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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program awards \$40k to Jewish Family & Children's Service**

Phoenix, AZ - Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS) received \$40,000 through the Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program – a partnership between *The Arizona Republic* and the Governor's Office for Children, Youth, & Families.

JFCS is one of 19 agencies funded through the Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program during this year's grant cycle. JFCS is a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization that provides quality behavior health and social services to over 30,000 adults, adolescents, children and seniors in Maricopa County each year. The \$40,000 grant award will assist in funding a prevention and education program of JFCS called Creating Peaceful Families. This prevention program works closely with children, parents, and school faculty to promote effective communication, character building, anger management, and positive family values.

"This is a very important grant for us! Substance abuse prevention, child abuse prevention, and anti-bullying services in schools are in such demand, but resources to provide such important services have been shrinking. We are grateful to have this support which will allow us to serve more than 2,000 children and parents!" said Linda Scott, Vice President for JFCS and overseer of the Creating Peaceful Families program.

More than 30,000 of the blue "It shouldn't hurt to be a child" license plates are on the road today, making it the most popular specialty plate in Arizona. This year, \$633,417 will be distributed, including matching funds from The Arizona Republic Charities and its funding partners: Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, BHHS Legacy Foundation, Arizona Community Foundation and Valley of the Sun United Way.

Of the \$25 license plate purchase price, \$17 plus the match from The Arizona Republic Charities, goes directly to primary prevention efforts. More than \$6.3 million has been distributed to date.

For more information on the Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program, contact Gene D'Adamo, *The Arizona Republic*, at 602-444-8078.

For more information about JFCS programs and services, please visit [www.jfcsaz.org](http://www.jfcsaz.org) or call 602-279-7655.

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