

Harvest Compassion Center

Do not withhold good
from those to whom
it is due, when it is
in your power to act.

— Proverbs 3:27



IMPACT

2018



WHY WE EXIST

IMPACT

CLIENT: **Richard**

Meet Richard. He was struggling, he was homeless, he had lost custody of his daughter — but he was hustling, looking for work, and he landed an interview.

The HCC became the only stable thing in his life when things began falling apart. Volunteers at the HCC were there for him monthly, praying with him and assuring him that his hard work and focus would get him back on his feet.

Soon he got a new job, and things were looking up. Next, the HCC assuring him to start the process to get his daughter back. Shortly after that he was finally able to visit her.

Richard was careful with his paychecks. He started saving for a deposit on an apartment. But while he's rebuilding his life, he still needs a little help from time to time, so he drops by the Center.

Every single time Richard visits he hears, "Welcome, Richard! How are you doing? How can we help you?"

We helped Richard with job placement, training, and housing referrals.

Sometimes a little food, a little clothing, a little care and and a little compassion can make a powerful difference in someone's life. Not a handout... just a hand up... a bit of encouragement to help someone who is having a difficult time... to help them change direction and pursue long-term goals, and improve their life.

The HCC is in our community to do just this, day in and day out!

To serve our community.



VOLUNTEERS

"My favorite thing about serving at the HCC is definitely the people. Working side by side with HCC guests, volunteers and staff. It is a great feeling to work with a team that has the same desire, to serve others and show each person served they have value and they are loved."

– **Kathleen Trapp**

HCC Phoenix Volunteer since 2014



"Volunteering at HCC has been an amazing opportunity to help our local community and be the hands and feet of Jesus. It has been teaching us to be selfless and love those in need.

I am so grateful to be able to serve the community with my children. Although they are young, it is such a great opportunity for my kids to see the work that is done at the HCC."

– **Dorothy Ardelean**

HCC Maryvale volunteer for 11 months



"My favorite part about volunteering at HCC is definitely the atmosphere. There is a feeling of serenity and generosity within every corner of the building. You can never feel out of place, and every person who works/ volunteers radiates a lovely aura of friendliness."

– Emily Lopez

HCC Phoenix Volunteer since 2016

IMPACT

2018

5,610 FAMILIES SERVED

**143,700 POUNDS OF FOOD, HYGIENE,
AND BABY ITEMS DISTRIBUTED**

24,588 PIECES OF CLOTHING DISTRIBUTED

**1,160 BIBLES AND CHILDREN'S BEDTIME
STORIES DISTRIBUTED**

**4,368 VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED,
SAVING HCC APPROXIMATELY \$65,520**

"I am so thankful for the HCC. I've loved getting to know the guests and volunteers alike! There are so many days I leave thinking of all the guests we were able to serve and how they were all so thankful and kind to us.

I think of one specific regular guest who is always thankful. He is homeless and only takes what he needs, and many times he jumps in and helps during a shift. He tells us often how kind we are to him. He even called the HCC just to say Merry Christmas!

Our volunteers come to bless others, however they find they've been blessed beyond measure by helping those in need and being reminded of the many blessings the Lord has given us. One volunteer came, took a tour, and is now a regular weekly volunteer because of her passion for helping those in her community.

Working alongside each HCC volunteer is the BEST part of working at the HCC."



Adrie Olson

**DIRECTOR OF
OPERATIONS
HCC PHOENIX**



IMPACT

2018

1,626 FAMILIES SERVED

**61,500 POUNDS OF FOOD, HYGIENE,
AND BABY ITEMS DISTRIBUTED**

8,072 PIECES OF CLOTHING DISTRIBUTED

**419 BIBLES AND CHILDREN'S BEDTIME
STORIES DISTRIBUTED**

**1,734 VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED,
SAVING HCC APPROXIMATELY \$26,000**

"I am thankful to be a part of HCC, and to be leading the way this past year at HCC Maryvale. This community is in great need and we are meeting those needs by serving one family at a time.

One guest who has been visiting us for a few months – we've gotten to know her and her story. She has a one-year-old son who has lived in the hospital for ninety percent of his young life, suffering ongoing health issues. Just a week ago she called and said she needed some Christmas toys, but more importantly she really wanted to pray with our volunteers for her son who wasn't doing well.

That's what HCC is all about – real connections with our neighbors in need. They are hurting—and we are meeting them where they are at, and making new friends every week."



Paul Thompson

**DIRECTOR OF
OPERATIONS
HCC MARYVALE**



BACK-2-SCHOOL OUTREACH

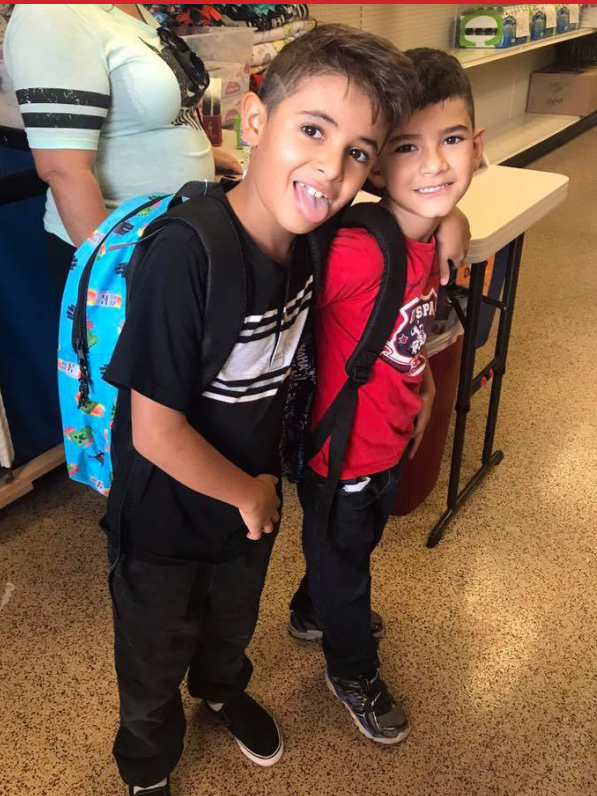
IMPACT
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Mr. Boggs, owner of Goshin Karate & Judo Academy in Scottsdale, has been helping collect school items for the past two years and commented, "One of the core principles at Goshin Karate is to strive for the perfection of the character of our students and to help them be the best citizens. We do this through "Acts of Kindness" which serve our community. We are proud to serve the Harvest Compassion Center, which is local and does so much for the families that have so little."

In total over 20 organizations, churches, and local businesses participated in helping collect school items.

**628 BACKPACKS FILLED WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES
WERE GIVEN TO KIDS**

HCC Phoenix and Maryvale both took part in our “Back 2 School” Outreach in July 2018. It’s estimated in the Phoenix area alone that over 15,000 kids are disadvantaged when it comes to their school-readiness. This means they lack basic school supplies, lunch boxes, and backpacks to kick off the school year with success. After years of HCC clients requesting these school-readiness items, we knew it was time to deliver! 2018 marked our third year of supplying these essential school items to kids of all ages.



HCC Phoenix Director Adrie Olson said, “135 kids were served in 2½ hours on the first day of our backpack giveaway at HCC Phoenix! It was crazy, the line of kids wrapped around our building!”

CHRISTMAS TOY OUTREACH

IMPACT

2018



**13,714 TOYS WERE DISTRIBUTED
THROUGH BOTH HCC LOCATIONS**

For the fifth year in a row HCC invited local community members to be part of our annual toy drive and giveaway. HCC began collecting and distributing toys for HCC clients after leadership saw firsthand a gap that wasn't being filled by others.

HCC Executive Director Nicolee Thompson stated, "I knew five years ago, while crying at our check-in desk with a single mom because I had to tell her we had nothing to give her for her 8 year-old daughter, that HCC had to do more. In that moment, I decided HCC would collect toys year-round and have a major toy giveaway the entire month of December, leading up to Christmas day!"



HCC's vision to serve local children with Christmas toys has now become a reality. In 2017, 3,400 toys were collected by over 35 local churches, businesses, and partners, and distributed to local kids and families in the month of December. In 2018, with the addition of HCC Maryvale, that goal was doubled to 6,000 toys! "That's a HUGE number!" said one HCC Advisory team member.

HCC is thrilled to report that in 2018 over 80 local churches, businesses, and partners collected and dropped off toys for girls and boys of all ages! In total over 13,714 toys were distributed to kids and families at HCC Phoenix and Maryvale!



IMPACT

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Small People Reaching Out Unselfishly To Serve

HCC's kids program has over 75 SPROUTS who are currently earning money each month to feed hungry kids in the Valley. Our SPROUT families fed OVER 400 families in 2018!

SPROUTS is a leadership program that teaches kids ages 3 to 16 how to work hard, give generously and serve their local community. In addition to each SPROUT family earning \$28 dollars a month to feed hungry kids, SERVING SPROUTS partners quarterly with other Valley nonprofits to serve their needs.

- **Created and distributed over 650 Homeless Hygiene Packs**
- **Created and distributed over 120 Baskets of Hope for kids and transplant patients**
- **Collected and delivered over 100 White Bath Towels for Mayo Clinic patients**
- **Raised over \$10,000 in local fundraising**



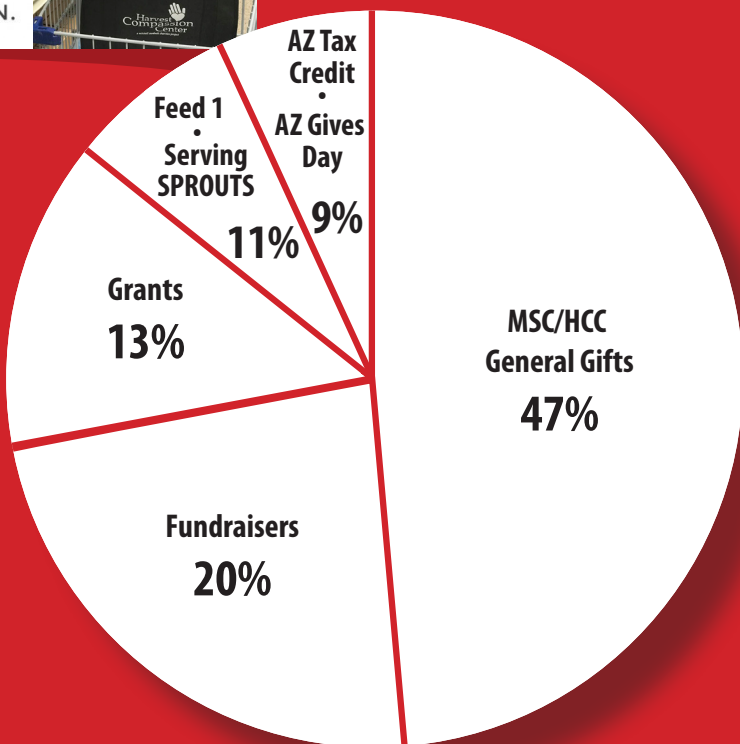
“We want our SPROUTS to know about the hunger crisis in Arizona and how they can help feed kids, but we also want our SPROUTS and their families to know about the many other amazing charity partners that HCC works alongside. Exposing our SPROUTS to other outreach work being done in our community plants future seeds of service. It’s all about working together!” says Serving SPROUTS Coordinator, Nicolee Thompson.



In addition to feeding families this year, our Serving SPROUTS participated in the following outreach events: Homeless Outreach Breakfast (downtown Phoenix), Baskets of Hope with Banner Thunderbird Hospital and Reba’s Vision, Christmas Outreach at Hope in Helping Home at Mayo Clinic, local community entrepreneur Expo Events, Arms of Love Foster Care, Phoenix Mercury Game and Arizona Coyotes 50/50 Raffle Nights.



Harvest Compassion Center accepts no government funding to serve our neighbors.
We lock arms with churches, schools, businesses and families
to feed our communities... one family at a time!



"HCC is making incredible Kingdom impact in the Phoenix area by serving those in need physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We work with hundreds of organizations locally and thousands across the country, and HCC is one of the very best! They are transforming lives in this community!"

– **Dr. Jonathan Roe**

Director, Mission Increase AZ / IMPACT AZ

"We love the HCC because charity begins at home and their organization has a direct impact on our community and our neighbors. Both of our fathers were hungry and homeless at times in their childhood years and received much needed help from organizations like the HCC which helped them to overcome poverty. By helping those who need it most, they make our community better as a whole."

– **Emily Coriano**

Safeco Insurance Representative

"Make More Happen Award"



"Harvest Compassion Center provides such an amazing helping hand to families in need of extra support, it is our honor to work with them. They understand the true meaning of partnership, service and compassion."

– **Olivia Matos, Executive Director**
Arizona Coyotes Foundation

HCC EVENTS

Team MSC's Annual 5k Run/Walk Wheaton, IL

Over 200 participants and
volunteers made up Team MSC
this year as we partnered with
DuPage PADS and
Harvest Christian Academy

**OVER \$87,000
RAISED**





Striking Out Hunger Phoenix, AZ

Over 200 participants packed our first ever
family fun bowling night

**\$40,000 RAISED
BY ALL BOWLING TEAMS!**





IMPACT

CLIENT: **Noah**

A tiny baby boy visited Harvest Compassion Center. His very first visit! He was sleeping with a smile on his face. Not a care in the world! He wasn't alone.

Baby Noah arrived in the arms of his very young mommy. She wasn't so carefree. For such a young person, she showed an awful lot of worry in her face. The wedding was only two years ago — yet her young husband had already abandoned her, and their child.

But there was someone else with the young mom and her son: the mommy's own mother. You could see the lines of anxiety around her eyes. She was carrying the burden of love... the longing a mother always feels for her child, when times are tough.

And then came Grandma, the matriarch of the family. The years of love, of work, of care... the many heartbreaks, the many trials, and yes, the many joys... it was all there, in every step she took. She never thought she'd be sitting here at a local food and



clothing bank, but they had no choice. Four generations, hanging on to each other for dear life. They simply couldn't make ends meet any other way so they found the Harvest Compassion Center by googling local food banks.

What this family found was so much more than just food, clothes and diapers. They found caring HCC volunteers who hugged them at the door, made sure they had cold water to drink while waiting to be served, and brought over a small teddy bear for Noah.

This family found compassion from the volunteer who checked them in, they found new strength after they all prayed together for things to turn around, and they found a clean store-like atmosphere that felt nothing like a food bank.

After shopping for their food, hygiene and baby items, this family found clothes that looked brand new, that smelled fresh, and more caring volunteers who took the time to carefully fold each item they chose. As this family left the HCC they were walked to their car, they received more hugs and smiles from HCC volunteers and they found a renewed HOPE in their future!

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The outreach at Harvest Compassion Center Phoenix's would not happen without the faithful support of so many. The statistics have not changed, in Arizona one in four children and one in five adults live with food insecurity. With the help of the HCC Phoenix families are eating three meals a day. They can spend their budget money on rent and utilities, keeping more families in their homes. Their children are more successful in the classroom, and they are able to focus on health needs and concerns.

More and more families are turning to us for the very first time, every single week. More and more multi-generational families are turning to us every week, too —

because families struggling financially have no choice but to move in together in order to get by.

Most of the people we help are not unemployed, or homeless — they're the "working poor," people who simply need a boost of encouragement, someone to stand in the gap for them, to help them make it to the end of the month.



“When I reflect on the thousands of lives that Harvest Compassion Centers have served in its seven years of existence, my mind is not quite able to comprehend the extent of our impact.



Fourteen years ago this year, I lost my only brother in a tragic accident. Feeding the hungry was not part of my life plan. However, God is in total control of our lives and Mitchell Swaback Charities, Inc. and Harvest Compassion Centers are proof of that. Because of my brother, Mitch, thousands have been shown compassion in his memory.

MSC, Inc.'s compassion has taken multiple forms over the years and today we show compassion to our local community by meeting them exactly where they are at; meeting their immediate needs with the utmost care and dignity, and building lasting relationships with strangers we would otherwise never have met.

We love our HCC clients. We get to pray with them, and we get to be an example of a true servant. Thank you to each and every volunteer, donor and partner who has locked arms with us as we continue our meaningful outreach. God bless you.”

- Nicolee Thompson
Executive Director



harvestcompassioncenter.org

PHOENIX

4744 E. Thunderbird Rd.
Suite 9
Phoenix, Arizona
602-788-2444

MARYVALE

4002 N. 67th Ave.
Phoenix, Arizona 85033
623-247-0039

info@harvestcompassioncenter.org