

Written by Christina Tetreault



Bake the cake and light the candles, TOPS is turning 15! We love all of our birthdays but this one's a big deal and Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services (TOPS), a 501c3, Arizona nonprofit organization, intends to celebrate this milestone with style, substance, sophistication, and mostly ... a lot of fun!

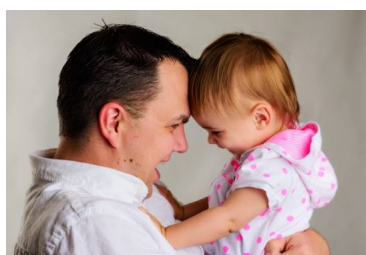
Join us on the afternoon of Friday, April 24, 2015, for the TOPS DAD Fairway to Fatherhood Golf Tournament. We'll be at Chandler's oasis in the desert, Ocotillo Golf Resort, for a spectacular round on this Golf World "Top 50 Ranked Resort" course.

Starting at the "DAD SPOT" you can enjoy a Specialty Margarita, while you peruse our collection of fabulous Raffle Prizes including; Arizona Cardinals Memorabilia, One-Day-Hopper Passes to Disneyland, Wine Tasting for 20 from Total Wines, Arizona Diamondbacks Reserve Baseline Tickets, Party Packages from Skyzone Indoor Trampoline Park Peoria, and more! We'll close the day by awarding our tournament winners at the Sunset Awards Dinner Reception in the Ocotillo Clubhouse which will include a presentation by a special celebrity guest connected to the TOPS mission.



Proceeds from this charity golf tournament will benefit the launch of our innovative, premier fatherhood program, TOPS DAD, which provides young dads vital education and support. TOPS DAD engages teen fathers via interactive workshops and special events, in order for them to accomplish the goal of becoming the dad they want to be. Studies have shown that by providing support and education to young dads, they can learn to advocate for themselves and their children, take responsibility, and become self-sufficient.

TOPS Founder and Executive Director, Laura Pedersen, RN, MSN, states that, "educating and supporting young parents has an incredibly positive impact on their future and the future of their children now, and for generations to come." Established in 2000, TOPS helps young parents create better opportunities for themselves and their children and, in turn, confident and competent parents raise children who are more likely to be healthy and succeed at school and life.



"Over the next three years, TOPS will become known throughout its service areas as the leading provider of education, resources, and support for teen parents. TOPS will help adolescent parents on their journey from pregnancy into parenthood as they negotiate the challenges of completing an education, providing for an infant, and becoming productive members of our communities – in other words, global citizens," explains Dr. Kimberly LaPrade, PhD, Dean, College of Education at Grand Canyon University and TOPS Board Member.

In addition to TOPS DAD, this year will see the introduction of TOPS Scholars, an education grant program that will help young parents stay focused on and achieve their educational goals through incentives, scholarships, goal setting, mentorship, and support. TOPS is working to secure partners in institutional education throughout Arizona, in anticipation of a Fall 2015 program launch.

TOPS thanks media sponsor Arizona Foothills Magazine for helping to promote the Fairway to Fatherhood Charity Golf Tournament – we'd like to think we bring our mission of substance to Arizona with just the right amount of style and sophistication!

Follow the Fairway to Fatherhood with TOPS DAD Friday, April 24th

Written by Christina Tetreault



-Content provided by TOPS