### PRESS RELEASE

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# Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation Named 2024 West Valley Mavericks Foundation Grant Recipient

(**Phoenix, AZ**) West Valley Mavericks Foundation has named Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation (AFFCF) a 2024 Grant Recipient.

"AFFCF is grateful to have been chosen as a recipient for this grant and are excited to partner with the West Valley Mavericks Foundation," said Luis De La Cruz, President and CEO of AFFCF.

"Young people aging out of foster care often are underprepared for adult life and lack the resources that their non-foster care peers have access to. These funds will support our Keys to Success program, which works to help youth overcome barriers such as employment and housing, that can prevent them from leading a successful life outside of foster care."

The West Valley Mavericks Foundation's mission is to assist families, children, and others in need and to improve the quality of life, specifically in the West Valley communities, through donations to Arizona-based organizations. Grants are awarded to beneficiaries annually, with funding amounts changing annually to address the community's needs.

To be eligible, a charity must hold a current 501(c)(3) non-profit status and be active in Arizona. As an organization, the Mavericks give special consideration to those non-profits who serve the West Valley and who align with our mission. To be considered for a grant greater than \$1,000, the non-profit organization must have had 501(c)(3) status for over three years.

"The West Valley Mavericks Foundation generated over \$2.3 million in 2023 to support the West Valley community. As a result of our 2023 efforts, the West Valley Mavericks will be providing funding to over 90 West Valley charities this year. West Valley Mavericks Foundation President, Chad Frank, stated, "It has been a privilege to help support the community's explosive growth. With explosive growth comes expansive need. The West Valley Mavericks looks forward to continuing to meet the needs of their community in 2024 and beyond."

Grant Recipients were announced in early March and began being dispersed at an <u>in-person</u> check presentation event on March 20, 2024, at Westmarc in Glendale, AZ. For a complete list

of this year's West Valley Mavericks Foundation grant recipients, visit our website at: <a href="https://www.westvalleymavericksfoundation.org">www.westvalleymavericksfoundation.org</a>

### About Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation

Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation (AFFCF) provides foster care support by closing critical funding and service gaps. AFFCF has over 40 years of experience ensuring Arizona's foster care population can participate in the same activities as their non-foster care peers, achieve self-sufficiency through employment, education, and housing programs and pursue post-secondary success. AFFCF is dedicated to changing the story of foster care in Arizona and qualifies for the Arizona Foster Care Tax Credit. Visit affcf.org for more information.

## **About the West Valley Mavericks Foundation**

The West Valley Mavericks Foundation was born from the imagination and vision of a group of community leaders in late 2012. The group is led by gentlemen who believe the West Valley is an incredible place to live, work, play, and call home. The Mavericks' charter is to advance charity, culture, community, and commerce in the West Valley of Phoenix. The group's membership hails from a diverse set of trades & professions and includes men from all backgrounds and philosophies. Beneficiaries include organizations such as Make-A-Wish Arizona, Angels on Patrol, The Mercy House, Mission of Mercy, Ryan House, Sounds of Autism, A New Leaf Center, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona and Homeless Youth Connection, to name a few.

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