



Harvest
Compassion
Center

IMPACT

2021





IMPACT REPORT

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

Harvest Compassion Center served our very first client almost 12 years ago. His name was Peter. We offered Peter food, clothing, and hygiene items. More importantly, we took time to get to know our new friend. I'll never forget meeting Peter, hearing his story and how he ended up homeless living on the street for over three years. I remember asking what the hardest part was about being homeless and how we could truly help.

Just as I learned the hardships of living on the street from Peter, today we continue to learn from all of our clients about how we can best meet their needs. It is making sure we have large size diapers on hand, more fresh produce and dairy products, a frozen turkey for Thanksgiving, Bibles in their language, or an extra backpack for a bus ride home. Just like with Peter, we listen to our clients and start building new relationships.

Mitchell Swaback Charities, Inc. fully funds and operates all HCC locations. This public 501(c)(3) organization was started by my family, inspired by my brother Mitch, who tragically lost his life in a drowning accident in 2004. Mitch was always the one talking to strangers, helping others at only a moment's notice, and taking the time to be everyone's friend because that's just who he was. Those who had no friends, had Mitch! Those who needed to count on someone to show up, had Mitch! And those who needed to be cheered up, definitely had Mitch!

HCC's mini-marts and clothing boutiques (food banking reimaged) were busy in 2021. The number of new families served increased by more than 25 percent. Stories of brokenness, pandemic chaos, death, and despair were shared daily... but these families had HCC! Those who didn't



Mitch volunteering at a children's orphanage in Lima, Peru in 2004.

know how to fill their fridge after a job loss, had HCC. Those who needed to provide Christmas for their family, had HCC. And those who needed a smile, a hug, and prayer, had HCC!

Over 50,000 individuals counted on HCC this past year. What an incredible honor and privilege to bring our community together, one partner, one volunteer, one team member at a time... together making a lasting impact! I hope you smile as you turn these pages and see all the faces we met this year, just as I can see my brother Mitch's smile... every day at HCC.

Nicolee

Nicolee Thompson
Executive Director



MEET TEAM HCC

“Before I started working at HCC I didn’t quite understand the meaning of giving. Now, every day I get to meet families who share with me their deepest struggles and sadness and it’s a joy to be able to serve them. The best part of being part of HCC is how we all truly feel like family here!”



– **Gabby Vazquez**
Center Assistant



– **Adrie Olson**
HCC Volunteer Coordinator

“I’m beyond grateful that I have the opportunity to do this job. Our volunteers are the VERY best. They understand the mission of HCC and love each and every person who walks through our doors. After they volunteer one time, they’re eager to get more involved and that makes my job a constant encouragement.”



– **Mindy Lockwood**
Center Assistant

“It’s a blessing to be a part of the HCC team! What a pleasure and honor to work with a group of people who are all working toward a common goal, being the hands and feet of Jesus!”

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"I began serving at HCC a few years ago through our local church and fell in love with the way HCC not only provides tangible needs, but more importantly, shares Jesus through the hope, love, and sense of community found in each of the centers. I am so excited to be a part of this team, to continue to serve and spread HCC's mission with our community as we reach even more Arizonans in need!"



– Jenni Torres
Administrative Assistant



– Laura Mancuso
Operations Director

"Joining Team HCC means that I'll be able to bless others with my time and talents, to make a lasting difference right here in my own community."



– Lauren Sullivan
Communications Manager

"As the Communications Manager for HCC, I have the honor of hearing from our clients, volunteers and donors on a daily basis. The feedback is heartwarming and reinforces that HCC's mission is spreading across the Valley, reaching more people in need year after year."

- 17,085** Individuals served
- 139,800** Pounds of Food, Hygiene, and Baby Items distributed
- 21,738** Pieces of Clothing distributed
- 24,600** Diapers distributed
- 1,509** Bibles and Children's Bedtime Stories distributed
- 5,605** Volunteer Hours served

Harvest Compassion Center North Phoenix first welcomed families back in the summer of 2010 and to this day continues to serve those living in and around the top underserved zip code in the entire state. HCC strategically opens locations in the Valley where there are fewer social services of any type available: healthcare, housing, or employment. Our North Phoenix location continues to be one of our busiest centers and has truly become a staple within this community.

Our North Phoenix manager, Lori Schweighardt, told us: "HCC North Phoenix is a place where clients, volunteers and partners feel welcome, safe and want to come. There has been such an increase in community support, showing that they love what we do, which encourages us all! It is awe-inspiring to see volunteers thrive while they serve and often find their niche



where they make the biggest impact using their strengths. Together we get to focus on the kids and families who become fast friends to all of us! We see their thankfulness, smiles, joy in learning each other's names, hugs, eyes lighting up when we see each other, and we know God is at work here. HCC is truly a place where people from every walk of life come together and unite!"



"Harvest Compassion Center North Phoenix continues to serve families in North Phoenix, Scottsdale and surrounding areas. Thousands of families have found a home and forever friends at our North Phoenix location."

— **Lori Schweighardt**
Manager HCC North Phoenix



- 17,610** Individuals served
- 146,400** Pounds of Food, Hygiene, and Baby Items distributed
- 21,411** Pieces of Clothing distributed
- 27,900** Diapers distributed
- 1,412** Bibles and Children's Bedtime Stories distributed
- 4,345** Volunteer Hours served

Harvest Compassion Center Maryvale has been serving this West Valley community for the past four years. Unfortunately, COVID-19 continues to impact and have lasting negative effects on families who visit us at this location.

Paul Thompson, HCC Maryvale & West Phoenix Manager, told us: "Almost weekly we hear of a family member or friend who passed away due to COVID complications. Just last week one of our treasured volunteers lost her battle. We do so much more here in the Maryvale community than just serve food and provide warm clothes. We truly become friends for life, we continue to show up for each other and they always know they can knock on our door, and even on the days we're closed, I will answer!



My number one job is to know the first name of every single person who walks in our doors. When you're not sure where to start or how to make an impact, start by just learning their name!"



“Harvest Compassion Center Maryvale has become an important resource within this often forgotten community. Thousands of local families visit Maryvale every 30 days, receiving essential items to provide for their families.”

— **Paul Thompson**

Manager HCC Maryvale and West Phoenix

- 10,815** Individuals served
- 91,695** Pounds of Food, Hygiene, and Baby Items distributed
- 14,262** Pieces of Clothing distributed
- 33,500** Diapers distributed
- 1,548** Bibles and Children's Bedtime Stories distributed
- 2,155** Volunteer Hours served

Harvest Compassion Center West Phoenix has been serving clients for almost two years! The community of West Phoenix has truly embraced our helping hand and every day new families walk through our doors.

Nicolee Thompson, Executive Director, told us, "I am still amazed at all the different languages that live within such a small radius: Burmese, Swahili, Arabic, Spanish, and Farsi, to name a few. At HCC we are privileged to welcome neighbors from all over the world. Often we're some of the very first American friends they meet — what an awesome privilege! Homelessness, high crime rates and substance abuse continue to



plague this community, but we stand firm in knowing our service is making, and will continue to make, a huge positive impact!"



As we continue to make a larger footprint in this community, we humbly ask for your help to keep our clothing boutiques fully stocked! Did you know that HCC does over 50,000 loads of laundry each year, making sure all gently used items look brand new? "The time, care and attention to detail HCC gives to their donations is first class. We even iron the clothes so each family who shops are proud of their new outfits!" added HCC volunteer Joan.

Donate today and/or join Team HCC as a 'behind the scenes' volunteer, helping us love families by preparing and displaying top quality products!





BACK-2-SCHOOL OUTREACH

HCC's Sixth Annual Back-2-School Backpack and School Supply Drive served 800 kids by giving out brand-new backpacks filled with school supplies for their in-person or e-learning start to the school year. We asked our local community to show up big time and, once again, by utilizing our Amazon Wish List, picking up HCC collection bins and rallying local businesses, churches and neighbors, donations began to pour in!

An HCC Team Member shared with us, "People ask me every year, why do you collect backpacks? Because every year we meet kids like 8-year-old Audrey who, after picking out a pink backpack with blue hearts, put it on her back and would not take it off. Why? Because this was her very first brand-



new backpack ever! She asked me three times if it was really hers to keep! What a joy it was to bend down and tell her with a smile, 'This pink backpack was delivered just for you!'"



**OVER 800 KIDS RECEIVED
BRAND NEW BACKPACKS!**





EIGHTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OUTREACH



Thank you to our community toy donors who made 2021 a very special Christmas for 5,515 local Valley kids! As the holidays approached and so many families continued to struggle during the current pandemic, HCC leaders knew providing Christmas for one child at a time was even more important this year than ever before.

"We never know how many toys will be donated each year. We pray and watch as God leads hundreds of community partners to donate toy after toy, which is so inspiring! Our toy give-away, which involves 23 days of handing out toys to families, is truly a full-time job and it is unlike any other toy distribution in the Valley. Watching a child's eyes light up when we bring out



a bag of toys just for her/him makes all the long hours worth it!" said Nicolee Thompson, Executive Director.

Last December was our busiest December on record, with over 10,000 toys distributed. Thank you again to each donor, volunteer, and staff member who helped spread true Christmas JOY!



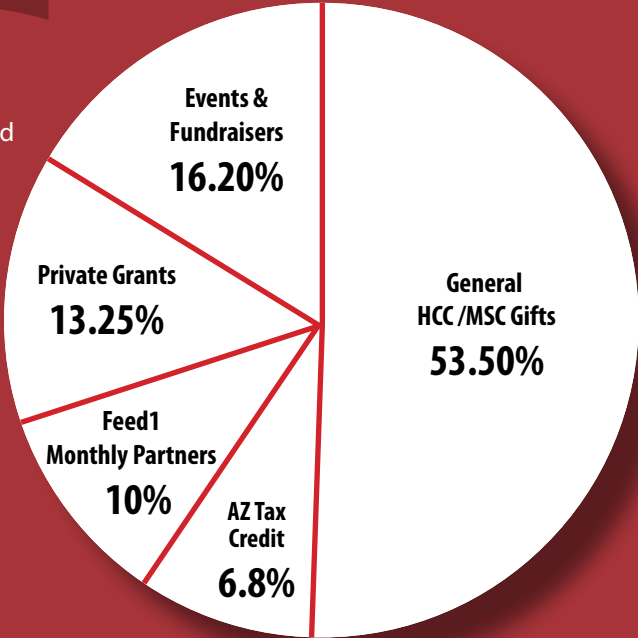
5,515 LOCAL KIDS RECEIVED CHRISTMAS TOYS!



Harvest Compassion Centers accept no government funding and/or food product to serve our local neighbors. We partner with local churches, schools, businesses and families to feed, clothe and serve one family at a time!



How Harvest Compassion Centers are funded



“Thunderbirds Charities is honored to support Harvest Compassion Center. They are providing food, clothing and personal hygiene products to our most vulnerable community members, and we are happy to help their efforts.”

— **Scott Jenkins**, President



“Our partnership with HCC is one we value greatly. We receive calls from many families in need looking for help not only with diapers but other basic needs. We love being able to tell a family that there is an HCC location near them and how they not only will receive help with a variety of basic needs, but that they will be greeted by people who are kind, caring, and friendly. It immediately puts them at ease. We couldn’t have asked for a better partner to help us distribute diapers to those most in need.”

— **Gabi Young**, President



Diaper Bank
of Central Arizona

“HCC is an innovative leader in multiple locations in Phoenix supporting a traditionally underserved segment of the community with grace and compassion. HCC has done a remarkable job helping thousands of families in our community who need basic support without judgement.”

— Dan Tyre
Inbound Executive



“We are proud to partner with Harvest Compassion Center and see firsthand the life-changing impact they have on underserved communities in the greater Phoenix area.”

— Bret Scroggins
Manager, Foundation and Community Impact



2021 VIRTUAL EVENTS



For the second straight year HCC partnered with Arizona Gives Day, rallying donors and partners from all over the state to create a larger impact during 24 hours of giving! With matching gift sponsors pledging \$50,000, AZ Gives Day 2021 brought in our largest one-day total, raising over \$100,000!



This year's race, as in 2020, was held virtually to ensure not only the safety of everyone participating but to also allow friends and partners from all over the U.S. to feed families along with us! We were thrilled to have 45 teams from eight different states participate, together raising over \$104,000 to feed families!





FEED1

1 BAG.

1 FAMILY.

1 MISSION.

Can you imagine having to tell your child that there isn't anything to eat?

One out of four kids in Arizona don't have reliable access to the healthy food they need to grow, learn and thrive. When families do not know when or where they will eat their next meal, they often make difficult choices in order to meet their basic needs, sacrificing things like medical care, utilities and/or transportation.

Harvest Compassion Center's goal is to bring community members together to feed, clothe and love every single family we meet!

Together, one family at a time, we can make a difference. Will you help us **FEED1 Family** today?



\$28 FEEDS ONE FAMILY WITH HCC!

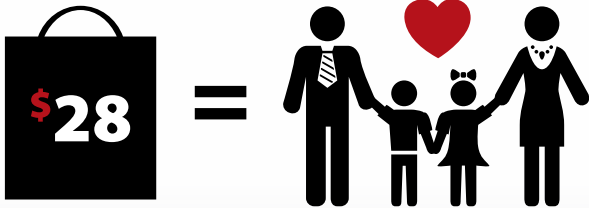
Your monthly gift of just \$28 will completely fill one recyclable grocery bag with food and hygiene items — enough to **FEED 1 Family!**

Harvest Compassion Center is entirely donation based. We invite you to join our **FEED1 Family** monthly giving. You can even FEED2 or FEED3 families!

To join, visit our website —

harvestcompassioncenter.org

and click on FEED1 under our Donate tab.







harvestcompassioncenter.org

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