



Stepping Up

Stepping Stones Agencies Newsletter

APRIL 2025

45 YEARS OF PEOPLE LENDING A HAND

Since 1980, Stepping Stones has been able to provide our 24/7/365 advocacy services because of people who choose to serve. From volunteering to answer the helpline to leading groups in shelter to accepting, sorting, and pricing donations in the thrift store, volunteer service has been at the core of what we do.

We cannot express how grateful we are for the COUNTLESS people in our community who have given their time and talents to help women, men, and children right here in our community. Today, we have over 70 people who come and serve across our agency and ensure that families can get the help they need day or night, no matter what. Thank you for serving with us - we truly couldn't do it without you!

**ADVOCATES AVAILABLE 24/7/365
ON THE HELPLINE: 928-445-4673**

WWW.STEPPINGSTONESAZ.ORG

**2651 N. INDUSTRIAL WAY SUITE A
PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ
928-772-4184**

**STEPPING STONES THRIFT STORE:
928-499-3260
DONATION PICK-UP:
928-759-0225**



Volunteer hanging clothing on racks at the thrift store in Prescott Valley.

NOTE FROM A VOLUNTEER: "YOUR WORK DIRECTLY IMPACTS THE LIVES OF OTHERS"

This note is from a former volunteer who served for over four years before moving out of the area:

"The one thing that struck me when I started volunteering for Stepping Stones, and is still true today, is how nice and caring the people working there are. Not only do they want to help the adults and children dealing with abuse, but they want to leave a lasting impact on the entire community as a whole. In addition, they want their volunteers to succeed and are genuinely excited when you can help.

One of the best parts about volunteering is that you can see how your work directly impacts the lives of others. One of my favorite experiences as a volunteer was preparing Christmas gift baskets for children in the shelter. As a kid, receiving gifts during Christmas was one of my fondest memories. The children in the shelter are in

tough situations and many times cannot celebrate the holidays like I did, so the ability to give back and add joy to their Christmases was truly memorable.

Looking back, Stepping Stones has impacted my life in multiple ways. On a personal level, volunteering made me more connected to my community and more aware of what was going on in my town. I was able to make meaningful connections with people at the organization. Volunteering also helped me develop professional skills that I used during college like time management and communication skills.

What started as a way to volunteer for school turned into one of the best experiences of my life. I am forever thankful for everybody who helped me along the way and hope others consider giving back, too."

- Aaron, former Stepping Stones volunteer

COMMUNITY RESOURCES PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT

Advocates at Stepping Stones provide crisis and ongoing advocacy support for adults and children who come to us. But, we know that there are all kinds of different services and support that families will need outside what our advocates can provide. It's important that adults get the resource connections they need in the community so that they can continue to receive support long after they leave Stepping Stones.

Adults complete an anonymous survey upon exit to provide feedback. From January 1 through December 31, 2024:

100% reported they have increased knowledge of services available to them.

100% reported they have an increased understanding of their legal rights.

100% reported they feel secure with their connections and ability to access ongoing justice advocacy and support.

100% reported they felt confident they would be free from abuse even after leaving Stepping Stones.



SUNDAY POP UP PARKING LOT SALE COMING AGAIN APRIL 6!

STEPPING STONES
THRIFT
YOUR GIVING GIVES BACK!

SUNDAY POP UP PARKING LOT SALE

SUNDAY APRIL 6

10 AM - 2 PM



ALL SALE ITEMS 45¢ each
-OR-

FILL A BOX FOR UP TO \$15!

Sale items are home goods, decor, and kitchenwares!

Please note: no access inside the thrift store. Sale is outside in parking lot only.
WEATHER PERMITTING - sale canceled in case of rain/snow. All sales are final.

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BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Volunteers are a huge part of Stepping Stones! We have a wide variety of volunteers who lend a hand across our agency.

Thrift - The majority of our volunteers help out in our thrift store. From helping in our donation receiving area to sorting donations to filling the shelves, volunteers provide more hands to make sure the busy store stays stocked and ready for shoppers.

Shelter - Volunteering in our shelter requires a much bigger commitment with background checks and many hours of training. But, those who do volunteer in shelter are able to help advocates with paperwork, phones, and help with child care while mom is working with the advocates.

Admin office - In our office, we have awesome volunteers who help juggle all kinds of tasks. Volunteers help with data entry, filing, mailings, special creative projects, creating information packets and binders, and so much more!

If you or your business/group are interested in joining our amazing community of volunteers, contact our Volunteer Coordinator Khrystyna at 928-772-4184 or Khrystyna@steppingstonesaz.org. We can't wait to have you serve with us!



Volunteers at Stepping Stones help with all kinds of tasks in order to ensure our agency can operate 24/7/365! From helping display items at thrift to serving in our shelter, we love our amazing volunteers!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT KEEPS FAMILIES SAFE



Tax season is almost over, but you can still make a donation for the Arizona Qualified Charitable Organization tax credit program. You can **give a donation until April 15, 2025** and still claim it on your 2024 Arizona state tax return. Always check with your tax professional about your specific tax situation. What is a tax credit donation all about? Arizona offers a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on your AZ state return by making a monetary donation to a qualified charitable organization of any amount (**NEW for 2024 - give up to \$470 filing single or \$938 filing joint**). When you claim the credit using Arizona form 321, you will reduce your tax liability or increase the amount you receive in a refund.

Learn more about tax credits: <https://azdor.gov/tax-credits/credits-contributions-qcos-and-qfcos>.
To give, visit www.SteppingStonesAZ.org/Donate.

Please check with your tax professional for info regarding donations for your specific tax situation. You can also learn more about the tax credit by visiting azdor.gov. Stepping Stones' official Qualifying Charitable Tax Credit code from the State of Arizona is: 20034.

STEPPING STONES ADVOCATES AVAILABLE ON OUR 24/7/365 HELPLINE 928.445.4673

STEPPING STONES' BOOK OF THE MONTH: HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

Each month we'll feature a book or item from our 12-step recovery and inspirational bookstore! These items will be available for purchase inside our Administration Office in Prescott Valley located at: 2651 N. Industrial Way, Suite A, Prescott Valley 86314. Open Mon - Thurs 9 am - 4 pm, and Friday by appointment. Call Savannah at 928-772-4184 to learn more.

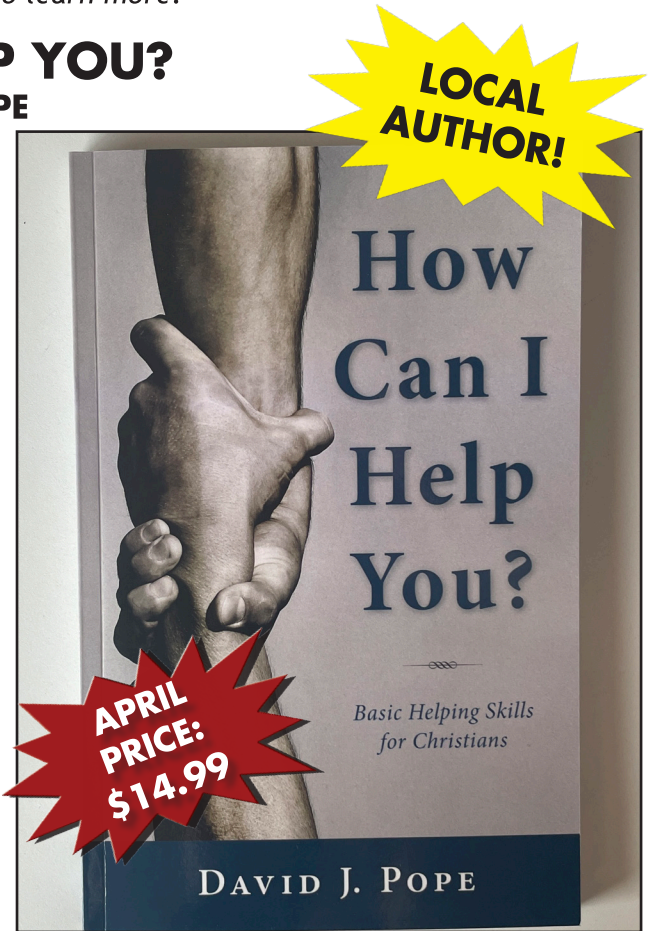
HOW CAN I HELP YOU? BY DAVID J. POPE

"Many of us feel unsure of ourselves, unprepared to meet the needs of others, and unskilled in dealing with challenging issues. Even the most willing helper may often ask, 'what can I do to help this person?'" - pg. 1
If you want to help someone, but you aren't sure how to start, this book could be a great place to start. From a Christian perspective, *How Can I Help?* examines ways you can support people experiencing a variety of different challenges in life.

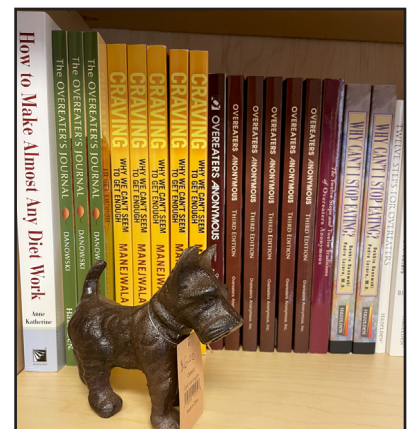
Similar to Stepping Stones' model, the author notes, "Once you do experience healing from your own trauma, you will be uniquely qualified to aid others." - pg. 70. It is important to be in a healthy place yourself when helping others, and it will help ensure that you are able to establish boundaries when providing support.

This book is available for purchase in our 12-Step Recovery Bookstore located inside our office at 2651 N. Industrial Way in Prescott Valley.

Questions? Please contact Savannah at 928-772-4184.



LOOKING FOR OTHER 12-STEP RECOVERY AND SUPPORT GROUP MEDALLIONS, BOOKS, GIFTS, AND MORE? CALL US - 928-772-4184



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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