

Six Local Charities To Share More Than \$25K In Grants From Prescott's Jewish Foundation

Prescott, AZ: A half-dozen local charitable organizations have been selected as the 2008 Community Grants recipients by the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott. Since its inception in 1998, the Jewish Foundation has supported the programs and services of many nonprofits delivering assistance to those in need. This year, the Foundation's awards to local charities totaled \$25,115.

"In tough economic times, this type of funding is more important than ever for our communities' network of social service organizations," said Gail Bleeker, chairperson of the Foundation's grants committee. "We received grant requests from twenty very deserving organizations in 2008; we feel fortunate to be able to honor six of these requests."

The service organizations awarded Community Grants included:

Child Haven - the only known program in the nation to provide home-based care for up to 30 days to children of families in crisis, via licensed volunteer "host families". A \$3,500 grant will support this proven effective, viable alternative to traditional foster care services.

Chino Valley Food Bank - providing emergency food assistance to the disabled, low-income, families, and others in need. The \$4,000 grant will help provide monthly food boxes, as well as bread and fresh vegetables weekly.

Neighbor to Neighbor - offers support services to elderly, chronically ill and disabled adults, helping maintain independence, dignity and quality of life. A \$4,565 grant is earmarked for a 10-week "Low Vision Confident Living" course in Prescott Valley. Participants learn how to cope with emotional and physiological effects of vision loss, are trained in use of special tools and aids, and discuss the latest technological advances in low-vision care.

Prevent Child Abuse Arizona - provides a variety of educational and support services throughout Arizona in its mission to prevent abuse and neglect of children. The Yavapai Family Advocacy Center, one of the organization's twelve projects, serves victims of child abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse and domestic violence. A \$5,000 grant will fund expansion of local domestic violence support groups.

Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) - works closely with local police and fire personnel, with on-call 24/7 trauma counseling to survivors of tragedies, such as vehicular accidents and fire, throughout Yavapai County. A grant of \$4,000 will be utilized to continue and enhance volunteer recruitment and training for the 7-year-old program.

Youth Count - an umbrella organization that establishes and manages community programs serving youth, individuals and families. A \$4,050 grant will fund "Volunteer Yavapai", an innovative online volunteer resource. Through the new web-based program, Volunteer Yavapai will engage and encourage volunteers of all ages, with links to a wide array of community organizations, nonprofits, schools and faith-based groups in need of good people who want to help others.

"For over 5000 years the concept of charitable giving to one's community has been an integral part of Jewish tradition," said Foundation president David Hess. "The Jewish Foundation is proud and honored to support these fine local organizations and agencies that provide such vital services to those in need throughout the greater Prescott area."