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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:

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

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.