



**Arizona Council**  
on Faith-Based and  
Community Initiatives  
*God Enriches*

May 26, 2016  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Catholic Charities Community Services  
4747 North 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85013

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Engaging and mobilizing faith communities to improve the quality of life for vulnerable and impoverished individuals and families through a statewide collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

### Minutes

#### I. Welcome, Invocation & Introductions

Chair Gary Kinnaman welcomed attendees. VA Chaplain Daniel Butler opened the meeting with a word of prayer. Attendees introduce themselves. The Sign-In sheets, and all meeting archives may be found here: <http://arizonafaithcouncil.org/meeting-archives/>.

#### II. CarePortal - every church doing a little

Jenica McMaster  
Regional Manager  
The Global Orphan Project's CarePortal

Billy Thrall  
Director, Faith and Community Initiatives  
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Jenica and Billy provided an in-depth presentation on the Global Orphan Project's CarePortal, and led a lengthy discussion on its purpose and promise. The overall strategy of the CarePortal is to connect the local church (and other houses of worship) with the state's Department of Child Safety to serve families. Or as Billy stated, "DCS case workers "release the need" of a family to churches in their local community."

Here are the links to videos shown at the meeting, and materials referenced by Jenica and Billy:

- CarePortal overview video: <https://goproject.org/care-portal/about/>
- CarePortal "You're Worth It" video: <https://vimeo.com/160896001>
- CarePortal statistics: <https://goproject.org/care-portal/impact/?impact-area=Arizona>
- CarePortal informational flier: <http://arizonafaithcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/CarePortal-.pdf>

To connect a community of faith to this extraordinary platform, please contact:

Jenica McMaster; CarePortal Regional Manager  
(913) 424-5243, [jenica@goproject.org](mailto:jenica@goproject.org); [www.careportal.org](http://www.careportal.org)



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### III. Updates

- a. Foster Family Fun at the Phoenix Mercury; May 20<sup>th</sup>. Chuck Fitzgerald reported that the Arizona Blue Ribbon and Hope & A Future facilitated 1,742 foster family members attending the home opener of the Phoenix Mercury WNBA game. Thank you Phoenix Mercury for the great experience. Celebrating foster families is a key strategy for retaining loving homes for children in foster care. It is also the right thing to do. Connect with Chuck if you'd like to become involved. [cfitzgerald@vcfnp.com](mailto:cfitzgerald@vcfnp.com).
- b. West Valley Behavioral Health Summit; June 24<sup>th</sup>. Betty Lynch, the Chair of the West Valley Human Services Alliance, invited attendees and their organizations to attend this one-day event in Goodyear on "changing minds about mental illness. Event Registration and information at: <http://wvhsa.org/behavioral-health-summit/>.
- c. Phoenix Street Feeding Collaborative. Nancy Kiflemariam, City of Phoenix, spoke of an effort to coordinate street feeding support of homeless people in the city. Here are the Minutes from the collaborative's May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, contact information is found in the document: <http://arizonafaithcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Notes-from-Feeding-Collaborative-5-24-16.docx>.
- d. Other
  - Jason Vail Cruz, Terros Health, spoke of Safe Out for safeTALK, a half-day alertness and prevention training to help increase your knowledge, comfort, and ability to reach out to someone experiencing suicidal thoughts. Register for the June 18<sup>th</sup> event here: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/safetalk-with-safe-out-keeping-lgbtq-communities-safe-tickets-25144294261>.
  - Rachel Egboro, First Things First, told attendees of a free summit on June 18<sup>th</sup> specifically for people who work or volunteer in faith-based children's programs. Here is the flier: <http://arizonafaithcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Flyer-Put-Your-Faith-In-Us21.jpeg>.
  - Scott Williams, City of Phoenix, shared an event called "3 Day Commencement Event" hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Phoenix in support of children in foster care. The June 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> event details are here: <http://arizonafaithcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Kiwanis-3-day-event.pdf>.
  - James Estrada, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, shares information on the upcoming MCSO Spanish Citizen Academies: <http://arizonafaithcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Spanish-CA-Aug-Sept.pdf>.

- IV. Closing Remarks and Adjourn. Chair Gary spoke of his upcoming visit with Pope Francis on June 10<sup>th</sup>, and asked for prayer for this visit. Berisha Black, Foster Care Initiatives, closed the meeting in prayer. Next meeting is June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Fitzgerald, [cfitzgerald@vcfnp.com](mailto:cfitzgerald@vcfnp.com)

Convene – Connect – Communicate – Celebrate

[www.GodEnriches.org](http://www.GodEnriches.org) – [info@GodEnriches.org](mailto:info@GodEnriches.org)