in Arizona.

Children and families in our community can reach their full potential because of the time, talent, and treasure you provided in 2016. By attending Champions for Children & Families you helped a family gain the support they needed to become the best parents they can be. You helped a teen attend a program that empowered him to make the right decisions for his future. You were a critical part of a childcare professional advancing her career and the quality of care for our children. During the award ceremonies, we may highlight specific individuals and groups for their work, but we know that every day you are a true champion!

Visit pages 4-6 to see photos, highlights and more of our Champions for Children & Families event!
Looking back on 2016, there are many great things to celebrate. We could showcase the programming we provide to families, the work we do in homes, empowering and educating parents to nurture positive growth in their children, and helping build the foundation families need to be healthy and thrive. Or, talk about the 2,200 trainings we offer statewide each year to childcare professionals, and how we are part of the toolkit early childhood educators use to make a lasting positive impression on all aspects of a child’s development.

We could wrap up by talking about our community-based programming working with youth, providing life skills so teens make safe healthy choices about risky options like sex, drugs, and alcohol and how our influence will help a teen make a decision today preparing them for tomorrow.

We do all of those great things, every day, but we also do so much more than that! One of the biggest things to celebrate from 2016 was an update of our mission statement—over the course of several months, our Board of Directors, with input from many staff, took time to consider the true impact of our efforts and craft a message that reflects the true depth of our work in homes and communities.

Looking at the cumulative power of all of our programs, and unifying each, is a very fundamental mission: At Child & Family Resources we build strong communities where children can reach their full potential. We do this by using effective prevention and education strategies with families, teens, and early educators.

...and continuing our passion

Your support of our mission in 2016 was astounding! As we start a new year, many of us sense with uneasiness that things will be very different. This new world could significantly impact CFR’s funding and programs. It’s not hard to imagine that investment in our types of programming could be drastically reduced and it’s the children, our next generation, who will suffer the most. Focused on making the biggest impact we can in 2017, we know that with your help we can still make a meaningful difference in our local communities, regardless of the decisions being made at the state and federal levels.

This makes our mission and your support more important than ever! The strength of our communities is intricately tied to the well-being of our children and families, and ensuring that every child has what they need to reach their full potential creates a vibrant future for us all. We look forward to partnering with you again in 2017! We may face many challenges nationally but we trust in you—our local community to make the difference in Arizona.

Eric Schindler
Congratulations to our 2016 Award Winners

**— Tucson —**

**Martha K. Rothman Lifetime Achievement Award**
Barbara LaWall

**Champion for Children & Families Award**
Carol Punske

**Gabe Zimmerman Emerging Champion Award**
Ana Chavez

**Giving Heart Award**
Greater Tucson Leadership Class of 2016

**— Phoenix —**

**Martha K. Rothman Lifetime Achievement Award**
Nadine Mathis Basha

**Champion for Children & Families Award**
Carol Knight

**Champion for Children & Families Award**
Colleen Walski

**Gabe Zimmerman Emerging Champion Award**
Valley Leadership Class 34

**Giving Heart Award**
Ava Castro

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Big Thanks and Congratulations to our 2016 Champions

**Tucson**

Our 7th annual Champions for Children & Families fundraiser and awards ceremony was a smashing success! We’re so grateful for the sponsors, friends, winners and nominees who joined us in support of our work and to honor this year’s Champions.

We would like to thank Brittany, Kyle, and Kasen Erwin who shared their moving story about their experiences with our AzEIP program. Thank you to our speakers Kristi Tedesco, David Higuera, Emily Nottingham, Ross Zimmerman, and Christina Cuthshaw who helped us share the importance of our mission.

**Phoenix**

Guests mixed and mingled to the sounds of the jazz trio, Jazzola, and learned more about the mission and work of Child & Family Resources during an inspirational program, followed by our Champions for Children & Families awards presentation. Thank you to Desiree Gutierrez, a recent graduate of our Maricopa Center for Adolescent Parents program, (MCAP) who shared her emotional testimonial about how the program helped change her life. Thank you also to our speakers Nicole Crites and Mary Swallow, and to all of our winners, guests, and sponsors who made this year’s event so very special.

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2016 Champions by the Numbers

**Tucson**

$45,644 raised
360 attendees
13 sponsors
17 volunteers

**Phoenix**

$24,126 raised
125 attendees
5 sponsors
8 volunteers

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$45,644 raised
360 attendees
13 sponsors
17 volunteers

$24,126 raised
125 attendees
5 sponsors
8 volunteers

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Guests from the Phoenix and Tucson Champions for Children & Families.

(Photos by Elena Thornton)
We could not pull off such great events without the generous support of our sponsors and in-kind contributors! Your dedication allows a higher percentage of the funds raised to go directly to our programs. Thank you for partnering with us for such a successful 2016!

Thank you for your generous support

Arizona Department of Child Safety
Arizona Department of Economic Security
Arizona Department of Education
Arizona Department of Health Services
Arizona First Things First
AT&T
Bonnie Kay Charitable Fund held at
Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
Child Abuse Prevention License Plate
Donation Grant Program
Citibank
Congregation or Chabad
Connie Hillman Family Foundation

New Arizona legislation extends tax credit deadline to April 15th

Beginning with the 2016 tax year, credit eligible contributions made to a Qualifying Charitable Organization made on or before April 15th may be applied to either the current or the preceding taxable year and is considered to have been made on the last day of that taxable year.

What does that mean? You can still reduce your taxes for 2016 by making a gift to Child & Family Resources on or before April 15, 2017!

You can donate up to $400 (for single filers) or $800 (for joint filers) to qualify for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit. The Arizona Charitable Tax Credit is in addition to, and completely separate from, the Private School Tuition, Public School Activity, and Foster Care tax credits—you may participate in any or all four if you choose.

Donate at www.ChildFamilyResources.org • Learn more about AZ Tax Credits at www.AzCredits.org

*Any Arizona tax credit donations made before April 15, 2017 may be counted for either the 2016 or 2017 tax year. Please consult with a tax adviser. The tax credits are available only to individuals who file taxes in Arizona.
Great Things
A newsletter of Child & Family Resources
Winter 2017

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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.

Rusty has been such a good car.

Let Rusty keep doing good.

Donate your car to Child & Family Resources. Proceeds from the auction will go towards children and families in Arizona.


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