

# ARIZONA TAX CREDITS

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PARENT AID

Through home visitation, Jennifer Corbin and Christopher Cook discovered a whole new world of parenting possibilities that helped them care for their son Owl.

## Parent Aid provides support to families to end child abuse

By Allan Stockellburg  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
PARENT AID

For nearly 30 years, Parent Aid has worked to prevent child abuse and neglect in Pima County.

Last year, their community of supporters provided in-home family support to over 100 families and served over 600 parents and caregivers in group classes.

These opportunities are open to all families because Parent Aid believes that abuse knows no color, language, gender or class. For many, becoming a parent is pretty easy, but for everyone, parenting is hard and we could all use a little support.

Jennifer Corbin and Christopher Cook recently had their first child, Owl. They knew they wanted to be the best parents they could be, but admittedly didn't know the first thing about babies.

Reaching out for support can be scary for a family like this. Thankfully they found Parent Aid. By partnering with Jennifer and Christopher, their family support specialist found meeting times convenient for the family, assessed their needs and supported them through a year of home vis-

### HOW TO GIVE

- **What:** Parent Aid Child Abuse Prevention Center
- **Where:** 2580 E. 22nd St., Tucson, 85713
- **Phone:** 520-798-3304
- **Website:** [parentaid.org](http://parentaid.org)
- **Mission:** Preventing child abuse by strengthening families and our community.

itation.

Jennifer and Christopher found parenting to be isolating, but through home visitation discovered a whole new world of parenting possibilities. All first-time parents of newborns remember the stress and anxiety of every bump, cough and sneeze of our precious babies, and this was no different for Jennifer.

After completing Parent Aid's Home Health module, Jennifer and Christopher were more confident in caring for their child's needs and taking action when necessary to keep Owl healthy and thriving.

Jennifer and Christopher were filled with questions about how babies learn to communicate.

Their family support specialist guided them through activities to help them build their son's language development.

By doing so, Owl now has a healthy attachment to his parents and a strong foundation for future learning.

Without your support, families such as this will miss out on the opportunity to be supported in their journey to create safer homes, build nurturing environments and provide positive guidance to their children.

You can provide the Home Health module to a family for just \$400.

Your investment of \$800 provides a group of families an entire class series.

When you invest \$1,500 in Parent Aid, you provide weekly in-home support to a family for a full year, which will have lasting impacts not only on the parents and children but the community as well.

Every dollar invested in our home visitation program will be returned to our community 15-fold in decreased costs to the child welfare, criminal justice, health-care and educational systems.

## Miracle Center helps woman conquer her unhealthy behaviors

By Tiane Kennedy

PUBLIC RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR OF  
GAP MINISTRIES

"I will never forget July 13th, 2012. I woke up to a gun in my face, being told to undress by a masked invader in my hotel room. I knew why he was there and did as I was told. All the while, I prayed to God, promising if I survived I would stop doing drugs and working as an escort. I would go back to school and read my Bible — this time for real."

Selena Drunert remembered it all like it was yesterday. Two years later, she had stopped escorting and had even done a 30-day stint in rehab. She was living back at home with her mom, dealing with PTSD and other behavioral issues due to her past choices. She said, "I had quit drinking but picked up heroin as a substitute. Heroin helped me forget the past just as easy as a bottle. And, I hoped, would kill me quicker, too?"

The following year brought another stint in rehab and another relapse. Selena was now living with a man she met in rehab. Most nights ended in physical fights. The day she left him, she drank Pine Sol and wound up in a psych ward.

But on April 6, 2016, Selena entered the Miracle Center, and was finally able to stop drinking and doing drugs.

Selena said, "I began to develop a relationship with God and study his word. I got treatment



Selena has been clean for 3½ years clean, is married and has a year-old son.

with a counselor and worked with other women to overcome my unhealthy learned behaviors. I discovered life was worth living after all."

Selena is 3½ years clean and studying neurological disorders and research at the University of Arizona.

She got married in 2017 and has a year-old boy. She says if it wasn't for the Miracle Center, she would not be where she is today.

The Miracle Center is a privately funded, 18-month program for women that provides a safe, nurturing, faith-based environment where clients are offered hope and transitional support in a structured setting.

Charitable Tax Credits make up a large percentage of the group's donations and allow the center to serve more women, as the program's monthly cost per woman is \$1,500.

### HOW TO GIVE

- **What:** Miracle Center
- **Where:** 2861 N. Flowing Wells Road, Tucson, 85705.
- **Phone:** 520-327-1208
- **Website:** [miraclecenteraz.org](http://miraclecenteraz.org)

### SHARE YOUR STORY

The Star is asking organizations in Southern Arizona that are certified as Qualifying Charitable Organizations or Qualifying Foster Care Charitable Organizations or qualifying schools or programs to share their stories with Star readers. If your organization would like to participate, please email Debbie Kornmiller at [dkornmiller@tucson.com](mailto:dkornmiller@tucson.com) for details.



## Emerge provides survivors of abuse a safe space to get back on their feet

By Mariana Calvo

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
COORDINATOR FOR  
EMERGE CENTER AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

It was just another day in Pima County, but not for Sandra. For Sandra, it was the day her world changed completely.

She had been under a lot of stress and felt a lot of pain caused by her husband who had been abusive and violent to her. Sandra felt conflicted; she loved her husband, but at the same time, she was a protective and caring mother for Joey, her 6-year-old son, who loved his father but also watched the abuse that she endured.

Sandra faced a challenging situation making a choice that — for better or for worse — would change her and Joey's lives.

Struggling between the uncertainty and the risk of becoming homeless, Sandra decided to leave the relationship and remembered

### HOW TO GIVE, GET HELP

- **What:** Emerge Center Against Domestic Abuse
- **Where:** 2545 E. Adams St., Tucson, 85716
- **Phone:** 520-795-8001
- **Website:** [emergecenter.org](http://emergecenter.org)
- **Crisis Line:** 888-428-0101

that a friend had given her an Emerge nail file. She took a risk and called Emerge to ask for help.

Due to the lethal level of violence happening in their home, Sandra and Joey were immediately welcomed into Emerge's emergency shelter.

That was the new starting point for Sandra. She risked everything to save her and her son by leaving the hurtful past to create a new and different story.

Stories of courage and



PHOTO COURTESY OF EMERGE CENTER AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE  
Sandra and Joey were immediately welcomed into Emerge's emergency shelter.

determination like Sandra's give us an extra reason to provide a safe space for survivors away from abuse. There are many ways your gift makes an impact in the lives of survivors in our community.

With your donation, you can help people like Sandra avoid homelessness and be able to get on their feet, either by paying for a down

payment on a new apartment, or tuition to get back into school, or basic necessities for children, like diapers, school books or food.

With your gift, Sandra will be able to start her life over again and Joey will have the chance to grow in a safe environment. Thank you for your life-changing gift.

## ICS helps families overcome despair, find independence

By Ann Garn

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES  
It became clear when Laura came to Interfaith Community Services, or ICS, for help that it would take more than just one visit to get her and her two boys stabilized. ICS was able to provide three months of support.

"When I came to ICS for help I was definitely at my most broken. I felt like there was no light at the end of the tunnel, there was no finish line. We were going to get kicked out of our house ... We had come to that point of hopelessness and ICS really helped endure that hunger and face that defeat over and over again and bring us back to that light at the end of the tunnel!"

Laura's story is one of finding new hope after being on the very edge of homelessness and despair. With the help of ICS, Laura was able to keep going and make strides toward stability for herself and her children. But most importantly she received compassion and understanding when she came to us for help.

### HOW TO GIVE

- **What:** Interfaith Community Services
- **Where:** 2820 W. Ina Road, Tucson, 85741
- **Phone:** 520-297-6049
- **Website:** [icstucson.org](http://icstucson.org)
- **Mission:** To help people in need achieve stable, healthy and independent lives.



Interfaith Community Services has been helping families like Laura's since 1985.

With support, she began to see the light at the end of the tunnel and allowed herself to dream bigger. She dreams of a home one day, not of just having enough to feed her family.

Interfaith Community Services has been helping families like Laura's since 1985. Partnering with

over 114 faith communities and with the help of over 1,000 volunteers, we fulfill our mission to help people in need achieve stable, healthy and independent lives. ICS offers multiple, wraparound services to help people in need. Our programs integrate efforts to help those served find greater self-sufficiency and independence.

### HOW IT WORKS

Arizona provides two separate nonrefundable tax credits for individuals who make contributions to charitable organizations: qualifying charitable organizations and qualifying foster care charitable organizations. Tax credits are also available for donations to schools.

These tax credits are a way for Arizona taxpayers to direct their taxes to organizations and causes that are important to them. Individuals making cash donations may claim donations as tax credits up to the allowable amount on their Arizona personal income tax returns. Tax credits provide

a dollar-for-dollar reduction of your Arizona income tax liability. Tax deductions lower your taxable income and are equal to the percentage of your marginal tax bracket.

The allowable 2019 credit for contributions to qualifying charitable organizations is \$400 for single and head

of household taxpayers and \$800 for married taxpayers filing a joint return. The allowable 2019 credit for contributions to qualifying foster care organizations is \$500 for single and head of household taxpayers and \$1,000 for married taxpayers filing a joint return.