

# Dream Big with The Phoenix Dream Center

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As fall appears once again, we begin to return to our daily routines of packing lunches, driving kids to school, waking up extra early to beat the line at Starbucks, and worrying about what to make for dinner when we arrive home. In our standard activity, we can overlook imperative issues around the valley because we are more worried about trivial things.

When I began my first day of work, I had just come back from a wonderful and exciting summer vacation, full of adventure and travel. I was still in a daze from the exotic holiday when I entered the *Phoenix Dream Center*. On this hot desert morning, the Arizona Foothills Magazine crew sat down with the incredible founders of this nonprofit organization founded in 2006. Each began to tell us in their own words their mission to restore faith and hope to the at-risk youth, the homeless, and the needy families around the valley. The *Phoenix Dream Center* every month they serve over 40,000 people through a variety of programs. Arizona Foothills Magazine has given back to our community for more than 15 years and this will be one of our largest projects yet with some community leaders such as Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Meek, and Mark and Chrissy Donnelly.

The Dream Center Life Recovery program is a faith-based, residential recovery program that helps men and women overcome substance abuse, anger management and emotional struggles. Within a highly structured format, residents are taught to overcome addictions and abuses, and to mend broken or strained relationships with the goal of reuniting with their families.

The Dream Center Rescue project operates two separate homes for underage girls and adult women (18-30) who have been rescued from human trafficking and sex slavery from the streets of Phoenix. The Rescue Project is designed specifically to meet all their needs including spiritual and emotional support, while providing an environment that is loving and caring. The Dream Center Hunger Relief program serves over 9,000 meals weekly, by operating an onsite cafeteria and delivering groceries to homeless, low income, and food insecure families at over 20 sites throughout Phoenix. The Dream Center Adapt-A-Block Neighborhood Revitalization Program volunteers go into neighborhoods, every Saturday, throughout Phoenix to specifically assist high risk, underprivileged youth and their families. Services offered to the youth include transportation to the center and motivational events. These incredible volunteers also donate their time to do housework, repair homes, clear yards, pick-up trash, paint over graffiti and distribute food, clothing and household items.

Arizona Foothills Magazine is going to do our part to help create a hospitable and warm environment for all of the people who need it around the valley with the help of the Phoenix Dream Center. We cannot wait to tell you the details as the year continues! Fun and exciting events are in the process so stay tuned to find out more and what you can do to help this wonderful organization.

If you would like to be a part of this dream for Phoenix, please visit [www.phxdreamcenter.org/volunteer](http://www.phxdreamcenter.org/volunteer) to see volunteer opportunities. Donations can be made online or by contacting the development department at [kgadberry@phxdreamcenter.org](mailto:kgadberry@phxdreamcenter.org) or 602.346.8778.

Or

To learn more about the center, we invite you to come to one of our Tuesday Tours, given each Tuesday from noon to 1pm at the Dream Center- 3210 NW Grand Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85017. You can also visit our website at [www.phxdreamcenter.org](http://www.phxdreamcenter.org).