



Florence Crittenton
Where Hope Comes to Life

transitions

NEWS, EVENTS AND INFORMATION ABOUT FLORENCE CRITTENTON

SUMMER 2006



Web Update:

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www.florencecrittentonofaz.org



Earn \$\$ for Florence Crittenton every time you search the internet! See page 7 to learn how.



Under Construction

New thrift shop coming soon!
Photos & update on page 8.

THIS ISSUE SPONSORED BY:



Serving Young Moms In Need

As many of you already know, **Florence Crittenton** and **Girls Ranch** have joined forces. Together, we are continuing our rich histories of serving Arizona's at-risk girls. Girls Ranch now operates as a supporting foundation of Florence Crittenton.

After the two organizations came together, residential staff and counselors spent the next two and a half months working closely with the few girls who were still living in the Scottsdale Girls Ranch home. Once all the girls were successfully transitioned back with their families, the more than 40-year-old home underwent a renovation that was made possible through the generosity of **All About Interiors, Identity Interiors & Design, InteriorView by Kristie Inc, the Johnson Family Foundation, Miranda Delivery**

Service, Sleep America and Stephanie's Little Luxuries. While the home was under renovation, residential and clinical staff members were hard at work developing a much-needed program that would serve at-risk young moms and their babies.

"The relationship with Girls Ranch has allowed Florence Crittenton to expand our services to include a new program for pregnant and/or parenting girls ages 12-18 who are in need of independent living, parenting and childcare skills training," said **Todd O'Leary**, Residential Director at Florence Crittenton.

We were thrilled to re-open the Scottsdale Girls Ranch home this past July. An Open House celebration was held which gave Girls Ranch donors and volunteers, as well as neighbors from the surrounding community an opportunity to see the updated home, as well as learn about the new parenting program. Up to six girls and their babies may participate in this program while residing in the Scottsdale Girls Ranch home.

Our sincere thanks to each of you who have faithfully supported and still continue to support Girls Ranch. It is your love and dedication that is making it possible for these young girls to succeed.

To find out how you can support Girls Ranch, please call 480-941-0150 or you may make a donation online at www.florencecrittentonofaz.org.



Each of the 6 bedrooms has beautiful new beds and cribs



Girls Ranch Auxiliary members from Sedona enjoy the Open House



Look for these reminders to get involved!



director



Earlier this year I was honored to celebrate my **20th anniversary** with Florence Crittenton, and I am so grateful to have been a part of this family, **our family**, for so many wonderful years. These last 20 years have been such an amazing experience, and yet something tells me that the best is still to come.

I have literally seen thousands of young people come through our doors in desperate need of safety, hope and opportunity. I can tell you that there is nothing more rewarding than seeing their broken hearts and spirits healed, their trust rebuilt and their hope restored.

Without a doubt, these life transformations are only possible because of the dedication of our staff and the love and support each of you faithfully continue to provide year after year. I am forever grateful to you.

As you read through this issue, you will see that many exciting things are going on at Florence Crittenton. Although we regretfully had to close the doors at our old **thrift shop** on Central Avenue, we are busily preparing to re-open the doors at our new location on 7th Avenue just north of Indian School Road. The new building will not only delight shoppers with the same high quality merchandise, but it will also provide our girls with an opportunity for job training and retail experience.

We are thrilled to have **Jean Driescher** as Crittenton Youth Academy's new Principal. Jean has a strong background in charter school administration and a great deal of experience working with at-risk students. I am confident that she will take our school to the next level of excellence.

Finally, I want to say **welcome** to each of you who have become part of Florence Crittenton's family through our new relationship with **Girls Ranch**. Both your generosity and patience through this period of transition mean the world to me, and I deeply appreciate your continued support as we work together to change the future for Arizona's at-risk girls.

With love and gratitude,

Linda Volkein

HORSES HELP HEAL



Florence Crittenton's **Health and Wellness Program** seeks to provide the girls living in our residential group home with opportunities to participate in activities that are not only therapeutic, but also fun. That is exactly what we found in the **Hunkapi** (pronounced Hoon-KAH-pee) horse program.

"The girls have been participating in the horse program for the last 8 weeks, and the experience has been amazing for them," said **Renee Gauthier**, Florence Crittenton's Medical Liason.

The Hunkapi program encourages responsibility, trust and positive relational skills. By nature, horses are the perfect facilitator to help our girls learn these skills, because they expect mutual respect and cooperative communication with the person who is handling them.

"The girls learned how to trust each other through each being responsible for controlling their own horse. Their self-confidence improved by acquiring a new skill, and for some, overcoming the fear of being on or around a horse," said Renee.

Other valuable skills the girls learned through the program were effective verbal and non-verbal communication through their interactions with the horses, as well as the value of teamwork when it came time to care for their horses and muck out stalls.

"It is so great to see the girls having such a good time while learning these very important skills that will contribute to their long-term success."

If you would like to sponsor Hunkapi horse therapy sessions for our girls, please contact Michelle Barlish at 602-288-4579.

programs

CYA Students “Kick Butt” and Clean Up

Crittenton Youth Academy (CYA) students recently spent an afternoon picking up handfuls of cigarette butts at the Target Shopping Center near Florence Crittenton’s campus. Why, you ask? “We’re helping to make our community cleaner,” said 13-year-old Krystal. This event, officially titled “Kick Butt Day”, was created for the sole purpose of CYA students learning to live a tobacco-free life. “We hope that by being out here we are encouraging people to stop smoking,” said 16-year-old Erica.



Justice Smith, Health and Physical Education Instructor, has been teaching his students several tactics of refusing tobacco products and emphasized how tobacco use can have a very negative effect on not only their health, but also the health of those around them.



CYA faculty members (from left) Justice Smith, Mike Dunbar and Craig Goetz are joined by 5-year-old Rayanne who learned how to catch, throw, bat and slide at the softball clinic



To wrap up the day’s activities, CYA’s girls softball team hosted a free softball clinic at Colter Park. “Kick Butt Day is an opportunity for our students to give back to the community and encourage kids to stay healthy through participation in recreational sports,” said Mr. Smith.

- Residential Group Home
- ▶ **Crittenton Youth Academy**
- Independent Living Program
- Women Involved in Nurturing Girls’ Self-esteem (WINGS)
- Scottsdale Girls Ranch
- Transitional Living Program
- Health and Wellness Program
- Healthy Families

Congratulations Class of 2006!



Crittenton Youth Academy graduated a record **16 students** this year! A special thank you to Florence Crittenton board member, **Alan Young**, who shared an inspirational message at the graduation ceremony.

Math Teacher Wins SRP Technology Grant!



Salt River Project asked the public to nominate their favorite teacher to win a \$3,000 technology grant, and our own **Francine Buchanan**

won! Ms. Buchanan was chosen from among more than 330 other Valley teachers who were nominated.

Congratulations, Ms. Buchanan, and thank you for your dedication to CYA’s students!

Now introducing...

Jean Driescher as CYA’s new school Principal!



Welcome, Jean!

events & fundraisers

Outlets at Anthem Shopping Extravaganza!

Don't miss this fun opportunity to spend the day shopping with your friends while raising money to support Florence Crittenton's kids!

Tickets are just \$15 and can be purchased by calling 602-288-4571.

100% of ticket sales will go directly to Florence Crittenton.



Make It a Date!

Charles Crittenton Society Holiday Party

November 16, 2006 Info: 602-288-4586

We invite you to find out more about this philanthropic Society at our sixth annual Holiday Party, where we will celebrate reasons to be thankful. This festive, elegant evening will include a Thanksgiving-theme feast, live music, great people and a chance to meet kids from Florence Crittenton's programs.

Make this the year you become a Champion to a Child!

Annual Holiday Drive

December 1 - 31, 2006

Mark your calendar for Florence Crittenton's annual Holiday Drive. We will be accepting new, unwrapped gifts during the entire month of December, which will be handed out to all the girls in both our residential group home, as well as our transitional living homes. For gift ideas or to make a monetary donation, please visit our web site at www.florencecrittentonofaz.org.



OUTLETS AT ANTHEM

2nd Annual

Shopping Extravaganza!

Get the girls together and join us for a day of **Shopping, Saving & Fun!**

Saturday, October 14, 2006

Location: **Outlets at Anthem**

I-17 to Anthem Way, Exit #229

Registration: **9 am - Noon** • Event Hours: **9 am - 8 pm**

EVENT INCLUDES

Goodie Bag • Exclusive Discounts & Offers • Lunch
Baggage Check • Hospitality Area • Entertainment

OVER \$30,000 IN PRIZES!

BENEFITING



100% of ticket sales go directly to these charitable organizations.



Thank You for Your Support!



VOS 20-30 Club members enjoy a night in "Vegas"

VIVA LAS VEGAS

More than 500 of the Valley's "high rollers" turned out for this year's fabulous Las Vegas-style party. Guests were delighted to a dazzling assortment of silent auction items, as well as casino-style games, delicious food and live entertainment. Thank you to the **Valley of the Sun Active 20-30 Club**

for presenting Florence Crittenton with \$40,000 in proceeds from your 12th annual Viva Las Vegas event.



Volunteers, Marjorie Scott & Judy Nichols-Evans

WE APPRECIATE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Florence Crittenton's volunteers were treated to a special appreciation event held at **Modified Arts** during National Volunteer Week. The afternoon included an exhibition of our residential girls' artwork and a performance by the

Crittenton Youth Academy choir. **A special thank you to each of you who tirelessly volunteer your time and talents!**

BATH & BODY WORKS

Thanks to the employees from **Bath & Body Works** at Spectrum Mall, all of our parenting teens received beautiful gift baskets for Mother's Day. Their generous donation of more than \$1,500 in products made this an extra special day for the girls.



Kim Hyer coordinated the Mother's Day project

P.B.LOCO

On June 2nd, Scottsdale's only peanut butter café, **P.B. Loco**, celebrated their grand opening at Fashion Square along with **KEZ**



99.9. Peanut *P.B.Loco & KEZ proving that peanut butter is not just kids' stuff*

butter lovers of all ages showed up to enjoy 12 unique flavors of America's favorite sticky stuff. Our thanks to P.B.Loco for presenting Florence Crittenton with \$1,000 in proceeds from the afternoon's sales.

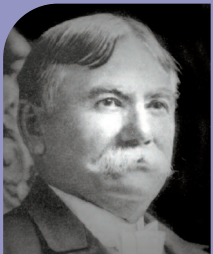
PHOENIX'S FAITH LUTHERAN THRIVENT CHAPTER SAYS IT WITH FLOWERS

Thrivent chapter volunteers and youth group members treated our residential girls to a special day of pot painting, flower planting and fellowship to celebrate National Join Hands Day. In addition, the group donated a power blower, pruning shears and several lantana plants to enhance the campus grounds. Thank you, **Thrivent Members**, for your generosity and care!



community support

Charles Crittenton Society Spring Cocktail Reception



Florence Crittenton Founder
Charles Crittenton

This spring, Florence Crittenton welcomed members of the distinguished Charles Crittenton Society to an elegant cocktail reception at the home of Society members, **Ina and Murray Manaster**. The evening included a special presentation on the educational trends in Arizona by **Dr. Sybil Francis**, Executive Director of the Center for the Future of Arizona. This event presented a special opportunity for men and women new to the Society to mingle and become better acquainted with our long-standing members. **A special thank you to each of you who joined us for this very special reception.**

As a Charles Crittenton Society member, you are a Champion of Hope for Florence Crittenton's girls and boys. **If you are not already a member, become one today!** Your annual gift of \$1,000 and above goes directly to our kids and programs. Sponsor a student, classroom, girl, or cottage and make a difference in our kids' lives!

Your annual gift can be split into monthly or quarterly payments and can be made by check, stock or credit card. Please contact Carrie Walker-Ostroski for details at 602-288-4586 or join online at www.florencecrittentonofaz.org.



Society members, Debbie
& Len Gaby

Supporter
Spotlight

Wells Fargo



BusinessWeek has listed **Wells Fargo** among the nation's top 10 most generous corporate donors, and we couldn't agree with them more!

For more than 15 years, Wells Fargo has supported Florence Crittenton in a variety of ways. They were a generous donor during our



Ina Manaster (center) is joined by Dr. Sybil Francis (left) and Florence Crittenton's executive director, Linda Volhein



Society members, Michelle &
Richard Felker

Building New Beginnings Capital Campaign

which enabled us to build a beautiful, new, state-of-the-art campus and dramatically expand our services. Both our residential and teen parenting programs have been enriched through **grants** from Wells Fargo.

In further keeping with their commitment to being a good corporate citizen, Wells Fargo has donated **tickets** for our girls to enjoy special

events such as Mercury games, Coyotes games and Disney on Ice. For the girls, these are not just tickets; they are the opportunity to go places and see things that they have never experienced before.

A big thank you to Wells Fargo for their generous support of our programs and services and for their commitment to making a positive difference in our community!

Kristi Brannon has an unparalleled passion for kids in need, and it shows within minutes of meeting her. Kristi volunteers as the **choir director** at Crittenton Youth Academy, Florence Crittenton's charter school. With songs meant to empower and inspire, Kristi leads the choir to new heights and chal-



lenges every time she sees them. As members of the choir, our students have learned to take healthy risks, and the experience has improved their self-esteem and self-image. We are a stronger organization because of Kristi's passion and commitment to seeing each of our kids succeed.

Thank you, Kristi for all your love and support!

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Mentor – men and women from the community who will establish and support healthy, adult relationships that help at-risk youth develop visions for the future and encourage them to realize their full potential.

Residential aide – provides healthy, adult interaction with girls in our group home. Assist residential staff, lead recreational projects and provide socialization and guidance for the girls.

Administrative aide – fulfills several needs including creating databases, filing, assembling marketing packets and answering phones.

For more information on how you can become a volunteer, please call 602-288-4567.





My Story

News, Poems, Stories and Artwork From and About Kids in Florence Crittenton's Programs

Below is a note written by 16-year old **Victoria**, just before she graduated from our residential program. It is through your care and support that Florence Crittenton is able to make such a significant difference in the lives of girls and young women in need like Victoria.

What Florence Crittenton means to me is beyond explainable. It has shown me many things that are honorable.

I've learned to respect others and myself. I've learned to be open and crack from my shell.

I know I've matured through the time I've been here, and I've learned to express myself when I feel fear come near.

I'm going to miss everyone who helped me through. I really did grow up a lot here; if you only knew.

I'd like to thank everybody for everything they've done.

I'm going home, finally. I feel like I've won!

Wish List – Transitional Living Program

- Laundry baskets
- Fabric softener
- Sponges
- Bleach
- PineSol



- Shampoo/conditioner
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Pillows
- Towels
- Sheets



- Laundry soap
- Dish soap
- Bath soaps
- Body lotion
- Dress clothes



Announcements!

1 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN



Does your company host a **United Way** workplace campaign every fall? If so, please remember that Florence Crittenton is a proud and valued partner of Valley of the Sun United Way. By making your gift to their *Results that Matter* fund, you will provide valuable support for several of our programs and help us continue to improve lives in our community. The 2006 campaign begins soon, so visit the United Way's website at www.vsuw.org for more information.

(United Way donations do not qualify as special event or membership gifts.)

2 GOODSEARCH.COM



What if Florence Crittenton earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now we can!! Goodsearch.com is a new search engine that

donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to **enter Florence Crittenton Services of Arizona as the charity you want to support**. Just 500 of us searching 4 times a day will raise about \$7,300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! **Please support Florence Crittenton by using Goodsearch when you search the Web!**

3 BIRDIES FOR CHARITY – MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY!



Make Florence Crittenton a Big Bucks Winner with your pledge of one penny or more for every birdie that will be made by the PGA Tour players at the 2007 FBR Open. It's estimated that between 1,300 to 1,800 birdies will be made. So, if you pledge one penny per birdie, and 1,500 birdies are made, you will be invoiced for \$15.00 by the Thunderbirds

Charities. The Thunderbirds Charities will then send **THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF YOUR DONATION** to Florence Crittenton! You can help us reach our goal of collecting **150 pledges** by using the pledge form located at www.florencecrittentonofaz.org (go to the Events section). The pledge deadline is February 4, 2007.

4 TURN YOUR CAR INTO CASH!



With the assistance of **Vehicles for Charity (VFC)**, a non-profit organization, Florence Crittenton is accepting cars, trucks, boats, campers, RVs, motorcycles, golf carts and trailers; even if they're not running. VFC will pick up the vehicle for free, and the law allows a tax deduction equal to the gross proceeds from the sale of the donated vehicle. Proceeds from the sale of the vehicle go directly to supporting Florence Crittenton. Have a clear title available and call 1-800-833-3006 or donate online at www.vehiclesforcharity.org.

board & auxiliary

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During the Auxiliary's Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show, current President **Ruth Young** announced next year's officers and officially passed the gavel to the new incoming President, **Johnetta Williams**. **Stein Mart** provided stunning fashions for this year's runway models, which included Florence Crittenton staff and Auxiliary members. A special thank you to each of you who attended and modeled!



Auxiliary members enjoy the Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show



Ruth Young (left) presents new Auxiliary President, Johnetta Williams, with the gavel



McCarthy's Greg Perkins at the site of the new shop

The guys from **McCarthy Construction** are working hard at the site of Florence Crittenton's new thrift shop on 7th Avenue, just north of Indian School Road. Please don't forget that **donations** are still being accepted at Florence Crittenton's campus, or you can call 602-254-7861 to schedule a pick-up. Now's the time to clean out your closets and bring us your treasures, because we anticipate a record number of shoppers at our **Grand Re-opening**, which is tentatively scheduled for January 2007. We will continue to keep you updated on the shop's progress, and we thank you for your continued support as we make this transition.

The Auxiliary's **Home Services Committee** kept the girls happy and cool over the long, hot summer months by sponsoring swimming days at Anthem's Water Park, and the girls were also treated to a swim party at one of the members' home.

If you would like more information on how you can make a difference in the lives of the children and families Florence Crittenton serves by becoming a member of the Auxiliary, please call 602-508-9279.



AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2006-2007

President: Johnetta Williams
 Vice President: Gwen Stoner
 Recording Secretary: Carol Laufenberg
 Corresponding Secretary: Fanna Jones
 Treasurer: Debra Fischer
 Home Services: Gloria Griego & Eve Stahl
 Past President Advisor: Ruth Young

Design: Loren Nichols, Nichols Custom Graphics
 480-429-1111 or n.graphics@cox.net

Printer: O'Neil Printing

Editor: Tobey Erskine
 Communications & Public Relations Manager
 602-288-4589 or terskine@flocrit.org

We value your questions and comments! Please also let us know if you would like this newsletter sent to a friend.



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