



# TURNBOW FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

## Annual Christmas Toy Drive 2006

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This past holiday season the Turnbow Foundation hosted its 2nd Annual Christmas Toy drive benefiting the children of the Helping Hands for Single Moms organization.

With the help of Jennifer Graffice and the Las Sendas Athletic Club members, Judy Wagner, Ron and Sheila Smith and Soroptimist International of Mesa, 122 toys were collected.

The Turnbow Foundation would like to extend a sincere appreciation for their efforts in collecting toys; because of their generosity these children had a better Christmas day.

On December 19th the toys were delivered to Helping Hand for Single Moms. Chris Coffman, executive director of Helping Hands, gathered the moms together on December 22nd. The toys were divided up by age group and each mom was able to choose several gifts for their children.

"I wish you could have seen how happy the moms were when they picked out gifts. I wish we all could have seen the joy of the children as they opened the gifts" Chris Coffman.

The Turnbow Foundation received a thank you note from the moms. Here are some of their comments.



*"Thank you for your kindness and your help to make Christmas merry"*  
Sherri

*"You will never know how much you truly blessed our children and us mothers"*  
Marlay

*"Thanks for making this an amazing Christmas for my family! God Bless!"* Susan

*"Thank you for your generous support for our family"* E. Cox



### Special points of interest:

- Gabriel's Angles amazing role in stopping the cycle of violence
- Meet our MCC and GCC fall 2006 scholarship recipients
- Helping Hands for Single Moms sponsorship commitment
- Award for Soroptimist International of Mesa

## Mesa Community College Scholarships

Staying true to our mission the Turnbow Foundation spotlights the MCC Fall 2006 scholarship recipients.

Meet Irma S. a single mom of two young boys. Her educational goal is to earn an degree in



medical radiology. Irma's parents only attended school through the 2nd grade.

She realized that she needed to break the cycle of

poverty and an education will give her the opportunity to provide for herself and her children.

*"Having a college degree will enable me to get a good job with good income and I'll be able to take care of my financial needs".* Irma

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## Community Corner: Gabriel's Angels

"In the late 1970's, Battered Child Syndrome was recognized as a psychological malady that afflicted families across the country and around the world. Recently, animal violence in the home also has been recognized as a malady called Battered Pet Syndrome". Stated Pam Gaber of Gabriel's Angels.

Domestic violence is insidious, cyclical and is passed from one generation to the next without some sort of intervention. Statistics show us that abused and neglected children will continue the cycle of violence and become abusers themselves.

It is Gabriel's Angels mission is to deliver healing pet therapy to abused, neglected and at-risk children, nurturing their ability to love and trust, thereby freeing them from the

cycle of violence.

Gabriel's Angels has been serving the children of Maricopa County since 2000. Pam Gaber, founder and president, and her two year old Weimaraner Gabe started their journey by chance. During a visit to the Crisis Nursery in Phoenix, Pam noticed an undeniable bond between Gabe and the children.

The on-site workers of the Crisis Nursery confirmed Pam's observation: the children Pam and Gabe worked with in their visits



Founders, Gabe, a 7 year old Weimaraner, and Pam Gaber.

became more empathetic and nurturing towards one another. It is through Gabe's unconditional and non-judgmental love, he has taught these children empathy, trust and respect.

Operating by their guiding philosophy, the bond between a therapy dog and a child is strong enough to break the cycle of violence, Gabriel's Angels has grown from Pam and Gabe to over 75 teams. These teams have touched 29,000 children with regular visits to crisis nurseries, domestic violence shelters, group homes and homeless shelters.

The Turnbow Foundation was able to meet with Pam and Gabe and applaud their efforts to stop the cycle of abuse. For more information: Contact 480-460-5333 or [Petshelpingkids.org](http://Petshelpingkids.org)

"Whatever you spend is gone. What you keep, someone else gets. What you give is yours forever"  
Unknown

## Mesa Community College Scholarships (continued)

Our 2nd scholarship recipient is Lori M. Juggling college, working full-time and taking care of her daughter proves not an easy task but Lori is determined to complete the surgical technician program. In her quest for an education she knows that she is setting a good example for her daughter and hopes she will see the importance of a good education.

*I know soon I'll be done with school and we (daughter) can be together more. I know she will be proud of me".* Lori



Ocie L. is our 3rd scholarship recipient for the fall 2006 semester. She is a widowed single parent to four adopted girls 11, 14, 14, and 16.

Realizing she needed to learn a new skill in order to support her family she decided to enroll in college. Her dream is to work with seniors which is why she decided to pursue a degree in Nursing. Being the first in her family to attend college Ocie hopes to make a positive



impact on her children.

*"They are seeing the importance of a college education and how they can go to college and make a difference in the world we live in".* Ocie

On a final note we are proud to announce our newest Turnbow Foundation

scholarship recipient graduates: Alissa R. with a degree in nursing and Michele R. who earned a certificate in practical nursing. **Great Job!**



## Helping Hand for Single Moms

Helping Hands for Single Moms is growing by leaps and bounds. Starting with one mom in 2001 they have increased to 25 single mom families in 2007.

This organization is going strong and making a difference in the lives of these families and our community.

Statistics have shown that their clients have completed a cumulative 180 credit hours with an aggregate 2.9 GPA. They have an amazing retention rate of 89% as compared to a 39% average

for all the Maricopa County community colleges.

For the third year in a row the Turnbow Foundation has committed to sponsoring a mom.



We would like to introduce Rochelle and her daughter Mikayla. She is currently enrolled at Paradise Valley Community College and is working on her prerequisites for the nursing program.

Rochelle is very busy with school and taking care of Mikayla however she is

committed to working on promoting a healthy and vibrant community among her tribe, the Navajo Nation.

Some of her activities include:

- Vice President of the Native American Student Association
- A member of AmeriCorp (a service organization)
- Involved in the promotion of Down Syndrome Awareness (her deceased 2nd child was born with Down Syndrome)
- In charge of organizing the Health Fair during the Navajo Nations "Honor the Elders Day"

Stay tuned for Rochelle's progress in the program.

## Glendale Community College Scholarships

The Turnbow Foundations goal is to assist a student through their educational path. Therefore scholarship renewals are an important aspect in helping the student succeed and graduate from school.

You may remember Katrina K. a scholarship recipient from the Spring 2005 and single mom of little Landon. Katrina is pursuing her

degree in teaching while working full-time.

*"Over the last year the scholarships that I have received have helped me and my family in ways I can't begin to put into words".* Katrina

Our newest recipient is Nicole M. She works on campus as a work study student and attends school full-time pursuing a degree in social work. Like most single

moms she balances work, school and raising three children 7, 7, 11.

In 2005 she lost her fourth child but was able to stay strong and stay in school for her other children.

*"His death was sudden and even though I lost him, I have chosen to stay strong for my other children, finish school and be successful for them".* Nicole

"The results of philanthropy are always beyond calculation"  
Miriam Beard

## Community Partner: Bashas' Grocery Store

Time is drawing to a close for the Bashas' Thanks a Million program. The program began September 1st 2006 and runs through March 31st 2007.



number (#24397) and immediately start donating just by purchasing groceries.

You only need to give the number to the cashier once, its

that simple. Bashas' will donate 1% of the total sales linked to our group.

Tell your friends and neighbors to sign up and let them know that donating to

charity is as easy as shopping at Bashas'.

**"Thanks a Million for your support!"**

Turnbow Foundations group identification number is:

**24397**



TBF is also community partners with Albertsons Grocery Store. To sign up go to Albertsons.com or ask the cashier to link your Preferred Card to **ID # 49001012337.**

This program runs all year so shop at Albertsons and give to charity at the same time!

Here's how it works. Tell the cashier that you want to link your Bashas' Thank You Card to the Turnbow Foundations identification

Turnbow Foundation  
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 ~~~~~  
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 Web-Site:  
 Turnbowfoundation.org

Introducing our NEW web-site:

[Turnbowfoundation.org](http://Turnbowfoundation.org)

Please visit our new web-site beginning  
**March 2007.**

Some features on our web-site: access to  
 our newsletters, on-line donations,  
 featured student biographies, current  
 fundraising activities, resource links and  
 articles highlighting other local and  
 national non-profit organizations.

“IF YOU CAN  
 DREAM IT, YOU  
 CAN DO IT”



➔ CHECK OUT OUR NEW  
 LOGO!

## Soroptimist International of Mesa



Soroptimist International (SI) of Mesa is an organization of women at their best, helping women to be their best. They are a service organization whose focus is to improve the lives of woman and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

Founded in 1921 by Violet Richardson the organization has grown to more than 3,000 clubs in 126 countries. The name Soroptimist comes from the Latin word soror meaning “sister” and optima being “best”; translated to “Best for Women”.

The Soroptimist are committed to making a difference in the lives of women. This is demonstrated by their core values, club objectives and service projects.

Some of the projects SI of Mesa is involved with:

- Women’s Opportunity Award is given to a woman who is head of household to assist her in continuing her education.
- “Yes I Can” a teen self-esteem program for junior high students.
- Violet Richardson Award is given to a young woman in high school to recognize her volunteering efforts.

- Domestic Violence Program which is a partnership with Autumn House, a local domestic violence shelter.

The Turnbow Foundation supports SI of Mesa’s efforts in improving the lives of women and girls and has recently sponsored a Women’s Opportunity Award to be given out this spring.

Membership benefits are very rewarding so to learn more about the Soroptimist in your community go to: [Soroptimistinternational.org](http://Soroptimistinternational.org) or for more information on SI of Mesa contact Patsy Fimbres at 480-964-6400 or [pfimbres@cox.net](mailto:pfimbres@cox.net)

**Join SI of Mesa for their Bunco Blast Fundraiser March 17th.**  
**Tickets are \$30 and include food, drinks, prizes and Bunco!**  
**\*Please contact me for more information.**