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THUNDERBIRDS CHARITIES DONATES MORE THAN \$2.8 MILLION TO VALLEY CHARITIES DURING SPRING FUNDING CYCLE

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Thunderbirds Charities, the charitable giving arm of The Thunderbirds – hosts of the WM Phoenix Open – awarded more than \$2.8 million in grants to 46 Valley charities during its 2023 Spring funding cycle. Some of the largest grants include \$500,000 to **Valleywise Health Foundation**, \$300,000 to **Human Services Campus**, \$250,000 to **Arizona Housing**, and \$200,000 to **Banner Health Foundation**. Additionally, six grants of more than \$100,000 were awarded during this cycle and went to Special Olympics Arizona (\$130,000), Brighter Way Institute (\$125,000), Chrysalis Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence (\$100,000), Teen Lifeline (\$100,000), Boys and Girls Clubs of Scottsdale (\$100,000), and Homeless ID Project (\$100,000).

With the 2023 Spring funding cycle complete, Thunderbirds Charities has now opened its 2023 Fall funding cycle. Information about the Fall funding cycle can be found at www.ThunderbirdsCharities.org.

"We are absolutely thrilled and immensely proud to have donated more than \$2.8 million to local Valley charities during this spring funding cycle," said Pat Williams, Big Chief of The Thunderbirds. "Giving back to our own communities and neighborhoods is at the heart of The Thunderbirds' mission, and we couldn't be more honored to make such a meaningful impact."

The \$500,000 grant to Valleywise Health Foundation will be directed to its Arizona Burn Center, the largest academic burn center in the nation and Arizona's only nationally verified burn center serving the entire Southwest. The Center treats some of the most complex and traumatic burn and wound cases.

The \$300,000 grant to Human Services will provide funding and aid to its Critical Client Services that provides Assessment, Diversion, Post Office, Day Room, Navigation, Housing Match, Case Conferencing, Overnight COVID Shelter, Respiro Shelter, Shower Program, Safe Storage, a Welcome Center open 24 hours a day, and Street Outreach. These services, in collaboration with partner services located on and off the Campus, provide a holistic solution for each person's unique barriers to housing.

Arizona Housing will use the \$250,000 grant to go towards HVAC upgrades at its location at 209 W. Jackson St. to help those in need stay cool during Arizona's hot summer. Arizona Housing's mission is to assist individuals and families attain self-sufficiency through the provision of dignified housing and services.

Banner Health Foundation was awarded \$200,000 from Thunderbirds Charities to support their highly impactful Home Away From Home Cancer Patient Housing Community. The cost of local lodging is concerning for patients and families who travel to receive care at Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center, especially those whose treatment protocol requires multiple days or weeks of daily therapy or immediate or extended hospitalization. These patients and their supportive care partners must stay near the Cancer Center for lengthy periods—often at great personal expense, as insurance does not cover these costs. In some cases, these expenses prevent patients from receiving life-saving treatment or adhering to medical protocols.

46 GRANTS AWARDED DURING THE SPRING 2023 CYCLE:

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| Valleywise Health Foundation | Thunderbirds Charities Pediatric Burn Unit | \$500,000 |
| Human Services Campus | Critical Client Services | \$300,000 |
| AZ Housing Inc. | HVAC Upgrades at 209 W Jackson St. | \$250,000 |
| Banner Health Foundation | Home Away from Home 2.0: Cancer Patient Housing Community | \$200,000 |
| Special Olympics AZ | 2023 Special Olympics AZ State Competitions | \$130,000 |
| Brighter Way Institute | Implantology Program Expansion | \$125,000 |
| Chrysalis Shelter For Victims Of Domestic Violence Inc. | DV Survivor Therapy Services | \$100,000 |
| Teen Lifeline Inc | The Crisis Hotline / Text Line | \$100,000 |
| Boys & Girls Clubs Of Scottsdale Inc. | Refresh of Clubs' art studio space and support fine and creative arts programming | \$100,000 |
| Homeless ID Project | ID Empowers Our Community | \$100,000 |
| Elevate Phoenix | Sustain and expand school programming | \$75,000 |
| Foundation for Blind Children | Teen to Work for the Visually Impaired | \$61,000 |
| Treasures 4 Teachers Inc. | T4T on Wheels | \$55,000 |
| Girl Scouts Council AZ Cactus-Pine | Impact Programs and Taste of Summer Camp Program Event | \$50,000 |

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| Year Up AZ | Workforce Education and Training at Year Up AZ | \$50,000 |
| AZ Helping Hands | The Basic Needs Program | \$50,000 |
| AZ Cancer Foundation For Children | Improving Outcomes for Children with Cancer and their Families | \$50,000 |
| Best Buddies AZ | Best Buddies AZ School Friendship Project | \$36,000 |
| AZ Friends of Foster Children Foundation | Fostering Success for Children in Foster Care | \$35,000 |
| AZ Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics | Medical Services Project | \$30,000 |
| ALS Association-AZ Chapter | Caring for the Caregivers | \$25,000 |
| Sober Apartment Living, Co. | Improvements to apartment complex | \$25,000 |
| Aster Aging | Neighbors Program for Vulnerable Seniors | \$25,000 |
| Neighborhood Ministries Inc. | Katy's Kids Early Childhood Education Program | \$25,000 |
| Educare AZ | Early Education Extended Day Program | \$25,000 |
| Camp Catanese Foundation | Year-round college access camps | \$25,000 |
| AZ Recreation Center For The Handicapped | ARCHKids Year-Round Services | \$25,000 |
| Southwest Human Development | Birth to Five Helpline | \$25,000 |
| Stand For Children Leadership Center | Growing Readers | \$25,000 |
| Cancer Support Community-AZ | Cancer Resource Navigation Program | \$25,000 |
| AZ Strut Students Recycling Used Technology | Techie Camps and Techie Labs: Educating Our Future Techies | \$25,000 |
| Treasure House | Employment & Life Skills Training Program | \$20,000 |
| USO Arizona | Programming for military families | \$20,000 |
| Saving Amy Inc. | Kids Go | \$20,000 |
| Benevilla | Memory Lane Games | \$17,000 |
| AZ Association For Foster & Adoptive Parents | Embracing Foster, Kinship and Adoptive Families | \$15,000 |
| DS Network | Every Step of the Way - Navigating the Journey of Down syndrome | \$15,000 |
| All Sports Foundation Inc. | Prostate On-Site Project | \$15,000 |
| Center for the Rights of Abused Children | Pro Bono Children's Law Clinic (Children's Law Clinic) | \$10,000 |
| Phoenix Boys Choir Association | Neighborhood Choir Program | \$10,000 |
| Xico Inc. | Say Yes to the Press | \$10,000 |
| Wigged Out Inc. | Wigs for Women & Children | \$10,000 |
| Phoenix Center Arts Association | Mobile Arts Education for At-Risk Youth | \$5,000 |
| Keep Phoenix Beautiful Inc. | Community Gardens | \$5,000 |
| Rosie's House A Music Academy For Children Inc. | Free Afterschool Music and Leadership Program for Under-Resourced Youth | \$5,000 |
| WHAM | Teen Art Club | \$5,000 |

ABOUT THE THUNDERBIRDS/THUNDERBIRDS CHARITIES

Thunderbirds Charities is a non-profit organization formed in 1986 to distribute monies raised through the WM Phoenix Open golf tournament. The mission of Thunderbirds Charities is to assist children and families, help people in need and improve the quality of life in Greater Metropolitan Phoenix. For more information on Thunderbirds Charities visit www.thunderbirdscharities.org.

The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 “active” members and more than 280 “life” members who have helped the tournament eclipse \$176 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932 (through the 2022 tournament). For more information on The Thunderbirds visit www.WMPhoenixOpen.com/more-about-the-thunderbirds/.

ABOUT THE WM PHOENIX OPEN

The 2024 WM Phoenix Open will take place Feb. 5-11 at TPC Scottsdale. “The People’s Open” has been named the Tournament of the Year by the PGA TOUR four times since 2014 to acknowledge the tournament’s legendary status as one the most unique events in golf. The 2024 edition will mark the 89th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 15th with WM as title sponsor. For more information visit www.WMPhoenixOpen.com.