



## NEWS RELEASE

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(photo available)

### **Arizona's Children Association Centennial Celebration honors Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall with the "Centennial Legacy" Award**

Arizona's Children Association is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its founding in Tucson in May 1912, with a full schedule of Centennial Celebration events throughout the state and wrapping up with grand celebrations in Phoenix and Tucson in May 2012.

Local community leaders joined Arizona's Children Association staff and supporters on Thursday, May 5, to honor the donors, volunteers, employees and families who have contributed to our success over the past 100 years. The celebration highlighted the sexual abuse support services offered by Las Familias Angel Center for Childhood Sexual Abuse Treatment, a member of Arizona's Children Association family of agencies. The event was also an opportunity to celebrate Arizona's Children Association's commitment to providing a second century of hope to our communities. Arizona's Children Association board members, Tom Knox and Pamela Traficanti, served as hosts for the event.

Among the highlights of the evening, Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall was honored with the "Centennial Legacy" Award for her dedication to ensuring that our community meets the needs of children and families who are victims of crime. More than 25 years ago, the Pima county attorney's office was among the founding members of the development of Las Familias when they identified the critical needs of victims of childhood sexual abuse and recognized the need for specialized services. Since she joined the Pima County Attorney's Office, Barbara LaWall has been a strong supporter of agencies like Las Familias and she has been a strong advocate for child victims of sexual abuse.

Guests at the Centennial Celebration were also asked to sign a "Book of Hope" to offer advice that will inspire future generations of children, families, volunteers, communities, staff members, business partners, elected officials, financial donors and Board members all working together to continue a legacy of hope for Arizona. The "Book of Hope" will travel to Centennial receptions across Arizona during 2011-2012 and then be preserved for Arizona's Bi-Centennial.

A very special thank you to Community Partnership of Southern Arizona for their support of Arizona's Children Association and our celebration of our 100 years of providing hope to Arizona.

Arizona's Children Association was originally founded in 1912, as Arizona Children's Home Association, to care for homeless, neglected and dependent children. For 100 years the agency has stayed true to its mission of Protecting Children and Preserving Families, serving more than 45,000 children and their families in all 15 counties in the state each year. We are presently one of the oldest and largest statewide child welfare and behavioral health nonprofit agencies in Arizona. Members of Arizona's Children Association Family of Agencies include Child Haven, Golden Gate Community Center, In My Shoes, Las Familias, New Directions Institute, The Parent Connection and Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault. Please visit the Arizona's Children website at [www.arizonaschildren.org](http://www.arizonaschildren.org).

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