



Celebrating 40 years of service in our community!



Stepping Stones Agencies Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2020

FEBRUARY IS COMMUNITY MONTH

Community is central to Stepping Stones' 40 years serving West Yavapai County, and without an awesome community, we would not be able to provide our 24/7/365 services. Check out TWO vital reasons why we love our community:

1. Community Support from the very beginning

In 1980, American Association of University Women (AAUW) worked hard to help the Stepping Stones shelter (formerly known as Faith House) open and serve adults and children throughout West Yavapai County.

Since then, countless businesses, civic groups, clubs, and churches have helped provide local families with the opportunity to live free

from all forms of victimization. Check out page 3 to see a few of them over the years!

2. Community fellowship uplifts those finding freedom

Some families who come to our program stay with us for a couple weeks, while others are here for months (or even years). When they finish their time here, it is important that they have established a positive community support system. It could be a church fellowship, 12-step program, or other supportive group. Like each of us, it is important to have people around who can walk through the ups and downs of life with you.

Thank you for building a stronger, safer community with us!



Emmanuel Lutheran Church's Day of Service in 2016 helping to sand, stain, and repair our playgroup equipment.

COMMUNITY IS FINDING SUPPORT 24/7/365

Community resources are key for adults and children who come to Stepping Stones' advocacy programs who are working toward freedom from all forms of abuse. Our advocates work

hard to connect them with the community so they are able to find support they need.

Adults who have participated in Stepping Stones programs are

asked to take an anonymous survey upon completion of the program to provide feedback on how they feel their lives have improved since graduating. In 2019, those who participated shared:



98% reported having knowledge of services available.

95% reported they know how to access short- and long-term resources that meet their emotional and safety needs.

95% reported they have an increased understanding of their legal rights.

ADVOCATES AVAILABLE ON OUR 24/7/365 HELPLINE 928.445.4673

POSITIVE IMPACTS ARE MADE WHEN OUR COMMUNITY CHOOSES TO COME TOGETHER!

For 40 years, Stepping Stones Agencies has worked hard to support individuals who are affected by domestic violence. The amount of support we receive from all donors, customers, and volunteers is greatly appreciated. We are fortunate to have individuals in our community volunteer within the entire agency.

The photos below are a few different service minded groups that are made up of members in our community. Those groups (listed

from left to right) are Embry Riddle Aeronautical University student-athletes, Sparklight Advertising, and AARP Arizona volunteers. These amazing volunteers helped sort through donations, rearrange toys, swept and dusted items, as well as helped customers find special treasures on our sales floor. Because of their hard work, they make it much more easier for shoppers to come in and make purchases where 100 percent of the proceeds stay local and support our advocacy services for

all of West Yavapai County. We want to give a HUGE thanks to all of you who chose to give back this year, and we hope that because of their services, it shows that you too can make a positive impact!

We are always looking for happy, humble, and goal oriented people who wish to support the local families we serve 24/7/365. If you or someone you know may be interested, please have them contact our Volunteer Coordinator Jesus at 928.772.4184.



Community volunteer groups listed from left to right: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University student-athletes, Sparklight Advertising, and AARP Arizona volunteers.

COMMUNITY IS NEXT CHAPTER RECOVERY BOOKSTORE



Books, medallions, gifts, and more at Next Chapter Recovery Bookstore!

Supporting the community with Next Chapter Recovery Bookstore means providing a space for 12-step recovery and advocacy services in one space!

At Next Chapter Recovery Bookstore, women and men can meet with an advocate to talk about about any painful unmanageability happening in their life, safety plan, come to a group, or learn more about topics like codependency or family of origin dynamics.

Additionally, Next Chapter Recovery Bookstore also has a variety of 12-step recovery and support groups medallions, books,

gifts, jewelry and more. Whether it is through one-on-one advocacy or joining one of our educational support groups, Next Chapter is available to the community for supportive services.

If you or someone you know is interested in recovery gifts or advocacy services, Next Chapter Recovery Bookstore is open Wed - Sat 9am - 2pm or call and speak with Betty or Audrey at 928.460.4044.

You can also call our 24/7/365 Helpline if you are in need of safety from abuse and need to speak with an advocate.

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A LOOK BACK AT THE BEGINNING: COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

It's amazing how generous, thoughtful, and committed our community is when it comes to making a difference for local families at Stepping Stones. Here's just a FEW snippets from awesome businesses and groups who have helped support our work over the years. Thank you for all you've done!



Lions donate



Courier/Rob Denimore

Members of the Prescott Noon Lions Club presented representatives from eight Prescott-area non-profit organizations with donations recently. The Noon Lions presented a total of \$24,000 to the organizations from the club's newspaper recycling project. From left, Nancy Watson (Prescott Free Clinic), Sandra Skellenger (Meals on Wheels), Ann Somerville (Yavapai Blind Center), Robin Burke (Faith House), Kristice Whaley (Turning Point), Nancy Conner (Arizona Women's Education and Employment), Susan Rheem (Adult Day Care Center), Steve Nannestad (Prescott People Who Care), Joan Drydek (Arizona Women's Education and Employment) and Prescott Noon Lions Club past president Jerry Sherwood.



Clockwise from the top: Prescott Noon Lions Club, Prescott Walmart store, Lonesome Valley Quilters Guild, local Soroptimist International club painting shelter mural with families, Cliff Rose Ladies donation.



Lonesome Valley Quilters Guild President Ruth Clarkson, left, Secretary Debbie Atkinson, Community Quilt Chairman Kim Haugen, Marge Larimer and Vice President Carol Miller present quilts to Vanessa Herring (middle), operations advocate from Stepping Stones, on Monday.

Courier photo/
Rachelle Bump

Quilters guild helps members feed their need to sew, donates final products to local shelter

By RACHELLE BUMP

The Daily Courier

PRESOTT - The colors in the quilts that members of the Lonesome Valley Quilters Guild create are as rich and vibrant as the personalities of those creating them, and the warmth they provide is as warm as the women themselves.

"You wouldn't believe the way people feel when they receive a quilt," said Vice President Carol Miller, and Secretary Debbie Atkinson added, "it's because people know how much time goes into making one."

There are three other quilting guilds in the area, said Kim Haugen, community quilt chairman, which is the reason for the Lonesome Valley Quilters Guild.

"It's now the only evening guild," President Ruth Clarkson said. "There was definitely a need for an evening guild."

A group of people started the club nearly two years ago, and Haugen said the initial intent of the group was to simply get together and learn new techniques and patterns.

"It was about sharing ideas and techniques," Atkinson said, and Marge Larimer added that there are often different speakers there to teach them new things.

The group often makes individual blocks for a quilt of the same pattern, and then they have a drawing to see who wins all the blocks. Next, that person creates a beautiful quilt from everyone's blocks.

The guild, which has nearly 60 members, has smaller groups of about six or eight quilters who get together at someone's home to work together. Miller said there are quilters in the group of all levels, from beginner to advanced.

Now, aside from learning new techniques and patterns for quilting, Haugen said the group also makes quilts for charitable organizations because its purpose has changed a little.

They choose an organization to make quilts for every year, and Haugen said they are giving about 40 quilts this year to Stepping Stones shelter, which is a shelter for abused women and children.

"It's women helping women," she added. Miller said all the ladies in the group feel good about giving their quilts to organizations, and they always enjoy the process of making them.

8/9/04 See QUILTERS, page 3B

Help for Faith House



Courier / Tom Hood

Joel Petersen, manager of Prescott's Wal-Mart Store, stands with items the store has donated to Faith House, a family violence prevention program in Prescott. The store donates toys, art supplies, clothing, books and cash quarterly to the organization. Along with the items, the store also donated \$862. The items are purchased at the store with proceeds of Sam's Cola beverages sold at Wal-Mart. Pictured from left, Petersen, Carol Sage, children's program director for Faith House and Leanne Lenihan, administrative assistant at Faith House.

BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH TAX CREDIT DONATIONS

"I chose to give my tax credit to Stepping Stones because of the work you're doing to help people here. My wife grew up in an abusive home and it's important to us to help kids who are experiencing what she did."

- 2019 donor



Arizona's Qualified Charitable Tax Credit Program gives you a chance to build and support your community by keeping your tax dollars local. You can still make a donation for your 2019 taxes until April 15, 2020 and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit from Arizona! Here's how you can donate:

1. Make a donation to Stepping Stones - up to \$400 if filing single, and up to \$800 if filing married, and we'll send you a receipt!

2. When you file your Arizona state taxes, include form 321 with your donation information and our special organization

code: 20034 (Always check with a tax professional regarding donations).

3. Receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for your donation and keep your tax dollars local! This credit is not the same as a tax deduction and you don't need to itemize to benefit! AND you can do receive this credit along with the Schools Tax Credit and Foster Care Tax Credit.

For questions or making a donation, call Alexis or Brandon at 928.772.4184 or visit our website at:

steppingstonesaz.org./donate

JOIN THE FRY'S FOOD COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Want a simple way to help support families at Stepping Stones? Enroll in the Fry's Community Rewards Program! After you connect Stepping Stones to your VIP card, a portion of your purchases are donated to us! Check out the instructions below and call Alexis with questions at 928-772-4184.

- Go to www.frysfood.com/topic/new-community-rewards-program and click "Enroll Now"
- Log-in to your current Fry's account or register for a new one (requires basic contact information and your current Fry's VIP card number).
- Enter Stepping Stones' Organization Number: HN881, populating STEPPING STONES FOUNDATION, INC. Select it and click "Enroll".
- Use your VIP card each time you shop at Fry's Food Stores to support local families with us!



Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI and VII) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Stepping Stones Agencies prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability. Stepping Stones must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service, or activity. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For example, this means that if necessary, Stepping Stones Agencies must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that Stepping Stones Agencies will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy please contact: Cori Burke at 928.772.4184. Para obtener este documento en otro formato o obtener información adicional sobre esta política, por favor llamar a Cori Burke, 928.772.4184