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Florence Crittenton's Annual Luncheon to host Simone Biles as Featured Guest

Presented by BillingTree and Sponsored by MicroAge, the 15th Annual Teaming Up For Girls Luncheon will raise funds for at-risk girls in the valley.

PHOENIX – On March 16, 2017, Florence Crittenton's annual Teaming Up for Girls Luncheon will be held at the JW Marriott Scottsdale Camelback Inn Resort and Spa to commemorate 120 years of service to at-risk girls and young women throughout Arizona. Florence Crittenton is honored to have Olympic gold medalist and foster care advocate **Simone Biles** participating in a moderated Q&A at the 15th annual luncheon. The program and luncheon will begin at 11:45 a.m. with a VIP meet and greet reception with Simone Biles starting at 11 a.m.

At the age of three, Biles was placed in the foster care system and was later adopted by her grandparents who encouraged her to dream big. At the 2016 Rio Olympics, Biles earned five medals, four of them gold.

"I look forward to sharing my story with the girls of Florence Crittenton and those who attend this luncheon," said Simone Biles. "I think it's important for people to know that even if you're a foster kid, you can still fulfill your dreams, achieve greatness and be all that you can be."

Co-chairs for the 15th annual luncheon are **Tahniah McKeever**, Chair of Florence Crittenton's Board of Directors, and **Cathy Stein**, former Florence Crittenton board member and long-time supporter of the agency. Presented by BillingTree and sponsored by MicroAge, the event will include a VIP meet-and-greet, a silent auction, Dream Bags, Mystery Boxes and a HOPE Award presentation.

"We are excited to celebrate our 120th year of service with the community that has made each year possible," said Dr. Kellie Warren, CEO of Florence Crittenton. "Simone Biles embodies what we strive to teach every girl whose life we touch—that despite all adversity, anything is possible. Her story will surely inspire the lives of our luncheon's attendees, including our girls who will also be at the event."

Sponsorship tables begin at \$2,750 and individual tickets are \$275. For more information on how to get involved or for sponsorship opportunities, please contact Amanda Lasita, alasita@flocrit.org or (602) 288.4555. To register, visit: http://www.flocrit.org/TUFG2017_Register.html

About Florence Crittenton

Founded in 1896, the mission of Florence Crittenton is to give every girl whose life we touch safety, hope and opportunity. The Agency has helped foster the recovery of girls and young women who have endured periods of victimization, chronic neglect, homelessness, poverty, teen pregnancy, drug abuse and/or mental instability. Our evidenced-based programs and services provide counseling, education, healthcare, housing and social support to young women and girls, ages 10-to-25. Also, Florence Crittenton holds the charter for the state's first and only public, single-gender preparatory school, the Girls Leadership Academy of Arizona (GLAAZ).