

Connections

Your Donor Newsletter

Who will take care of me?

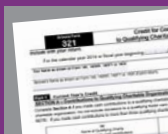
A child is abused or neglected every 47 seconds.

The growing epidemic of child abuse and neglect in this country can have devastating repercussions when children are removed from their homes, and placed in the state's foster care system.

While the majority of states are trending toward a reduction in foster care cases, **Arizona has the greatest increase in the nation of child removals from their home.** *Read more on the next page ■*



■ **Read more...**



Donate to JFCS and take the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit.

■ See inside.



Annual Summer Backpack Drive.

■ See inside.

You can take the CREDIT for healing lives

I was getting into a lot of trouble and kept running away from the group home. Thanks to Real World Job Development, I learned how to deal with my anger, and be a man. They helped me get my GED, and now I'm working full-time at a hardware store. All I can say is, this program did right by me!

—ROBERTO, Real World Job Development



How does **your** donation help?

\$200 pays for

- 4 GED exams for foster care youth
- 2 college application fees for foster care youth
- 3 hours of prevention workshop to reduce school violence

\$400 pays for

- 1 month of shelter for a homeless youth who has aged-out of foster care
- 4 counseling sessions for a child who has experienced trauma and abuse

I have a college degree, and was married to an abusive man who assaulted me and my daughter. About 5 years ago, with the help of Shelter Without Walls, I was able to leave him, find a decent job, and move on with my life. My heart is so full of gratitude that I now make a donation to JFCS every year.

—CINDY, Shelter Without Walls



EVERYONE qualifies for the CREDIT

Every Arizona taxpayer who donates to JFCS qualifies for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit. You do not need to itemize deductions to claim the tax credit. At the time you file your taxes, list JFCS as your charitable organization along with your donation amount on the AZ Tax Form 321.

When I was laid off the job that I had for 40 years, I fell onto hard times. My sister arranged for me to see a Jewish therapist who really understood my situation. JFCS helped me apply for Medicaid, and even gave me money to pay some bills. I didn't know there were these services for older folks like me. Thank you JFCS for all your help!

—DAN, Jewish Community Services



You can be a part of the solution

cover story continued...

Every month, the Arizona Division of Child Safety (DCS) child-abuse hotline receives on average **3,826 reports of child abuse and neglect** that meet the criteria for investigation, and currently, there are nearly **18,000 children in the foster care system**. Nearly 60% of foster care children are under 8 years old. Recently, there has been considerable media coverage regarding the under-staffed and under-funded Arizona child welfare system.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the total lifetime estimated financial costs associated with just one year of confirmed cases of child maltreatment (physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological abuse and neglect) is approximately **\$124 billion nationally**. Child abuse and neglect can occur in families of all income levels, especially when they are facing challenges such as substance abuse, untreated mental health problems, domestic violence—and they lack access to much-needed services and treatment.

"At JFCS we understand the overwhelming demand being placed on DCS, and we are collaborating closely with the state to provide trauma-informed care as well as a wide-range of behavioral health and social services for children in foster care."

- Linda Scott, V.P. of JFCS Child & Family Solutions

Jamie, a 9 year-old boy, was placed in a foster home after suffering abuse from his heroin-addicted parents. Jamie had crippling anxiety attacks along with many behavioral issues related to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). With the help of the JFCS child therapy and integrated healthcare team, the young boy is healing physically and emotionally. He learned basic coping skills, and over time, began to bond with his foster family, improve in school, and even play in a youth soccer team.

**Give to JFCS and receive
a tax CREDIT for your
donation on your state
tax return.**

JFCS is part of the solution of the child welfare crisis in Arizona. In addition to therapy, counseling and behavioral health services, JFCS offers home-based parenting support aimed at family reunification, job readiness training for foster care youth, advocacy and support for victims of domestic violence and their children, as well as other social service programs.

Read more about the AZ Charitable Tax Credit program on the next page ■

Facts about Child Welfare

1 in 5
U.S. children
live in **poverty**

\$124
billion
in societal costs, i.e.
health services & crime

18,000
Arizona children
in **foster care**

1,825
children abused
or neglected
EVERY DAY

Arizona Form
321
Credit for Contributions
to Qualifying Charitable Organizations
Include with your return.
For the calendar year 2014 or fiscal year beginning
Your Name as shown on Form 140, 140NR, 140PY or 140X
Spouse's Name as shown on Form 140, 140NR, 140PY or 140X
Part 1 Current Year's Credit

18,000 children are in
foster care in Arizona
JFCS is part of the **solution**

Donate to JFCS and take the AZ Charitable TAX CREDIT

What does this mean for you?

When you donate to JFCS, **you will receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit** on your Arizona state income tax return. This means that you can SUBTRACT the amount of your donation from the amount of taxes that you owe. It's a simple way to make a difference in the lives of people in need facing serious mental, behavioral and social challenges.

What's the AZ Charitable Tax Credit?

The Arizona Charitable Tax Credit is a tax credit for individuals who have made donations during the tax year to a Qualifying Charitable Organization. **Since 97% of the people we serve are living at or below the poverty level**, JFCS is a Qualifying Charitable Organization for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit.

How much can I give?

We appreciate any amount you can afford to give. Your tax credit is capped at **\$200 for individuals** and **\$400 for those filing jointly**.

How much will I receive?

If you are a single taxpayer, you can receive tax credit up to \$200. Couples filing jointly can receive up to \$400 credit on their Arizona State income tax return. A tax credit is much better than a deduction because **a tax credit is SUBTRACTED directly from the amount of taxes owed**.

How does it work?

Make your donation to JFCS online at **www.jfcsaz.org/CREDIT**; mail a check using the enclosed envelope; or call us at (602)279-7655. **We'll send a receipt.** When you file your taxes, list JFCS as your charitable organization and the dollar amount of your donation **on the AZ Tax Form 321. Every Arizona taxpayer who donates to JFCS qualifies for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit.** You do not need to itemize deductions to claim the tax credit.

Is this a good thing?
Absolutely! You pay less in taxes and you help the most vulnerable people in our community. It doesn't get better than that! You can GIVE and RECEIVE.

Can I receive multiple charitable tax credits?

Yes! You can participate in any or all of the AZ tax credit programs **and receive a separate credit for each donation** you make up to the limit of each tax credit: **The AZ Charitable Tax Credit**, the Public School Tax Credit, the Private School Tuition Tax Credit and the AZ Foster Care Tax Credit.

Need more information?

AZ Charitable Tax Credit:
www.azdor.gov/About/FAQs/CharitableTaxCredit

JFCS Charitable Tax Credit Fund:
(602) 279-7655 or www.jfcsaz.org/taxcredit



Annual Summer Backpack Drive

Thanks to your generous support, **over 600 low-income families and foster care children** received backpacks and school supplies, including gift cards for clothing and personal hygiene items.

A Special Thank You

Congregation Or Tzion, Scottsdale

Chabad of Fountain Hills

Temple Emanuel of Tempe

USScript, Tempe

Greater Phoenix Urban League

Young Professionals

for sending awesome volunteers

Mercy Care Plan/Mercy

Maricopa Integrated Care

for 300 stuffed backpacks

David Machbitz & Family, in honor of his bar

mitzvah *for 144 stuffed backpacks*

National Air Traffic Controllers Association & Dwan

and Aaron Katz of Queen Creek

Susan Sandys and the Sandys family

for donating supplies and stuffing backpacks



DAVID MACHBITZ's Bar Mitzvah project

**Your support
made a difference
in the preparedness
and confidence
of many young lives!**

Do you know an organization or someone who may be interested in helping? The need for school supplies, hygiene items, bus passes and gift cards continues all year round. Contact us: (602) 567-8334, or jessica.green@jfc saz.org

Mark Your Calendar

Now thru December, 2015

JFCS Holiday Program

The only program in the Valley where you can sponsor a family in need for either Chanukah or Christmas. www.jfc saz.org/sponsor

December 1, 2015

Giving Tuesday

A national day of giving after 'Black Friday' and Cyber Monday.

www.jfc saz.org/donate

December 3, 2015

It's A Wrap Holiday Luncheon

Join us for gift wrapping fun in support of our Holiday Program.

Ina Levine Jewish Community Center

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

February 26, 2016

7th Annual Brighter Tomorrow Luncheon

Arizona Biltmore Resort, Phoenix

11:45 am – 1:15 pm

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DECEMBER 2015

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Giving Tuesday

It's A Wrap
Holiday Luncheon

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FEBRUARY 2016

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27	28					

7th Annual Brighter
Tomorrow Luncheon

JFCS Governance Board of Directors

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Noel Williams, Secretary

Sandy Mendez Benson
Vicki Cabot
Jay Fruchtman
Jerome S. Gutkin
Michael E. Johnson
Rabbi John Linder
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Jeffrey Packer, D.O.
Michael Seiden
Edna Ora Sitelman, Ed.D.

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Javier Favela
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Linda Scott, MSW
Vice President of Child & Family Solutions

Robin Trush
Director of Business Intelligence

Mary Jo Whitfield, MSW
Vice President of Behavioral Health



CREDIBILITY • INTEGRITY • ACHIEVEMENT

Accredited by the National Council
on Accreditation of Services for
Family and Children



Strategic partner of the
Jewish Federation
of Greater Phoenix

Grantor Recognition



Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix

\$264,000 partnership grant for core operational support for JFCS Jewish Community Services. \$50,000 grant for the Senior Concierge Program, a collaborative effort to provide information and referral services for seniors and caregivers.



Bank of America Charitable Foundation

\$15,000 grant for GED preparation, tutoring, and study skills training for transitional foster care youth at Real World Job Development.



Valley Leadership - Youth Leadership in Philanthropy Program

\$2,000 grant to Real World Job Development for homeless prevention efforts among foster care youth.



Valley Kids Foundation

\$3,000 to Real World Job Development for general support and services for foster care youth.



Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

\$16,410 to Shelter Without Walls for survivors of domestic violence.



THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC



Arizona Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program Along with AZ Republic/12 News and The Governor's Office for Children, Youth & Families

\$15,000 to Creating Peaceful Families, a school-based drug abuse and bullying prevention program.

ARIZONA FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN

Arizona Foundation for Women

\$5,000 to Shelter Without Walls for emergency funds.



Glendale From the Heart

\$7,500 to Shelter Without Walls for survivors of domestic violence in Glendale.

**DONATE
today**

JFCSAZ.org/taxcredit



Learn how you can help neglected children, and get AZ Charitable Tax Credit alerts on your mobile phone.



TEXT THE KEYWORD
AZYOUTH
TO THE NUMBER
96000

Receive up to 3 message(s) per month of text alerts from JFCS Arizona. Message & Data Rates May Apply. Reply STOP to any msg to opt-out.

**Like us on
Facebook**

facebook.com/JFCSAZ



Jewish Family & Children's Service

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