



Florence Crittenton  
*Where Hope Comes to Life*

## **MEDIA ALERT** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Trisha Anthony  
Gordon C. James Public Relations  
602.274.1988  
[tanthony@gcjpr.com](mailto:tanthony@gcjpr.com)

Kim Searles  
Florence Crittenton  
602.288.4589  
[ksearles@flocrit.org](mailto:ksearles@flocrit.org)

### **Arizona Diamondbacks legend Luis Gonzalez and award-winning neurosurgeon Dr. Robert Spetzler are teaming up to help Valley youth**

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**PHOENIX (November 15, 2011)** – Florence Crittenton will host the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Teaming Up For Kids Luncheon March 1, 2012, at the Arizona Biltmore, 2400 E. Missouri Ave. Co-chaired by Valley residents Amy and Derrick Hall and Cathy and Mo Stein, the event will feature famed Arizona Diamondback Luis Gonzalez as the keynote speaker and will honor noted author and award-winning neurosurgeon Dr. Robert Spetzler. As the nonprofit organization's signature fundraiser, the luncheon generates support for its mission of providing safety, hope and opportunity to at-risk girls and young women.

Florence Crittenton's goal is to raise \$550,000 at this year's luncheon. The funds raised will support the 501(c)(3) organization's programs such as transitional living, therapeutic group home and community-based services. These programs help girls and young women overcome challenged and destructive situations, giving them the tools they need to become successful, self-reliant adults.

Keynote speaker **Luis Gonzalez** is a Major League Baseball superstar with a 19-year major league career. Gonzalez made sports history with his game-winning single in Game 7 of the 2001 World Series, giving the Arizona Diamondbacks its first World Championship. Gonzalez continues to make an impact on Arizona's community with the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation, interacting and inspiring fans of all ages. In 2010, his Going Gonzo for Kids initiative contributed \$100,000 to a variety of Arizona-based children's charities.

The 2012 Hope Award recipient, **Dr. Robert F. Spetzler**, is the Director of Barrow Neurological Institute, noted author and award-winning neurosurgeon. He was the honored guest of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons in 1994 - the youngest member ever to receive the honor. He also has played a prominent role in the partnership between Florence Crittenton and St. Joseph's Hospital, the medical

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care provider for girls served by the agency. Dr. Spetzler has been giving back to the community for years and has treated more than 5,700 aneurysms, published almost 500 journal articles and more than 200 book chapters, as well as edited and co-authored numerous books and neurosurgical atlases.

Teaming Up for Kids is also pleased to announce this year's top sponsors: *Presenting* - The Arizona Republic and azcentral.com and *Building Community* - Talking Stick Resort.

**To purchase tickets and/or tables and to learn more about Teaming Up For Kids, please call Debbie Weisz at 602.288.4575 or visit [www.flocrit.org](http://www.flocrit.org).**

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*For more than 115 years, Florence Crittenton has helped at-risk girls and young women ages 10-21 discover their strength and self-worth. Today, the organization brings hope to life for nearly 2,000 girls and young women annually by offering them a safe place where they can discover the support of a caring community. For more information about Florence Crittenton and its programs, please visit [www.flocrit.org](http://www.flocrit.org).*