

# Community

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## 100+ Women helps feed hungry kids

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In a world where many take their next meal for granted, organizations like Corbin's Legacy are making a profound impact in Phoenix metro communities.

Founded in 2015, Corbin's Legacy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to combating child hunger and ensuring that no child in the community goes to bed hungry.

The nonprofit was named in honor of Corbin Leafman, a Title 1 kindergarten teacher who died at age 30 from cancer.

She asked to be remembered by how she lived, not why she died. Corbin was known for holding up a \$20 bill every day in the school cafeteria, so that the lunch staff knew that every child, no matter the amount of money in their account, would receive a hot lunch.

Corbin's Legacy was established in



Lowell Elementary School children gathered with, from left, Genisha Wright, Jacqueline Destremps, Stephanie Millner, Kim Tarnopolski and Joan Leafman to celebrate the generous donation by 100+ Women Who Care to Corbin's Legacy. (Kim Tarnopolski)

response to the alarming statistics surrounding child hunger.

In the Phoenix area, one in four children face food insecurity and go to bed hungry every night. This issue is particularly pronounced in schools, where

many children rely on free or reduced-price meals provided by government programs.

However, these meals often fall short, leaving gaps that can leave students hungry and unable to focus on their education.

The organization addresses this issue head-on by working directly with Title 1 schools to provide nutritious food to children who need it most. By identifying schools with high rates of food insecurity, Corbin's Legacy implements programs designed to ensure that students receive the sustenance they require to learn and thrive.

At the heart of Corbin's Legacy's mission is its Legacy Weekend Food Warrior initiative, which supplies backpacks filled with healthy meals and snacks to students every Thursday.

These backpacks are provided for children who may not have enough to eat at home, ensuring they have access to nutritious food over the weekends and during school breaks.

Each backpack contains eight complete meals that includes items like oat-

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meal, peanut butter, tuna and chicken salad, applesauce, and Oreos.

Corbin's Legacy relies heavily on community support to carry out its mission. Volunteers play a vital role in assembling backpacks and organizing fundraising events.

Local businesses, community organizations, and individual donors also contribute significantly to Corbin's Legacy. Their generosity ensures that the organization can continue to meet the growing demand for food assistance in schools.

By fostering a spirit of collaboration,

Corbin's Legacy demonstrates that addressing child hunger is a shared responsibility that requires the collective effort of the entire community.

The impact of Corbin's Legacy extends beyond just providing meals; it fosters hope and stability for children facing food insecurity.

By ensuring that students have access to nutritious food, the organization helps improve academic performance, enhances emotional well-being, and cultivates a sense of security among children who might otherwise go hungry.

In a world where food should never be

a luxury, Corbin's Legacy ensures that every child has access to the nutrition they need to succeed.

In October, Joan Leafman shared the mission of Corbin's Legacy with her 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun group in Ahwatukee. The members selected the charity to receive their quarterly donations totaling \$16,325.

"With the funding that Corbin's Legacy has received from 100+ Women Who Care, we will be able to add a Title 1 elementary school, currently on our waiting list, and feed all the hungry children at that school every single

weekend for the entire academic year," stated Leafman.

Since the chapter's inception in 2015, 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun has donated over \$1.4 Million to local charities.

To learn more or to register for their upcoming giving circle on Jan. 21, visit [100wwcvalleyofthesun.org](http://100wwcvalleyofthesun.org). Tempe women and guests are welcome.

To learn more about Corbin's Legacy, visit [corbinslegacy.org](http://corbinslegacy.org). This organization is a Qualified Charitable Organization and is accepting Arizona tax credit donations. ■