

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AFFCF RECEIVES \$35,000 GRANT FROM THUNDERBIRD CHARITIES** *Non-Profit Organization to Use Funds to Help Foster Success for Foster Youth*

(PHOENIX, AZ) — Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation (AFFCF), the non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of Arizona youth in foster care, is pleased to announce it is the recipient of a generous grant from Thunderbird Charities in the amount of \$35,000. The Thunderbird Charities' board of directors approved the grant to assist in fostering success for children in foster care.

“We are extraordinarily grateful for the generous donation from Thunderbird Charities,” says President and CEO of AFFCF Luis De La Cruz. “As a non-profit organization, we rely heavily on the support of businesses, organizations and residents of the community and we take the responsibility of putting these funds to best use to serve our mission of assisting our local foster youth beyond services provided by the state.”

The grant from Thunderbird Charities will allow the AFFCF to continue its robust Child Activities Program. This program supports foster youth through the funding of their athletic, educational and social activities and items that are not otherwise funded by the state or other programs.

AFFCF began nearly 40 years ago by making one small donation of less than \$30, which allowed a young boy the opportunity to take flute lessons. Since that first act, AFFCF has funded more than \$16 million in childhood activities for children in foster care in Arizona. These funds are intended to help youth in foster care in Arizona experience as normal of a childhood as possible despite their challenging circumstances. Awarded funds go toward assistance in school, music or dance lessons or sports equipment to ensure each child in Arizona foster care can enjoy the kind of opportunities every child deserves. Today and in addition to its Childhood Activities Program, AFFCF also engages youth that are getting ready to age-out of foster care through the Keys to Success Program and its Post-Secondary Program. For more, visit [affcf.org](http://affcf.org).

**About Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation:** Since 1984, Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation has created opportunities to build self-esteem and empower children and youth in foster care by funding activities and services to enrich their life experiences and ensure their successful transition to adulthood. For more information, visit [affcf.org](http://affcf.org).

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