



## NEWS

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### **THUNDERBIRDS CHARITIES DONATES \$2.5 MILLION TO VALLEY CHARITIES DURING SPRING FUNDING CYCLE**

**PHOENIX, Ariz.** – Thunderbirds Charities, the charitable giving arm of The Thunderbirds – hosts of the Waste Management Phoenix Open – awarded more than \$2.5 million in grants to 58 Valley charities during its 2021 spring funding cycle. Thunderbirds Charities awarded grants of \$150,000 or more to four Valley Charities that included \$250,000 to **Phoenix Public Library Foundation**, \$200,000 to **Teen Lifeline**, \$200,000 to **Human Services Campus**, and \$150,000 to **Homeward Bound**.

With the spring funding cycle in the books, Thunderbirds Charities has now opened its 2021 fall funding cycle. Information about the fall funding cycle can be found at [www.ThunderbirdsCharities.org](http://www.ThunderbirdsCharities.org).

“Many charities and nonprofit organizations are still reeling from the effects of the pandemic,” said Scott Jenkins, President of Thunderbirds Charities. “Obviously, we take tremendous pride in providing these grants to deserving organizations who help so many in our communities – especially during times of great difficulty and incredible challenges. Supporting our charity partners is, without a doubt, the most gratifying part of being a Thunderbird, and together, we look forward to a strong rebound which will help us get back to giving back.”

The \$250,000 grant from Thunderbirds Charities will support Phoenix Public Library Foundation’s Children’s Place at the Burton Barr Central Library – a 10,000 square-foot, children-oriented learning space located on the first floor of Phoenix’s downtown central library.

With the grant of \$200,000, Human Services Campus will be able to support their critical client services which helps remove barriers for individuals experiencing homelessness and lead to permanent housing.

Thunderbirds Charities' grant of \$200,000 will support Teen Lifeline's Teen Crisis Hotline/Textline which trains teens to talk to other teens about their problems, giving teens in crisis a free and safe place to connect with someone they can relate to.

Another grant of \$150,000 will go to Homeward Bound to create pathways out of poverty for homeless families in the Valley, keeping families together and creating communities where every family has a home.

Additional grants awarded from the spring 2021 cycle:

All Sports Foundation DBA Prostate On-Site Project	\$12,000	Prostate On-Site Project
Arizona Association for Foster and Adoptive Parents	\$10,000	Strengthening Foster, Kinship, Adoptive Families
Arizona Cancer Foundation for Children	\$50,000	Improving Lives Impacted by Pediatric Cancer
Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation	\$25,000	Fostering Success for Children in Foster Care
Arizona Recreation Center For The Handicapped	\$15,000	ARCHKids Year Round Services
ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER	\$25,000	CREATE on Wheels, Maker Kits and Virtual Programs
Arizona Strut Students Recycling Used Technology	\$25,000	Techie Empowerment Upgrade Camps
Arouet Foundation	\$25,000	Arouet Opportunity Center
Assistance League of East Valley	\$20,000	Operation School Bell
Aster Aging	\$25,000	Neighbors Program
Be A Leader Foundation	\$50,000	Pipeline of College Access & Postsecondary Success
Benevilla	\$25,000	Benefitness Adaptive Gym
Billy's Place	\$10,000	Billy's Place School Enhancement for Grieving Kids
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale	\$50,000	Supporting our Community Youth During COVID-19
Brighter Way Institute	\$75,000	Oral Health Services for Homeless Individuals
Camp Catanese Foundation	\$75,000	Camp Catanese Summer 2021
Childrens Museum Of Phoenix	\$35,000	Children's Garden & KIDchen
Cloud Covered Streets	\$10,000	Showering Our Streets With Love
College Success Arizona	\$25,000	Mentoring Resilient Students
Desert Voices	\$25,000	Building Equity with Access to Sound
Detour Company Theatre	\$10,000	Virtual Academy and Summer Skills Intensive
Duet: Partners In Health & Aging	\$37,000	Support for Non-English Speaking Kinship Families
Elevate Phoenix	\$25,000	Youth and Family Enrichment Program
Furnishing Dignity	\$25,000	Surviving to Thriving by Transforming A Home!
Gabriel's Angels	\$20,000	Pet Therapy Program

Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council	\$50,000	Girl Scout Social Impact Programs
Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona	\$100,000	Construction In Training (CIT)
Healthy LifeStars	\$20,000	The LifeStars Challenge Maricopa Co Expansion
Homeless ID Project, Inc	\$75,000	ID Empowers Our Community
Homeless Youth Connection	\$50,000	Empowering Youth For The Future
Homeward Bound	\$150,000	Empowering Homeless Families
HonorHealth Desert Mission	\$50,000	School-Based Food Pantry Program
Hope Women's Center	\$20,000	Hope Heals
Human Services Campus, Inc.	\$200,000	Critical Client Services
ICAN: Positive Programs for Youth	\$50,000	ICAN's Positive Youth Development Program
Junior Achievement of Arizona	\$50,000	Providing Real-World Skills to Low-Income Kids
Kids in Focus	\$10,000	After-School Photography Mentoring & Grads Program
Kids Need to Read	\$25,000	The Page Coach
Lions Camp Tatiyee	\$25,000	Emotional Support Crisis Intervention Project
Live & Learn	\$10,000	Women Thriving
Maggie's Place, Inc.	\$40,000	Family Success Center for Homeless Pregnant Women
Meals of Joy	\$5,000	Meals of Joy
Mitchell Swaback Charities, Inc.	\$30,000	Harvest Compassion Center West Phoenix
Open Table, Inc.	\$25,000	Community Convening™ for Social Reconciliation
Phoenix Indian Center	\$25,000	Phoenix Indian Center Emergency Rental Assistance
Phoenix Public Library Foundation	\$250,000	Children's Place at Burton Barr Central Library
ResilientMe, Inc	\$10,000	R's of ResilientMe
Saving Amy, Inc.	\$20,000	Rise Up Program
Smiles and Beyond	\$5,000	Changing Smiles Changing Lives
Soldier's Best Friend	\$10,000	Service/Therapeutic Companion Dog Training Program
Southwest Human Development	\$61,000	Children's Developmental Center
Special Olympics Arizona, Inc.	\$120,000	SOAZ 2021 Programs and Competitions
Teen Lifeline	\$200,000	Teen Crisis Hotline/Texline
The MVP Foundation	\$50,000	The MVP Leadership Academy
Treasure House	\$20,000	Job Training Program for Individuals with IDD
Treasures 4 Teachers	\$45,000	T4T on Wheels
United Service Organizations, Incorporated (USO Arizona)	\$50,000	Support for Military Service Members and Families
WHAM Art Association	\$5,000	Teen Art Club

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### **ABOUT THE THUNDERBIRDS/THUNDERBIRDS CHARITIES**

Thunderbirds Charities is a non-profit organization formed in 1986 to distribute monies raised through the Waste Management Phoenix Open golf tournament. The Thunderbirds Charities Board consists of 15 board members from varying professional backgrounds. The mission of Thunderbirds Charities is to assist children and families, help people in need and improve the quality of life in the Greater Phoenix Metropolitan Area. The organization's giving is directed toward organizations based or with a significant presence in Arizona. 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. For more information on The Thunderbirds or Thunderbirds Charities, visit [www.thunderbirdscharities.org](http://www.thunderbirdscharities.org).

**ABOUT THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN**

The 2022 WM Phoenix Open will take place Feb. 7-13 at TPC Scottsdale. “The People’s Open” has been named the Tournament of the Year by the PGA TOUR four times in the past seven years (2014, 2015, 2018, 2019) to acknowledge the tournament’s legendary status as one the most unique events in golf. The 2022 edition will mark the 87th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 13<sup>th</sup> with Waste Management as title sponsor. For more information visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com).