



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
June 13, 2008

Contact: Virginia Yrun
520.327.1171

**Virginia Yrun named Director of Organizational Leadership
for Arizona's Children Association**

Virginia L. Yrun, J.D., LL.M., has been named Director of Organizational Leadership for Arizona's Children Association, the largest child welfare and behavioral health organization in the state. Her responsibilities include development of a statewide leadership academy to provide leadership training and coaching for staff to better meet Arizona's Children mission in changing environments and with changing workforce trends.

Yrun is currently Executive Director of the Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (SACASA) which joined the Arizona's Children Association family of agencies in a merger that will become effective July 1, 2008.

"The not for profit sector will be faced with major leadership challenges over the next few years as seasoned executives look to retire. The addition of an experienced person within our organization who is responsible for organizational leadership will ensure that we are prepared to meet that need. The fact that we have been able to recruit Virginia Yrun to fill that role will have a positive impact all across the state," said Fred Chaffee, CEO of Arizona's Children Association.

Yrun is a visionary community leader with more than twenty years leadership experience. She served as CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southern Arizona for twelve years, as a member of the Arizona State Senate, 45th Legislature and as founding director of the Arizona Health Policy and Law Institute, a statewide, collaborative health policy and law institute that identifies pressing health policy issues and convenes multidisciplinary teams to address them. She received her JD from the University of Arizona J.D., University of Arizona College of Law, and her B.A. in Education from the University of Arizona.

"I am honored to join an organization with such a long standing reputation of excellence," said Yrun. "Arizona's Children Association has served generations of Arizonans; I look forward to supporting its leadership in serving future generations."

--more--

Yrun Add 1-1-1-1-1

Arizona's Children Association was founded in 1912 as Arizona Children's Home. For more than 96 years the agency has stayed true to its mission of Protecting Children and Preserving Families, serving more than 44,000 children and their families in all 15 counties in the state each year. AzCA programs and services include: foster and kinship care, adoption, crisis nursery, family support and preservation, prevention, counseling, substance abuse and child sexual abuse treatment, special education school, early childhood education, Head Start, group care, adult education, preventive health and fitness and a neighborhood Community Center. Arizona's Children Association member agencies include Golden Gate Community Center, Las Familias, Child Haven, New Directions Institute for Infant Brain Development and The Parent Connection.

Visit the Arizona's Children Association website at www.arizonaschildren.org and the SACASA website at www.sacasa.org.

###