

# 100+ Women Who Care Donates \$10,000 to Boost a Foster Family



Crissy Haidos, Michelle Garthe Noe, Kat Lepper, Jenny Cook, Jonathan Olson, Donna Olson, Susan Barlow, and Alice Burba

In the unfortunate event that children must be separated from their biological parents, placement with relatives, known as kinship care, provides permanency for children and helps them maintain family connections. Placement can come with very little notice and can place a heavy financial burden on the foster family. One Arizona nonprofit, Boost a Foster Family, seeks to help provide a safe environment for vulnerable children placed in low-income kinship foster homes by providing safety items and services. Boost a Foster Family also hopes to remove some of the financial barriers kinship foster families experience when trying to qualify for foster care licensure.

Foster families are held to a high level of safety standards for their home, such as requiring pool fences, child-proof locks, and smoke detectors. The cost to make appropriate modifications to their homes can be prohibitive in proceeding with the placement. Boost a Foster Family receives referrals from the Arizona Department of Child Safety and Arizona foster care licensing agencies. Once a referral is accepted, Boost a Foster Family representatives will supply the items or coordinate the services swiftly to ensure that the home meets safety standards. In addition, the organization provides support to get required medical services and CPR training.

Since incorporating in June of 2016, Boost a Foster Family has seen incredible growth. As of 2020, they have served over 1,000 families and 3,000 children. The pandemic has brought additional concerns about the stability of foster care placements. Families already managing the stressors of the foster care system are also managing the stressors of the pandemic. In

addition, as schools have reopened, the overall number of children being placed in foster care has been increasing, creating a need for increased services.

In September, 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun presented Boost a Foster Family with a donation of \$10,000 on behalf of their East Valley members. Michelle Garthe Noe, Founder of Boost a Foster Family, shared: “Right now, we are partnering with a few other foster care charities in a campaign called All For One. Typically, we only help kinship families with the foster care process. This donation will help us widen our lane for three months and help community (non-kinship) foster families across Arizona as well.”

100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun is a group of like-minded, passionate women who want to connect to one another and to their communities. The ladies are leveraging their resources so their small quarterly gifts of \$100 per member add up to a significant donation to a local charity.

Since the chapter’s inception in 2015, close to \$775,000 has been given to local charities. This group of women has learned that giving back is better together. To learn more about 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun or to register for their upcoming giving circle on October 28, visit [100wvcvalleyofthesun.org](http://100wvcvalleyofthesun.org).

To learn more about Boost a Foster Family, visit [boostafosterfamily.org](http://boostafosterfamily.org). This charity is a Qualifying Foster Care Charitable Organization under the Arizona Tax Credit program. Please consider supporting them when you are making your year-end donations.