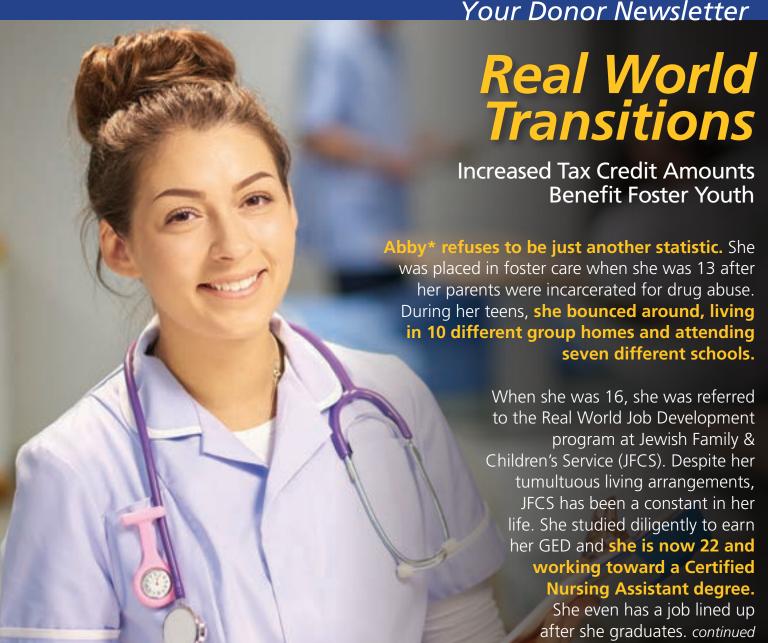


Connections

Your Donor Newsletter



*Name changed to protect privacy





Meet new JFCS **President and CEO** Dr. Lorrie Henderson





Find out ways you can volunteer

on page 2

See page 5

RECENT TAX CREDIT CHANGES

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

TAX CREDIT VS. DEDUCTION

DEDUCTION - A legal way of reducing your taxable income (i.e. personal exemptions, mortgage interest, retirement contributions)



CREDIT - A direct dollar-for-dollar reduction in the amount of taxes that a person must pay



INCREASED LIMITS

Tax credit donation limits have increased to \$400 for individuals, and \$800 for couples filing jointly.

MORE TIME TO GIVE

Donation due dates for a Qualifying Charitable Organization tax credit is now extended to April 18th, 2017.





EASY TO REPORT

Simply report the name of the Qualifying Charitable Organization you donated to, and the dollar amount of your donation to the Department of Revenue on Form 321. You do not need to itemize your taxes to qualify.

MORE OPTIONS

In the same year, you may take advantage of all Charitable Tax Credits: the Charitable Tax Credit for Qualifying Organizations (JFCS), Public School Tax Credit, Private School Tuition, Foster Care Charitable Org's, and Military Family Relief Fund.





DONATE NOW

JFCS is a Qualifying Charitable Organization. Make a donation now at jfcsaz.org/taxcredit; call 602-279-7655; or use the enclosed envelope to mail in your gift.

cover story continued...

But her path has not been an easy one. Abby has faced homelessness off and on. And she is expecting a baby in a few months. She knows that foster youth are more likely to have their children taken away from them as well, and she's determined not to let that happen.

"I'm going to break the cycle," she says. "I've learned there are people and programs out there like Real World that can help me, but I have to be willing to put in the effort."

Roughly 800 young adults are expected to "age-out" of the foster care system in Arizona in 2016. There are state programs and other charitable agencies aimed at helping youth as they age out of foster care, but only about one quarter of them take advantage, according to the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS).

Real World Job Development started in 2006 with the goal of serving foster youth between the ages of 14 and 21 by providing:

- Intake and assessments
- Literacy skills
- GED education and support
- Job training
- Paid apprenticeships
- Individual and group living skills training
- Case management
- Job referrals
- · Guidance and mentorship

"Since its inception, our program has assisted many foster youth with job skills resulting in gainful employment," says Gina Harper, Director of Real World Job Development at JFCS. "Our teens have obtained jobs in schools, hospitals, veterinary clinics and retail shops. Some have opted to earn college degrees at four-year universities or attend community college."

How can you help?

Programs like Real World Job Development are offered thanks to limited state funding and through generous financial contributions from donors.

JFCS is a qualifying organization to receive your Arizona Charitable Tax Credit donation of up to \$800/couple or \$400/individual.

"The Arizona Charitable Tax Credit represents an opportunity for you to direct your tax dollars to an organization that you believe is making a difference."

Frank Jacobson, Vice President of Marketing and Development at JFCS

Tax credits reduce your taxes dollar-for-dollar as a credit (not a deduction). In other words, a donation of up to \$800 to JFCS ends up costing you nothing because it will be applied as a credit on your state tax return.

It's simple. Make your donation to JFCS online at jfcsaz.org/credit or mail a check using the enclosed envelope. List JFCS as your qualifying charitable organization and the dollar amount of your donation on the AZ Tax Form 321 when you file your 2016 taxes.

How This Works	
Tax Due	
BEFORE Credits: \$5,535	
Deduct Tax Credits:	
Qualifying Charitabe Organization (JFCS Public School Tax Credit	5) \$800
Riblic School Tax Credit	\$400
Private School IVITION	4-1
Foster Care Charitable Organization	\$1,000
Military Family Relief Fund	\$400
#4.777	
Total Tax Credits \$4,773	
New Tax Due	
AFTER Credits: \$762	
YOU decide	
how your Arizona tax	
how your Arizona tax dollars are spent	

MAKING AN IMPACT

At JFCS, your Arizona Charitable Tax Credit donation can make an impact in numerous ways. Your donation of \$400 or \$800 will help pay for items like:



Appropriate clothing for interviews and internships for four youths



Emergency
dental care for
a child who has
been abused or
neglected



Bus passes for foster youth to get to their places of employment and the Real World Job Development Center



School application fees for young adults in need who are pursuing higher education



Six hours of workshops to stop substance abuse and family violence



A year's worth of school uniforms for four children in need

Meet New JFCS President and CEO Lorrie Henderson, Ph.D., MBA, LCSW

he JFCS Board of Directors recently appointed Lorrie Henderson, Ph.D., MBA, LCSW as its new President and Chief Executive Officer effective Aug. 1, 2016.

Dr. Henderson has a broad range of clinical, administrative and executive experience with numerous behavioral health and nonprofit organizations both locally and nationally. He has served on a variety of national and state boards of directors and published and presented multiple scientific articles on a broad range of issues involving behavioral health and vulnerable clients and families.

"We conducted a thorough national search for our next leader and we are extremely pleased and excited that Dr. Henderson has agreed to become our next President and CEO," said Carol Kern, Chair of the JFCS Board of Directors. "We are confident that he has the vision, leadership and skills to enable JFCS to both continue its great work in the Phoenix community and to grow and thrive in the future."

We had a chance to visit with Dr. Henderson about his new role at JFCS and ask him a few questions:

Q: Why did you decide to pursue the opportunity to lead JFCS as President and CEO?

A: I have spent my entire career dedicated to helping others, and I have an affinity for helping children and families in need. My career began in direct healthcare and I moved through management to executive leadership, where I've been fortunate to work with some of the largest behavioral health agencies in the U.S. JFCS has a stellar reputation in the community, and I believe the size of this organization is perfect for fulfilling our mission.

Q: What is your vision for the future of JFCS?

A: Right now, I'm focused on continuing the pursuit of our mission, which has been successful for the past 81 years. I look forward to building on all the good work done over the years. I will also be looking for additional opportunities to serve the community. JFCS will continue to be a mission-driven organization focused on offering high-quality behavioral health and social services to children, families and adults of all ages.

Q: What do you believe is the most critical issue impacting behavioral health and social service agencies today?

A: The most critical issue in our industry today continues to be finding a balance between funding and quality care. I believe the answer can be found in prioritizing the highest quality programs and services that follow best practices and



"We are confident that he has the vision, leadership and skills to enable JFCS to both continue its great work in the community and to grow and thrive in the future."

— Carol Kern, JFCS Board <mark>Cha</mark>i<mark>r</mark>

evidence-based research. By implementing the most effective interventions, we're able to maximize the quality of care we provide to our clients and make the most of our scarce resources.

Q: What is your life like outside the office?

A: I'm married with five children ranging in age from 19 to 8, so my hobbies are essentially whatever my kids are doing! Family is important to me, and I enjoy coaching youth sports and supporting my kids in their extracurricular activities. I also prioritize time for the gym and like to carve out time for international travel when I have the opportunity.

Calling All Volunteers Find the right opportunities

Volunteers are a valuable resource at JFCS, and we are ramping up our volunteer base of adults, teens and groups. Being a volunteer with JFCS gives you the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others while participating in rewarding experiences. If you, your family, business, church/synagogue, or community group is interested in a meaningful volunteer experience, consider the following opportunities and fill out a volunteer application online at jfcsaz.org/volunteer.





VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST US IN OUR OFFICE:

Volunteers are needed prior to special events to help organize event materials, make follow-up phone calls, and help with pre-registration and program coordination. We also need appreciation volunteers who help make thank-you phone calls and write thank-you notes.

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FOR JFCS:

Represent JFCS at community fairs and events or be a greeter at the Michael R. Zent Healthcare Center.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF YOUTH:

Academic tutors, classroom assistants and thrift store volunteers are needed to help teens aging out of the foster care system.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP FIGHT HUNGER:

Participate in our "Just 3 Things" monthly food donation program or help staff one of our food pantries.

BRIGHTEN THE LIVES OF SENIORS:

We are looking for those with special skills or talents to present at our Center for Senior Enrichment. We're also in need of gift shop volunteers at the Center.

LEND YOUR TIME AT SPECIAL EVENTS:

The annual "Brighter Tomorrow" luncheon and "It's a Wrap!" holiday event require volunteers to execute successfully.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH MITZVAH OR SCOUT PROJECTS:

Plenty of opportunities exist to help those in need! From diaper drives to holiday meal deliveries, JFCS staff can work with you to tailor a volunteer project that meets your goals. Your acts of human kindness make the world a better place and bring hope to those in need.

For more information on volunteering, contact Jody Goldman, JFCS Volunteer Coordinator, at 602.452.4614 or jody.goldman@jfcsaz.org.



Join a JFCS Support Council

- Get engaged!
- Meet front line staff and hear moving stories at our Close Encounter Dinner Events
- Understand how your gift makes a difference
- Increase your gift's impact helping us meet our challenge grant

JFCS SUPPORT COUNCILS

SHELTER WITHOUT WALLS

JFCS Domestic Violence Advocates work closely for as long as it takes with victims to ensure their safety and ability to provide for themselves and their children while maintaining their independence and self-respect. Shelter Without Walls addresses the unmet needs of survivors of domestic violence and their children who are residing outside of a shelter setting and are struggling to attain and/or maintain safety and independence whether or not still living with their abuser.

Our goal is to grow our Domestic Violence Advocates from 3.5 FTEs to 6 FTEs by 2020. To meet this goal, the T.W. Lewis Foundation generously offered a four year challenge grant in the amount of \$200,000 if matched 3:1 over five years.

Close Encounter Dinner Events

January 17, 2017, Spring 2017 (to be scheduled)

REAL WORLD FOSTER YOUTH

Current and former foster care teens and youth with behavioral health challenges seek out the Real World Job Development program to build their work readiness and academic skills to prepare themselves to be successful adults. Our specialized program provides services to at-risk youth ages 14-21 who are: phasing out of the foster care system into independence; dealing with emotional or mental health challenges; living in out-of-home placements. We work one-on-one and in peer group settings to teach independent living skills and connect them with positive community supports. Often, JFCS staff is the only consistent unconditional relationship these teens have, coaching them along the way to become successful and healthy adults.

Close Encounter Dinner Events

January 25, 2017, Spring 2017 (to be scheduled)



HEALING LIVES.

JEWISH CAREER SERVICES

Focused on the newly unemployed or underemployed, Jewish Career Services includes skills assessment, a job search overview, development of a professional resume, networking, interviewing and time management coaching. This program is tailored to meet the specific needs of the individual.

Close Encounter Dinner Events

January 26, 2017, Spring 2017 (date to be scheduled)

JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

JFCS honors the organization's original mission providing social service programs for the Jewish community helping people in need. For Jews of all ages and from all walks of life, we offer a continuum of services that help overcome life's challenges so families and individuals can enjoy more fulfilling lives. Our compassionate, highly skilled professional staff and caring volunteers provide a wide range of vital services:

- Jewish Counseling Services
- Helping Hands: Emergency Assistance Funds
- Aleinu: Community Outreach
- The Center for Senior Enrichment
- Information & Referrals

- Holocaust Survivor & Reparation Support
- Hospital Chaplaincy
- Senior Concierge Services
- Jewish Older Adult Services
- Chagim Holiday Programs

Thanks to the strategic partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix, the \$619,000 fundraising goal for Jewish Community Services is reduced by \$302,000 in grants to JFCS. The **2016 Fundraising Net Goal after Federation Grant: \$317,000**.

Close Encounter Dinner Events

January 19, 2017, Spring 2017 (date to be scheduled)

Membership in a Support Council

Membership to any one of the Support Councils requires a three-year commitment of a minimum gift of \$1,500 per year. Membership levels are:

Family Ambassador \$10,000 Family Guardian \$2,500 Family Benefactor \$5,000 Family Circle \$1,500

All members of the Support Councils are invited to Close Encounter Events, light dinner buffets and conversation with staff. These are opportunities to hear about not only the successes but also the challenges. Come learn how your gift makes a difference in the lives of so many people in need.

For more information on membership in JFCS Support Councils, please contact Frank Jacobson, Vice President of Marketing & Development, **602-567-8329**, **frank.jacobson@jfcsaz.org**



We thank and recognize our most generous group of donors, our Family Friends of Distinction, who have made significant contributions to JFCS.

Lifetime Membership is extended to individuals, corporations, or foundations whose generosity over time reaches or exceeds \$25,000, while Annual Membership is extended to those who make cash gifts of \$1,000 or more annually.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Gifts through September 30, 2016

Family Pacesetter

gifts of \$500,000 +

Arizona Community Foundation J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation **Jewish Community Foundation** of Greater Phoenix Jewish Federation of **Greater Phoenix** Valley of the Sun United Way

Family Visionary

gifts of \$250,000 +

APS

Arizona Republic/12 News Season for Sharing Child Abuse Prevention License Plate Program **DBL** Distributing Cindy Lubin and David Lorsch Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust Lenore and Eugene* Schupak Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

Family Philanthropist

gifts of \$100,000 +

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State of Arizona, Arizona Criminal **Justice Commission**

The Robert I. Sweet Charitable Remainder Trust **Thunderbirds Charities**

Women's Independence Scholarship Program, Inc.

Family Champion

gifts of \$50,000 +

Anonymous

Avon Foundation for Women BHHS Legacy Foundation

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Family Patron

aifts of \$25,000 +

Acordia of Arizona

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Anderman Family Charitable Fund **Anonymous**

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* Of Blessed Memory

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gifts of \$250,000 +

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gifts of \$100,000 +

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aifts of \$50,000 +

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gifts of \$10,000 +

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gifts of \$5,000 +

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The JFCS Legacy Society is comprised of donors who have confirmed us as a beneficiary in their estate plans by listing JFCS in their will, trust, life insurance or retirement plan.

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R Realized



FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS, JFCS HAS HOSTED

an annual fundraising event known as the Brighter Tomorrow luncheon with the goal of spotlighting many of the agency's critical areas of focus, including foster youth, domestic violence, mental illness and Jewish community needs, among other areas.

This year's luncheon will focus on JFCS' Real World Job Development program, which provides services to at-risk youth between the ages of 14-21 who are phasing out of the foster care system into independence, dealing with emotional or mental health challenges and living in out-of-home placements. A former foster care youth himself, our guest speaker represents a real-world example of what foster youth can accomplish if given the right skills, education and encouragement.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, February 24, 2017 11:45 am Arizona Biltmore Resort

Arizona Biltmore Ballroom 2400 East Missouri Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016 Learn how JFCS touches lives with our programs and services, and become personally engaged with our mission to strengthen the community.

Andrew Bridge is Director of the Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation whose mission is to improve the daily lives and long-term outcome of the people in Maricopa County.

With a commitment to social justice, The Halle Foundation seeks innovative, long-lasting solutions to the challenges that confront our communities in greatest need. Immediately prior to joining the Halle Foundation, Andrew was Senior Innovation Advisor to the State of Illinois, where he was responsible for advising senior officials in the restructuring of child welfare services in foster care, juvenile justice and mental health.

From age 7 to 18, Andrew grew up in Los Angeles County foster care. Andrew began his legal career representing impoverished children in Alabama's state psychiatric hospitals and mental health facilities and children in its foster care system. As Executive Director of The Alliance for Children's Rights, he played a critical role in streamlining foster children's adoptions and establishing National Adoption Day; improving children's access to medical care; and ensuring their right to see and speak with a social worker on a regular basis. Andrew is a founding director of the New Village Charter School, the first all-girls charter school in California, and a former trustee of the St. Anne's Home for Girls.

He has served as a University of California Regents' Lecturer and Southwestern School of Law Adjunct Professor. He chaired Los Angeles County's Blue Ribbon Foster Care Task Force. His book "Hope's Boy" was a New York Times Bestseller, a Washington Post Book of the Year, a People Magazine "Critic's Choice Book," and a "Los Angeles Discovery Book," published in six languages and an international bestseller. He is a Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Resident and Fulbright Fellow. He graduated from Wesleyan University and Harvard Law School.



Upcoming Events

It's A Wrap

Friday, Dec. 9, 2016, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Ina Levine Jewish Community Campus, 12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale

JFCS's 6th Annual Holiday Lunch, It's A Wrap, is just around the corner. The event will provide an opportunity for guests to bring in assigned gifts to wrap and socialize with friends. Tickets are \$20. Contact Jayne Plotkin at 602-567-8334 or Jayne.plotkin@jfcsaz.org for more information on how to get involved or register for the event.

Emotional Intelligence and Transformation:

How to use emotional awareness to create positive shifts and changes

Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017, 2-5 p.m. Valley of the Sun JCC, 12701 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale

Through this program, we reach out specifically to the Orthodox community, though our services are also open to the entire Jewish Community. This Aleinu workshop focuses on the fact that people want you to be present more than they need you to be perfect.

Creative Aging Launching in January 2017

JFCS Older Adult Services is embarking on an exciting new program based on a national movement called Creative Aging. Studies have shown that older adults who are active participants in the arts enhance their ability to live with purpose, sustain meaningful relationships and deal effectively with life's changes. JFCS is partnering with the Arizona Commission on the Arts as well as four local agencies to bring these classes to life in January.

Current plans are to offer Readers Theatre at Congregation Beth Israel; Vocal Music at the Arizona Jewish Historical Society; Creative Writing at the East Valley JCC and Dance at the Valley of the Sun JCC. Each class will be 6 weeks long and will rotate locations. For more information, contact Janet Arnold, Senior Concierge at janet.arnold@jfcsaz.org or 480-599-7918

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