



August 28, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Catholic Charities
4747 N. 7th Ave, Phoenix

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

Minutes

I. Welcome, Invocation & Introductions

Billy Thrall (Chair pro tem) welcomed attendees and Pastor Jose Gonzalez opened the meeting with a bi-lingual prayer. Everyone briefly introduced themselves; and Billy had a short “test” at the end.

II. Helping Boys Thrive

Pastor Tim Wright, Community of Grace spoke to the attendees about issues boys are facing in the 21st century and the Helping Boys Thrive Summit. Tim has written a book *Searching for Tom Sawyer: How Parents and Congregations Can Stop the Exodus of Boys from Church*. He has also worked with Michael Gurian of the Gurian Institute (www.gurianinstitute.com).

He shared how testosterone impacts boys and statistics on what is happening to boys and the challenges they are facing. His presentation is here:

<https://www.azdes.gov/uploadedFiles/ArizonaServes/RaisingBoysKryptonite.pdf>

Key challenges for boys:

- Growing bias towards testosterone
- Unintended bias against of boys in school
- Lack of vision of authentic manhood

Faith communities can make a positive impact by understanding the issues faced by boys and connecting with organizations that teach or work with boys. If you know of professionals working with boys, please invite them to the Helping Boys Thrive Summit (www.helpingboysthriveaz.org) in Phoenix on September 12th at Bethany Bible Church.

Tim Wright, Senior Pastor
Community of Grace Lutheran Church
tim@faceofgrace.org

Billy Thrall asked Craig Walker to share a prayer of support.

III. Updates

- a. Brenda Gifford, Run Against Trafficking - R.A.T. Race, told us about the inaugural run on October 25, 2014 that will raise funds for organizations working to end sex trafficking in Arizona and Southeast Asia. Non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply to be a benefactor and use the race to encourage their supporters to help build their base of financial and volunteer support (www.RATraceaz.org).



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- b. Dr. Paul Eppinger (Arizona Interfaith Movement www.azifm.org) invited everyone to join this year's SouperBowl of Caring (<http://www.souperbowl.org>), an event to use the energy of the Super Bowl to mobilize an effort to care for those who are hungry and in need. Last Super Bowl the Arizona Ecumenical Council raised almost \$500K that all went to Arizona food banks. This year Paul would like to raise \$4-5 million. If you would like to participate, please contact Paul at paul@azifm.org or 602-451-8383. The next committee meeting will be on September 10 from 11 am to 1 pm and lunch will be served. Please let Paul know if you would like to attend.

On September 16th there will be a Faith Forum on Peace featuring Dr. Benjamin Thomas and others at the Jewish Historic Center from 11 am to 1 pm. Discussion will include peace in the world and peace in Ferguson, MO. Here are the complete details:
<http://www.azifm.org/events/45/peace-the-golden-rule-in-action-faith-forum/>

- c. Pastor Jerome Parker, Jr. Elevate International (www.elevateinternational.org) shared about serving inner city youth and families. For kids who cannot afford camp, a new program provides them to the opportunity to volunteer in the community and earn a place at camp. So if you have some volunteer opportunities, please let Jerome know at jparker@elevateinternational.org.
- d. Brian Mancini, Honor House (www.thehonorhouse.org) introduced Chris Rowland, Veteran Reintegration Specialist for Operation Healing Journey. For veterans in the healing process they offset financial cost with community resources and integrate many different therapies including outdoor recreation, music and pet therapy. You can reach Brian at brian.mancini@thehonorhouse.org or 623-203-8850.
- e. Jose Gonzalez, Quality Hospice and Arizona Christian Link invited attendees to the free 2nd Annual Pastor's Appreciation Luncheon on September 23, at 10:30 am at Worship & Word Church. Former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox will a special guest. You may view the invitation here: http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/21st_Century_Visionaries-Pastors-3.pdf or contact Jose at josegonzalezq@aol.com.
- f. Berisha Black, DES and Open Table shared that Open Table (www.theopentable.org) now has a new Fatherhood Model. For more information contact Berisha at berishablack@theopentable.org.
- g. Sharon LaRue (Saltmine Trust, www.saltminetrust.org.uk) updated the attendees on an upcoming 3-week tour in late January and early February 2015 of Love Struck - see these fliers: http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Fact-Sheet-for-Love-Struck_USA-tour-2015.pdf and http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Promo-Letter_AZ-Communities_Love-Struck_USA-tour-2015.pdf. It will kick-off with a fundraiser for Streetlight. They still have spots available for organizations and churches to participate at no cost (paid for by ticket sales). This year's play is about sex trafficking. For more information contact Sharon at sharonl@saltmine.org.
- h. Craig Walker, Adventure Encounter (www.adventureencounter.org) had an opportunity to meet with AASK (Aid to Adoption of Special Kids, www.aask-az.org) who provides a summer sibling camp. This year they had 90 sibling units with 50 volunteers. What they



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discovered is that they need camping equipment like flashlights, sleeping bags, etc. for kids in group homes and those who do not have any equipment. Contact Craig if you can help at preach247@gmail.com.

- i. Shellie Wenhold, Anthony Bates Foundation (www.anthonybates.org) shared about their focus to provide community heart screening for youth to diagnose Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy. "Screening young hearts... Saving young lives". There will be several screenings and local schools throughout the school year. For more information contact Sharon Bates at Sharon@anthonybates.org.
 - j. Diane Dudley, DES Refugee Resettlement Program has an AmeriCorp Vista grant to provide a volunteer liaison for faith-based and refugee communities. It is a full-time 12 month position with a stipend of \$840 per month. Here is the flier: <http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/AmeriCorp-Opportunity.jpg> Perfect opportunity for someone who would like to get more experience working with refugees in a high level position. For more information contact Diane at ddudley@azdes.gov.
 - k. Linda Morris, First Pentecostal Church shared an ongoing event to work on the Unity Wall Project, a mosaic wall that spells out "Community". One flier had the dates and the other shares the needs for the project; see them here: <http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/UnityWallFlyer.jpg> and <http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/1-UNITY-WALL-INVITATION-FINAL-JPG.jpg>. The community is coming together in a wonderful and unique way to provide a safe zone for our children. The community green space is located at 2723 E Marguerite Ave, Phoenix. For more information contact Linda at mlmorris@loveliberates.com.
- IV. Adjourned with a word of prayer by Linda Morris. The next Council meeting is on September 25, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at Catholic Charities, 4747 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix.

Submitted by
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