



**YOUTH ON THEIR OWN**

Educating homeless teens. Investing in Tucson's future.

YOUTH ON THEIR OWN

# NEWSLETTER



## SUCCESS STORY!

Sergio Magallanes' favorite quote encompasses his approach to life: "What the mind of a man can conceive and believe, he can achieve." Step-by-step, Sergio, now 25 years old, is achieving a plethora of educational and personal goals that he believes are essential to his future success. "I know I'll eventually get there," he said with determination.

A 2002 graduate of Amphitheater High School, Sergio has been ambitious since

he was young. One goal was to graduate from high school, which he accomplished at age 19. The Amphi YOTO Liaison helped him during high school to find a job and a place to live so he could attend to his studies and support himself. He was grateful for the monthly stipend, which supplemented his income, and access to the YOTO "Mini-Mall" provided him with needed food and clothing. As with Sergio's entry into the YOTO program six years ago, approximately 8% of YOTO students served in 2007-08 cited poverty as the major reason that they are "on their own."

Upon high school graduation, Sergio continued his education at Pima Community College. Again, he rigorously pursued his studies, working and attending Pima for the past six years. He needs to complete one more class before he transfers to a four-year university. "Along with the core classes, I studied coursework in economics, international business, and business management," he stated, adding that he also plans to earn a MBA. A career in business management or international business is likely in his future, and he reads incessantly to broaden his knowledge on topics that range from finance and investments to interpersonal communications.

Tenacious with an "I can do" attitude, Sergio has been working at the Panda Express located at Silverbell and Speedway since he became a YOTO student. He climbed from dishwasher, to cook, to assistant manager, to general manager. "I work until the job gets done," he smiled, which translates to long hours. He stressed, "Family is so important to me," continuing, "I didn't have much growing up." This proud, gracious young man was reluctant to speak in detail about the circumstances upon which he was accepted into the YOTO program at age 17. Sergio barely knew his father; his mother lives in Mexico. "Our relationship father-son is better but the distance or emptiness that I have from my childhood is somehow still there." He hopes that with time he moves past that so he can fully enjoy his relationship with his father.

For now Sergio focuses on the future, blending realism with dreams: "I want to provide for my family what I didn't have." He concentrates on maintaining a balance with work, college studies and his home life, especially with his marriage to Mirella in December 2007. His advice to current YOTO students: "Sometimes it is difficult to reach our goals, but even so, just keep on 'doing' and eventually something will happen." Sergio, we are so proud of your accomplishments!

## SAVE THE DATE!

*Top of the Town '09*  
for the benefit of YOUTH ON THEIR OWN

### Youth On Their Own's 14th Annual Fundraising Gala

Saturday, March 7, 2009 at 5:30 pm

The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa

Auction, Dinner and Dancing! **Early Bird Ticket Prices until December 15, 2008!** For event information, ticket purchase, sponsorship opportunities or to contribute an item for the silent auction, visit [www.yoto.org](http://www.yoto.org) or call the office at 520.293.1136.

### YOTO Annual Student Holiday Party '08

Friday, December 12, 2008 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Son Life Chapel - 2955 W. Ironwood Hill Drive

This annual YOTO tradition includes food, fun and gifts for each student! Turn to page 11 to find out how you can become involved.

### Don Mackey Charity 3

Don Mackey Cadillac will contribute \$100 for every U of A Men's Basketball three-pointer scored during home games. YOTO is one of three selected beneficiaries.

**Thank you Don Mackey Cadillac! Go Wildcats!**

### Olive Garden "Giving Tree"

Olive Garden chose YOTO students as the recipients of their annual "Giving Tree"! Turn to page 11 for details.

**When: November 28, 2008 - December 18, 2008**

**Where: 5410 E. Broadway Blvd. location  
(SW corner of Broadway & Craycroft)**

## INSIDE

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**Panda Express will donate 20% of each YOTO supporter's purchase at five Panda Express locations to Youth On Their Own on Monday, December 8, 2008, 11:00 am - 8:00 pm. Please present the flyer available for print on [www.yoto.org](http://www.yoto.org) to Panda Express. Many thanks to Panda Express for helping YOTO students this holiday season!**







# YOTO WELCOMES...

This fall Youth On Their own proudly announces the addition of two newly-elected members to the Board of Directors, Tod Smith and Sean Murray, and welcomes staff member Jeremy Serwer, who accepted the position of YOTO's Program Coordinator.

## TOD SMITH, Board of Directors

Tod assumed his role on the YOTO Board in June 2008. He brings skills and knowledge in multiple areas, including media planning, market research, sales and sales management as well as account planning, and business and product development. A 1984 graduate from Loyola University with a Bachelor of Business Administration, Management, Tod's early career years were spent with Shell Oil Company. He served in several positions – including roles in planning and policy analysis – for nearly ten years.

Tod made a move to manage sales at Belo Corporation/WWL-TV in New Orleans in 1993 and also taught at Tulane University as an Adjunct Professor of Marketing for several years. Since 2006, he manages BELO Tucson's Fox & My Network duopoly. His work with numerous professional associations, experience as a Board of Directors for the Advertising Club of New Orleans and present position on the Board of Tucson AdFed is an asset to Youth On Their Own as the organization continues to increase its presence in the Metro Tucson community.

"YOTO's unique and important mission certainly made the decision to join the board an easy one," said Tod. "I see education as an important part of both individual and community success and working with YOTO is a way for me to take an active role in helping these students realize their goals."

## SEAN MURRAY, Board of Directors

Sean was welcomed to the Board of Directors this November. "I first learned of YOTO's work through my wife, a teacher for 11 years at Flowing Wells High School," he stated. "She would often describe the challenges her students were facing at home (or lack of home) and the efforts of YOTO in helping those students." With this understanding, he fully supports YOTO's mission, those served, and the implementation and types of services offered by the program.

Sean has a wealth of career experience in accounting and finance and possesses strong presentation skills. He graduated from the University of Arizona in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science in Business in Business/Finance with a minor in International Business and French. Sean furthered his language studies with study abroad experiences in Quebec City and Copenhagen. He has 10 years in commercial banking and is currently a Relationship Manager at Wells Fargo. Responsibilities range from new business development and customer retention to offering a full array of business banking services in both lending and non-lending areas. His knowledge of finance along with his inventive problem-solving abilities continues a board legacy of wise stewardship of the organization.



(L to R) Sean Murray and Tod Smith joined fellow board members at the Annual Board of Directors Retreat held on Saturday, November 8, 2008.



## JEREMY SERWER, YOTO Program Coordinator

Jeremy Serwer joined YOTO as the Program Coordinator in August 2008, just as the new academic year began to heat up. With 11 years of professional experience in youth services, he stepped into the position full-speed. Jeremy is the main contact for our many School Liaisons, and he keeps a close eye on each student's school performance and attendance. Another important aspect of his work includes the strengthening of existing agency collaborations and the investigation of new partnerships to expand YOTO student client services. He's a natural when it comes to relating to youth, whether he's handling a crisis situation, coordinating additional services, or greeting a student dropping by to visit the "Mini-Mall".

Jeremy has lived all over the United States. He attended Northern Virginia Community College, the University of Wisconsin-Stout and served as a medic in the U.S. Army. Experience in youth services includes positions in Duluth, MN, Portland, OR and, most recently, San Francisco, CA. An accomplished musician, Jeremy's work is described as having "amazing soulful vocals," "intense, brilliant guitar work," and a "depth of songwriting that can only come from living among that much rain (in Portland, OR)." He introduced his new solo release entitled "FM" in July at a San Francisco performance and continues to write and to perform music in Tucson.





# ★ STUDENT PROGRAM AND SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT ★ 2007–08 ACADEMIC YEAR

“I just graduated from high school. Your help has made a difference in my life by providing resources, caring people, and the financial support to help me stay motivated. I worried less about survival so I could focus on school.” – Marco, Northern Arizona University freshman

## Who Does YOTO Serve?

YOTO Program Student Client Eligibility

- Youth ages 13 – 21 who are enrolled in Metro Tucson public schools, including charter and alternative schools, in grades 8 through 12

### Both of these situations must be present to be considered for Youth On Their Own:

- Youth who are unaccompanied through no fault/choice of their own
  - o Not in the physical custody of a parent or long-term legal guardian
- AND**
- Homeless per the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Definition
  - o Living with a friend, relative or someone else because they lost their home or can't afford a home
  - o Living in a homeless shelter
  - o Staying in a motel or hotel, car, park, or other public place not meant for habitation
  - o Living in substandard housing
  - o Awaiting Foster Care placement

### YOTO will also consider students in the following living situations with caseworker approval:

- o Group Home placements
- o Temporary Foster Care placement

“Facing the reality of being a homeless youth was frightening. With YOTO’s support and services, I’ve pushed myself to stay on track to graduate from high school. I have a clear vision of where I want to be thanks to all of you.” – Marta, University of Arizona freshman

## COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS... expanding services for YOTO youth

YOTO works closely with community organizations, agencies, and Metro Tucson public schools to provide direct student client support. Collaboration expands the breadth of service delivery options that we are able to provide our students; it also eliminates the potential for duplicating services so that we can remain focused on the educational piece; thus, fulfilling our core mission: student high school graduation.

Assistance League of Tucson  
(Starting Over Supplies)

City of Tucson Transportation Department  
(bus passes)

Community Food Bank (YOTO is also  
a Community Food Bank provider)

Department of Economic Security  
Jackson Employment Center  
Kiwanis Pima County Children’s Council  
Leones De Las Montanas Lions Club  
(eye exams & eye glasses)  
McKinney-Vento District Liaisons  
Open Inn, Inc.  
Our Family (Teens in Transition Program/  
Family Reunification Services)  
Pima County One Stop  
Pima County Community College/  
PCC Foundation  
Southern AZ Community Diaper Bank  
STEP (Student Expedition Program)  
Tucson Planning Council for the Homeless  
Youth Committee  
TUSD Educational Enrichment Foundation  
World Care (computers)

## Student Client Snapshot

- 578 student clients were enrolled in the YOTO program
- A total of 74 schools served:  
59 high schools and 15 middle schools
- 134 students graduated from high school
- 13 students were named “AZ Daily Star Senior Class Achievers”
- 98% of our students attended high school; 2% attended middle school
- 66% were female students; 34% were male students
- 70% were ages 13-18; 30% were ages 19-21

## Ethnicity\*

- 51% Hispanic/Latino
- 21% Caucasian
- 12% African American
- 8% Native American
- 7% Multi-ethnic

## Student Client Services

- A monthly stipend up to \$125 dependent upon grades of “C” and regular attendance
- Basic needs, including food, clothing, hygiene and school supplies, and household items
- Special Needs Funds, utilized i.e. for emergency rent and utilities
- Guidance and referrals

## Main Reasons Students Leave Home\*

- 16% abandonment
- 12% parental drug abuse
- 12% severe conflict w/ step-parent or parent’s live-in significant other
- 10% physical/emotional/sexual abuse
- 8% parent(s) deceased
- 8% extreme poverty

## Living Situation\*

- 41% live with relatives
- 20% live in multiple living situations (often termed “couch hopping”)
- 14% live with significant other
- 8% live alone

\*most significant statistics

## Our Vital Partners in Education

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to YOTO Liaisons and designated school officials in our public schools, including charter and alternative schools, who help YOTO staff in identifying students in need of our services, facilitate the program enrollment process, and assist us in monitoring students’ progress throughout the academic year.





## SPRING GRADUATES 2008

### ACE Charter HS

Nanette Caballero  
Travis Knight

### Alta Vista Charter HS

Steven Lamphier

### AmeriSchools Academy

Amanda Sherman

### Amphitheater HS

Delaney Bedell  
Jessica Carmona  
Ashley Chatman  
David Durazo  
Rhianna Hastings  
Melissa "Missy" McCrary  
Daniel Noriega  
Xenia Puckett

### Aztec Middle College

Anthony Rodriguez

### Catalina HS

Jasmine Aceves  
Kadar Iman  
Abdikadir Omar

### Canyon Del Oro HS

Anna Palacios  
Kei-Che Randle  
Natalie Ritter  
Albert Vega

### Cholla HS

Chris Axsom  
Luis Burruel  
Justin Hoffman  
Hao Nguyen  
Debra Riegert  
Sean Robertson  
Yvonne Silva  
Kim Troesser  
Jesus Verdugo

### City HS

Ivy Blanchard  
Amy Templin

### Desert Rose Academy

Maria Damian

### Desert View HS

Lee Abraham  
Ashley Andalazo  
Rick Azevedo  
Deborah Gribowskas  
Aaron Kershaw  
Hector Ramirez

### Downtown Alternative HS

Kolette Ayala  
Cassandra Castillo  
Samantha Dyer  
Robert Garcia  
Jesus Morales  
Noira Otero  
Ashley Robles  
Serina Zazueta

### Eastpointe HS

Brandi Johnson

### Edge HS

Anna Green

### Flowing Wells HS

Tabetha Bruns  
Thomas Parish  
Azya Peoples

### Luz Academy

Zulma Toyos

### Marana HS

Keifier Alliman  
Brittany Dennee  
Alyssa Rodabough

### PACE Alternative HS

Beau Childs

### PASS Alternative HS

Anna Anaya  
Jose Salazar  
Samantha Smith

### Pueblo High Magnet School

Ignacio Escalante  
Ventura Estrella  
Yolanda Gradillas  
Zubia Hernandez  
Nicholas Mendoza  
Olatocha Payne  
Justine Valdillez  
Lisett Velasco

### Pima Vocational HS

Philip Barreras  
Herman Castro  
Carmen Cervantes

### Rincon HS

Kristin Hoffman

### Southern Arizona Community Academy

Tiffany Alejo  
Stephanie Alvarez  
Audrey Billie  
Tiffany Jones

### Sahuaro HS

Daniel Johnson

### Amphitheater Alternative HS (San Joaquin)

Danielle Delsid  
Raquel Munoz  
Michael Schlesing  
Jessica Shea

### Sunnyside HS

Carolina Gallego  
Melissa McFarland  
LaQuevia Samuels

### SouthWest Alternative HS

Josephine Flores  
Nicole Garcia  
Maria Reyes

### TUSD Teenage Parent Program

Abeline Perez  
Monica Koons  
Jahaira Lopez  
Tiffany Sanchez  
Jennifer Sellman

### Tucson High Magnet School

Jesus Bracamonte  
Terrisha Flowers  
Aeryk Gonzales  
Kristina Martinez  
Javier Martinez  
Stefan Oropeza  
Heather Stinger  
Joe Tafoya  
Ruben Valencia  
Gorett Valenzuela  
Shelly Weasel

### Tucson Accelerated HS

Camarie King

### Tucson Preparatory HS

Orion Bastidas  
Christina Campos  
Teresa Campos  
Monica Chavez  
Nicole Loma  
Irma Miranda  
Annette Pedrego

## ARIZONA DAILY STAR SENIOR CLASS ACHIEVERS AWARD

For the past 12 years, the Arizona Daily Star highlights the accomplishments of 2007 – 2008 graduating seniors who might not normally be recognized. "Senior Class Achievers" honors southern Arizona's most inspiring graduates who have overcome hardships and contributed to their community as well valedictorians and all-star athletes.

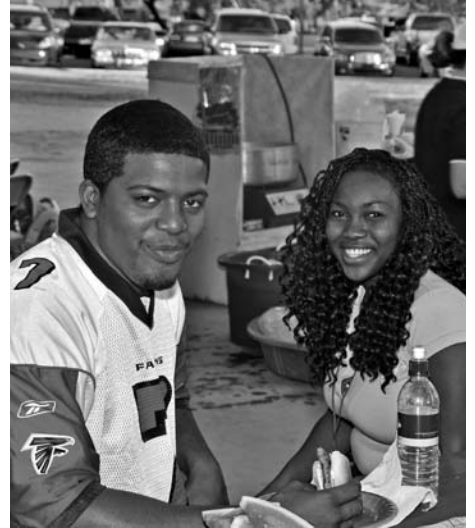
### Congratulations to the following selected YOTO students:

Stephen Lamphier..... Alta Vista Charter HS  
Danielle Delsid ..... Amphitheater Alternative HS (San Joaquin)  
Michael Schlesing..... Amphitheater Alternative HS (San Joaquin)  
Kei-Che Randle..... Canyon Del Oro HS  
Chris Axson ..... Cholla HS  
Amy Templin..... City HS

Tabetha Bruns ..... Flowing Wells HS  
Anthony Gerbai ..... PACE Alternative HS  
Julianna Maxwell..... PACE Alternative HS  
Ignacio Escalante..... Pueblo High Magnet School  
Melissa McFarland ..... Sunnyside HS  
Karla Garcia..... Sunnyside Teenage Parent Program  
Laquevia Samuels ..... Sunnyside HS

## ★ TIME TO CELEBRATE!

A summer breeze, decorations, a fabulous B-B-Q... all ingredients for a wonderful evening at Reid Park held on June 6, 2008 in honor of 2007 – 2008 YOTO high school graduates. Many thanks for the assistance of community volunteers and YOTO board members who decorated the pavilion, supplied the food, cooked, and served up a delicious meal enjoyed by all.





# ★ YOTO COACHING COLLABORATION LAUNCHED!



Community volunteers at the Public Orientation/ Training days in August and September received an understanding of what teens face in today's world. YOTO students participated in a panel discussion entitled "A Peek into the Life of a Teen" facilitated by YOTO Executive Director Mary Gruensfelder-Cox.

**"When I think of the impact this is going to have on Tucson, it is truly inspiring."**

**"Even during the coaching demonstration at the training day, the young people got a touch of what is possible."**

These enthusiastic comments came from volunteers who completed training recently to become Personal Success Coaches. This month nearly 30 community volunteers begin as Volunteer Coaches for 30 teens at Amphitheater High School, many which are YOTO youth.

"An important part of YOTO's mission is to provide guidance to the students we serve," stated YOTO Executive Director Mary Gruensfelder-Cox. "This coaching program will be extremely valuable in helping our students grow and be successful. Coaching is used in the business world and is quite different than mentoring, companionship or counseling. The coaches' role is to assist students to set goals, find their own strength, solve their own problems, and learn to trust key adults as members of their success team."

The coaching project is a collaboration involving YOTO, Touch Point Connection and Amphitheater High School. The first goal is success for the teens, as measured by higher graduation rates. Other goals include providing 21st Century skills that will serve them in life and the work place, such as critical thinking, time management, decision-making, and communications.

The community volunteers come from all walks of life. They range from people in their 30s with careers and families to empty nesters and retired professionals. All are seeking meaningful volunteer work that also fits into their busy schedules. Each volunteer meets with his or her teen weekly for 30-40 minutes. The meetings are held at school, during the school day, when school is in session.

Next school year, the program will grow to serve more youth and will expand into additional schools. For information about becoming involved in the program, contact YOTO or Touch Point Connection at [www.TouchPointConnection.org](http://www.TouchPointConnection.org) or call 520.616.2960.

## PROGRAM NOTES

YOTO supports the high school graduation of homeless unaccompanied youth in three main areas: financial assistance, human needs and guidance. The "guidance" portion of our mission involves understanding the unique needs of each of our students and involves many aspects of student assessment. A final assessment culminates in surrounding a youth with a carefully selected success team and services for appropriate support.

### A Case of Guidance: Sue, a local high school student

One of our students, Sue, is 16 and has been residing with her older sister, which is not an uncommon living situation among those enrolled in the YOTO program. Neither her mother nor her father is involved in her life. Sue's sister is barely 18 years old and had no legal guardianship over her younger sibling; CPS became involved when there was a physical altercation between the two sisters. As a result, CPS placed Sue in the home of an aunt, who also does not have legal guardianship.

In order for this student to be successful in school, YOTO's program coordinator, Jeremy Serwer, attended a meeting with Sue, family members, and CPS and school officials whereby a course of action included assembling a team of designated individuals and services for ongoing support. Sue receives counseling through SAMHC, will receive ongoing case management services from the Teens in Transition program of Our Family Services, and is also eligible for McKinney Vento assistance through her school. During the meeting, Sue was very cooperative and focused on her educational goals, including plans for college and a career in working with children with special needs.

Services through McKinney Vento will cover Sue's transportation from her aunt's home to the same school she attended when living with her sister, which is an important part of maintaining stability in Sue's education. Despite being re-housed, she has received two very good report cards and exhibits good attendance. YOTO continues to monitor the student's progress.

**Jeremy Serwer, Program Coordinator**

★ **YOUTH ON THEIR OWN MISSION STATEMENT:** We are dedicated to support the high school graduation and continued success of homeless youth by providing financial assistance, basic human needs and guidance.



## ★ COMMUNITY GENEROSITY...

### OLIVE GARDEN “GIVING TREE” NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 18, 2008

This holiday General Manager Robert Mallis and the Olive Garden Family located at 5410 E. Broadway selected YOTO students to benefit from their annual “Giving Tree”. Here’s how you can donate a gift and experience the joy of giving (don’t forget to take a shopping break to recharge with a genuine Italian meal):

- Pick a gift tag from the Giving Tree
- Purchase a gift for the student whose name appears on the gift tag
- Return your wrapped gift along with the gift tag to Olive Garden by the close of business on Thursday, December 18, 2008

Olive Garden is located on the SW corner of Broadway and Craycroft

Hours: Monday – Sunday (opens at 11:00 am) • Sunday – Thursday (closes at 10:00 pm) • Friday & Saturday (closes at 11:00 pm)

### ARCA 5TH ANNUAL CHARITY BOWLING TOURNAMENT RAISES \$32,346 FOR YOTO YOUTH

Over 300 bowled in support of YOTO students to this year’s theme – “Wild, Wild West!” Proceeds from event sponsorships, lane and raffle ticket sales, and the purchase of auction items topped last year’s proceeds by over 25%! The event began with the first bowl in memory of Dan Cohen, who led the Arizona Roofing Contractors Association (ARCA) to its current prominence as its Executive Director from 1998 – 2008.



Kudos, cheers, bows, and much gratitude go to Co-Chairs Sam Brush and Harless Oscislawski, ARCA committee members, ARCA Tucson members, volunteers, partners, and sponsors for such a successful event. Special recognition to Pete Tountas and Golden Pin Lanes, which hosted the tournament and provided lunch.



#### ARCA Charity Bowling Committee Volunteers

- Aaron Bell, Eagle Roofing Products
- Cindy Ashenbrenner, Rincon Roofing
- David Drach, WSBIB
- Gina Babunovic, YOTO
- Joe Simms, Elite Construction & Roofing
- Martin Headlee, Headlee Roofing
- Pete Tountas, Golden Pin Lanes
- Rick D’Alessio, Allied Building Products
- Sandy Oscislawski, E-las-tek
- Scott Ekstrom, Ralph Hayes Roofing
- Andy Pearman, ABC Supply Company
- Dave Metz, E-las-tek
- Frank Ortiz, Arizona Sun Roofing
- Jim Viberg, J.E.V. Roofing
- Karen Chavez, ARCA
- Nora Archuleta, Oscislawski Family
- Rene Lujan, APOC
- Ron Theobald, Progressive Roofing
- Scott Aguilar, Westile Oldcastle
- Steve Mink, E-las-tek



Tucson African Heritage Network-IBM (TAHN) held its 7th Annual Golf Tournament on August 30, 2008 at Starr Pass Golf Resort & Spa. Proceeds assist YOTO students and members' promotion of student technology education and careers in the science and engineering. (L to R): TAHN members Gregory Scott, Web Administrator; Gerard Kimbuende, Activities Chair; Gina Babunovic (YOTO); Robin Ursery, Professional Development; Marina Ruiz, 2008 President; Frank Thompson, Community Outreach (missing - he took the picture).

Cox Charities presented Youth On Their Own with a \$10,000 grant award this summer, which is designated for the Student Stipend Program. Funds will support nine students with a monthly stipend during the 2008 - 2009 academic year. (L to R): Gina Babunovic and Mary Gruensfelder-Cox (YOTO); Catherine Locke, Cox Communications Community Relations Manager; Patti Yenerich (YOTO Board VP); Vivian Archuleta, Cox Communications Community Relations Specialist.



Youth Volunteer Corps "Homeward Bound" members assisted YOTO staff in organizing the student "Mini-Mall" during preparations for the new school year.

'Tis the season! For the past several years, Catalina Foothills HS Student Council holds a clothing and food drive at their school in November for YOTO students. (L to R): School Student Council Senators Hannah Bergeron, Soineah Monks and Houston Traher unloaded three truckloads of donations and stated "there's more to come."



## NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY

Photo: (L to R) YOTO honored Nancy Strauss, a former YOTO board member and the creator of "Top of the Town", and Patti Yenerich, YOTO Board VP, who shepherded the event into its present excellence, with a "Spirit of Philanthropy" award during the National Philanthropy Day luncheon held on November 6, 2008. Over 700 attended the event.

## ANNUAL STUDENT HOLIDAY PARTY '08

YOTO teens look forward to the Student Holiday Party during this family-oriented time of year. Students, community businesses and organizations, staff, and board members celebrate the season with food, music, and . . . gifts for each student at this cherished annual event! The success of the evening depends upon community support. We need your help!

The Raffle is a big hit with YOTO students each year. YOTO is in need of new, unwrapped items or gift cards for this particular event. Please deliver items and/or gift cards to the YOTO office by Thursday, December 11, 2008.

### Raffle Gift Suggestions

- Small TVs
- MP3 players
- DVD players
- Portable CD players
- Portable stereos (Boom Boxes)
- Video games
- Game Boys and games
- Bicycles
- Dish and glassware sets
- Silverware sets
- Pot/pan sets
- Baking dish sets
- Towel sets
- Gifts cards valued at \$50 or more to Best Buy, Park Mall, Tucson Mall, Target, Wal-Mart, etc.

### Venue Contributions

- Paper plates, napkins and plastic utensils (for 250 guests)
- Dessert (for 250 guests)

There are five themed gift rooms and students chose a new gift from each room. Two partial gift room sponsorships (1/2 a room/75 gifts each room) are still available.

Please log onto [www.yoto.org](http://www.yoto.org) for Holiday Party information and updated opportunities. Contact Gina Babunovic at 293.1136 or [gbabunovic@yoto.org](mailto:gbabunovic@yoto.org) if you have any questions. Thank you!



# ★ YOUTH ON THEIR OWN CONTRIBUTORS

## CASH CONTRIBUTIONS JANUARY 1, 2008 – JUNE 30, 2008

**To respect the confidentiality of those donors who wish to remain anonymous, this is a partial listing of contributors to Youth On Their Own. We have taken great care in preparing these listings, but if your name is omitted or is in error, please accept our apology and contact us so we may correct our records. Contributions made July 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008 will be recognized in the Winter 2009 issue.**

### Individuals and Foundations

Anonymous (26)  
 Connie Acuna  
 Philip J. Agnew  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Alcalá  
 Thomas Alfonso  
 Jeffrey Alford  
 Kristin Almquist  
 Donn S. Alpert  
 Gloria Alvillar  
 Willie Ames  
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald M. Anderson  
 Donn E. Anderson  
 Raymond H. Anderson  
 George & Adele Andrela  
 Fred & Christine Armstrong Foundation  
 Dr. Linda Arzoumanian  
 Ashton Family Foundation  
 Martha Atwater  
 Barbara A. Atwood  
 Robert & Susan Auman  
 Peter G. Backus  
 Roger & Mary Baglien  
 Sandra D. Banks  
 Stuart & Barbara Bardach  
 Aloma Barnes  
 Carole Beakey  
 Drs. Gary & Pat Becker  
 Larry & Laura Becko  
 Olivia Cajero Bedford  
 Nathan C. Bell  
 Lance & Phyllis Bement  
 Lisa M. Abel Ben-Dror  
 Eugene Benton  
 Mr. & Mrs. William L. Bentzen  
 Cynthia Berens  
 Ed & Jill Bessey  
 Jesus Bojorquez  
 Michael T. Bolchalk &  
 Norma Showalter  
 Rejeana Bowersox  
 Victor Bowleg  
 Tom & Jan Bradel  
 Mr. & Ms. Robert H. Brickweg

Mr. & Mrs. Dallas E. Briggs  
 Arthur & Anne Britt  
 Carla Broussard  
 Bittie Brown  
 Ellen R. Brown  
 Katie Browning  
 John Bruno  
 Marian Bryant  
 Sharley & Graham Bryce  
 Thomas Burke  
 Maria Burnett-Fletcher  
 Chris & Anna Burns  
 Stephen Burpee  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Burton  
 Don & Sheri Butler  
 J. Patrick Butler  
 Sue & Frank Cannon  
 Bill & Bonnie Carpenter  
 Rudy G. Carrillo  
 Arlene Castaneda  
 Sandra Catlin  
 Stewart & Sandy Chan  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jesse D. Chapman  
 Mark Christensen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Christofferson, Jr.  
 Mr. & Ms. Robert D. Clark  
 Stephen C. & Pamela Brown Clarridge  
 Eloise & John Clymer  
 Mike & Margaret Collins  
 Janis M. Compton  
 Fred & Karen Conelly  
 Marian Conrad LaLonde &  
 Greg LaLonde  
 Elizabeth Conroy  
 Jean S. Coombs  
 Arthur W. & Helen Cowles  
 Mr. & Mrs. Garland Cox  
 Dianna Coxhead  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Cromer  
 Kim Crooks  
 Roselyn Crooks  
 Reta W. Cruse  
 Terrence & Sandra Curren  
 Nancy Custer  
 Nathan Daily  
 Sherry Daniels  
 Dr. Elizabeth David  
 Ray Davies  
 Lysa Davis  
 Fred & Chari Dawson  
 Arlen E. De Goes  
 Xavier De La Garza  
 Pennie DeHoff  
 Frank & Sylvia Della Cioppa  
 Lyanne L. Dellerman  
 Sheila Derr  
 Barbara Dildine  
 Kathy Dixon  
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 Martin & Margaret Falkowski  
 Sondra K. Farrington  
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 Gloria Federico  
 April & Jon Fenton  
 Steven D. Fenton  
 Derre Ferdon & Jimmy Crabb  
 Dorothy H. Finley  
 Ruth V. Fisk  
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 Elisha Flores  
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 Terry & Pam Foust  
 Martin & Maureen Fox  
 Diane Franklund  
 Mary Frazier  
 Carl & Sheryl Fredricksen  
 Robyn Fry  
 Royce Gabbert  
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 Judy Gans & Joe Kalt  
 Lorelyn Garbini  
 Dorothy Gardiner  
 Bernadette Geller  
 Ivy German  
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 John & Gwen Gildea  
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 Lisa Golembiewski  
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 Julian Gomez  
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Holly Griffin  
 Lorie Griffis  
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 Roger Cox  
 Shelby K. Guelich  
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 Mr. & Mrs. Frank Gurrier  
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 Marilyn Haas Community Youth Fund  
 held at the Jewish Community  
 Foundation of Southern Arizona  
 Thomas & Jodi Hall  
 Carol I. Halverson  
 Russell & Margaret Hamachek  
 James R. & Mary P. Hambacher  
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 Kenneth & Marian Handy  
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 S. Hernandez  
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 Gene & Gail Hildreth  
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 Susan Husband  
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 Cherie Isham  
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Carolyn Rose  
Leticia L. Ross  
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Veronica Sainz  
Ernie & Janis Salerno  
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Bill & Margo Sanden  
Laura Santamarina  
Frank & Susan Scerbo  
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Schaffer  
Esther F. Scher  
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Barbara Schmidt  
Eve Schocket  
Tom Schrinier  
Elva Scott  
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Jacquelyn Shearer  
Francene K. Shelton  
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Deana & Martin A. Smith  
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Dawn Sommers  
Mark Sorensen  
Marian Ruth Soto  
Stephen Soto  
Jeannine Souter  
Denise Sparrow  
Wendy L. Spaulding  
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Linda Immerman-Stoffers  
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Edward & Nancy Strauss  
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Martin & Lisa Suarez  
Tom & Sabina Sullivan  
John Sweeney  
Ed, Amy & Edward Taczanowsky  
Angelique Tadeo  
Marian H. Tapas  
Carole Taylor  
Martha & Abbott Taylor  
Don & Jill Tegeler  
The Dorrance Family Foundation  
The Jim Click Family Foundation  
The Love and Light Fund held at  
Community Foundation for Southern  
Arizona  
Bill Thoman  
Dr. Robert W. & Audrey Thomassen  
Arnold & Marian Thompson  
Donna Tobias  
Debra & Vern Tomanek  
Terry Torme Cole  
Monica Torralba  
Patricia Treeful  
Elda M. Vail  
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William G. & Celina Valenzuela  
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Dorie Voigt  
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Ken & Diane Yeaglin  
Patti & Randy Yenerich



Mona Ylvisaker  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald H. Yocum  
Susan Ziegler  
Gabe Zimmerman  
William Zimmerman

## Bequests

The Estate of Anonymous W  
The Estate of Patricia A. Morris

## Businesses and Organizations

A.F. Sterling Homebuilders  
All Over Media Southwest, Inc.  
Apollo Flooring  
Bank of America Matching Funds  
Butera Real Estate  
Catalina Custom Construction, Inc.  
Catalina United Methodist Church  
CataVinos  
CDG Architects  
Charitable Vending LLC  
Clifton Gunderson, LLP  
Commerce Bank of Arizona  
Community Church at SaddleBrooke  
Compass Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Cox Charities  
Desert Kiwanis Club  
Desert Skies United Methodist Women  
Downtown Tucson Lioness Club  
E. J. Birmingham, LLC  
Epsilon Sigma Alpha Gamma Iota  
Chapter #33682  
Everyone's Church  
ExxonMobil Foundation Matching Funds  
First National Bank of Arizona  
Green Valley Lions Club  
Greenberg Financial Group  
Hinderaker & Rauh, P.L. C.  
Intuit Foundation Matching Funds  
Lecroy & Mulligan Assoc. Inc.  
Madaras Gallery  
NCH-Transwest Properties, Inc.  
Newcomers Club of Tucson  
North Campbell Ear, Nose & Throat  
Dr. Joseph Small  
Omega Wallbeds, Inc.  
Oracle-Prince Family Practice, LTD  
Our Lady of the Valley Parish  
Pantano Rotary Club of Tucson  
Pastiche Modern Eatery  
Performance Bearing  
Pfizer Foundation Matching Funds  
Philoptochos Society of Tucson  
Pima Community College Foundation  
Pima County Retired Teachers Assoc.  
Resurrection Lutheran Church  
Roadrunners-Alumni Newcomers  
Saguaro Tucson Rotary Club  
Skyline Gallery  
Soloway Designs, Inc.  
Sonoran Desert Corvettes Tucson  
Southern AZ Retired Coaches &  
Officials  
Southwest Gas Corporation  
St. Michael's Parish Day School  
Sun Mechanical Contracting, Inc.

Taylor Productions, LLC  
Territorial Sign Co.  
The Bablove Agency, Inc.  
The CarMax Foundation  
The National T.T.T. Society  
The Rosewood Foundation  
Matching Funds  
The Travel Broker  
The Tucson Woman's Club  
The West, Inc.  
The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa  
The Wings Like Eagles Foundation  
Tortolita Presbyterian Church  
Town West Realty  
Trinity Presbyterian Women  
Tucson Association of Realtors  
United Methodist Women of Sanctuary  
United Methodist Church  
Valley Presbyterian Church

## Charitable Work Campaigns

Cardinal Health  
City of Tucson ECAP  
Pima County ECAP  
Raytheon Charitable Giving  
State Employee Charitable Campaign  
Tucson Airport Authority  
United Way of Tucson &  
Southern Arizona  
Valley of the Sun United Way

## In Honor of

**Cash Contributions**  
January 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008

**Bob Tennison's Birthday**  
Suzanne Tennison

**Connie Ronstadt's Birthday**  
Jody Bastine  
Denise Bavier  
Lauren Bosmeny  
Chris Bubany  
Margaret Connelly  
Christine Hauer  
Sheila McGinnis  
Cathy Patching

**David Ford**  
Bill & Pat Ford

**Gretchen Beardlee**  
William & Oletha Gustus

**In the Name of Dr. Thomas Elliott**  
Northwest Medical Center

**Janis M. Compton**  
Nancy Fiore

**Kiwanis Club of the Desert**  
Stephen Richards

**Michael & Christine Hanson**  
Bourn Companies  
Don Bourn

**Mrs. Sue Neuman**  
Mr. & Mrs. Morton Shafton

**Nancy Hardisty**  
Thomas R. Elliott, M.D.

**The Graduation of Dr. Trevor Muirhead**  
Jenny Hoit

**The Graduation of Hannah Calamoneri**  
Nancy Hannan

**The Marriage of Howard Toff, M.D. & Cheryl Gerst**  
Dr. Jan E. Harrell

**The Thomas Langdon Hill Family - Z Mansion**  
Camille Gannon

**In Memory of**  
**Cash Contributions**  
January 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008

**Carl Erickson**  
Anonymous

**Donald Dudley**  
Anonymous  
Raymond H. Anderson

**Joyce Heffelfinger**  
Jim Heffelfinger

**Kathryn Draman**  
Mary Cochran  
Raymond E. & Janet M. Johnson  
Victoria Johnson  
Law Office of Therese Ann Accetta  
Marie Lutz  
Robert Merlo

**Leslie Kahl**  
Bob Kahl

**Marguerite Ratcliffe**  
Anonymous

**Martin and Hiriam Shane**  
Ron & Debbie Shane

**Our Late Brother-in-Law Neil W. Sherman**  
Dr. & Mrs. William F. Hendrix

**Robert M. Siefkin**  
Tom & Suzanna Porter

**Vinnie Houser**  
Welcome Wagon Club of Tucson

## NAMED FUNDS IN THE YOTO ENDOWMENT

The Youth On Their Own Endowment was established in December 2007 at the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona. The Endowment exists to provide long-term financial security for YOTO's programmatic goals and provides donors with the opportunity to make gifts in support of YOTO's mission that are more permanent in nature. Donors may contribute in any amount to the general YOTO Endowment, or they may create a Named Fund in the YOTO Endowment in Honor of an individual or group of individuals, such as a family or a club, or in Memory of someone special.

The Named Fund has perpetual recognition in YOTO's Annual Report and any recognition societies that may be created to recognize major endowment support. A minimum gift amount of \$5,000, which may be funded over three (3) years, is required to establish a Named Fund in the Endowment and additional funds may be added by anyone to the Named Fund at anytime, and in any amount. A Named Fund may also be accepted by the Endowment with bequest or IRA funding. In that case the Named Fund is not recognized until the bequest or IRA proceeds are realized.

The use of the proceeds of Named Funds may be designated by those establishing the fund for one of three purposes aligned with YOTO's mission of service to homeless youth: financial assistance, basic needs, or guidance; or the Fund may be unrestricted, for use where the need is greatest. The nature of the Fund's designation will be codified in a Letter of Understanding at the time of its establishment.

Please contact Mary Gruensfelder-Cox at 520.293.1136, or email at [mgcox@yoto.org](mailto:mgcox@yoto.org) for more information.



# ★ THE JULIANA REDDING FUND

## IN THE YOUTH ON THEIR OWN ENDOWMENT



**Juliana Maureen Redding**  
**October 25, 1986 – March 16, 2008**

**“Forever in our Hearts”**

Juliana Redding’s life was tragically cut short in March of this year. A 2005 Salpointe Catholic High School graduate, California college student, natural beauty and athlete, it was Juliana’s kind, caring and positive essence that gravitated people to her. A leader wise beyond her 21 years, she was a sparkling, happy energy who made friends and generated laughter everywhere she went.

Juliana felt blessed to be surrounded by a loving, caring family and was empathetic of those, particularly youth, who had an absence of this unity. As a tribute to Juliana, her family chose Youth On Their Own as an organization whose mission would be close to Juliana’s heart. Juliana’s spirit lives on by helping disadvantaged youth succeed in life through Youth On Their Own’s first named fund within its endowment. Juliana was a confident, independent, goal-driven young lady. Her advice to all of us would be to never stop believing in yourself, never ever give up and love always, because love never fails. Her deep love of life and family lives on through new opportunities presented in giving to YOTO.

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THE JULIANA REDDING FUND: MARCH 16, 2008 – JUNE 30, 2008

Anonymous (2)  
 Acoma Animal Clinic  
 Dr. Richard C. Livingston  
 Craig & Joy Abbott  
 Debra Adams  
 Bill & Barbara Addison  
 Joe & Jacqueline Agers  
 Jerry & Vicki Alpert  
 Jane Bonner Andrews  
 Bascom & Marietta Anthony  
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 Chester & Joy Boruff  
 Gary & Patricia Jo Boruff & Family  
 Jim Boruff  
 Stanley A. & Karla Boruff  
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 El Encanto Estate Homeowners Assoc. Inc.  
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 Dr. Wallace & Mrs. Nila Haworth  
 Doby Hillenbrand  
 Barbara Hodges  
 Phyllis Holmberg  
 John & Thompson Hughes  
 Information Systems Services Dept.  
 University Medical Center  
 Jody’s Framing Gallery  
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 Ericka Watzler-Fenwick &  
 Cheryl Colber-Farkas  
 Barbara Jaffe  
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 Len & Marcelle Joffe  
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 Brenda Simmons  
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 Janeanne R. Subers  
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Gina Babunovic, Communications & Development Director  
Maria Castro, Operations Manager  
Heidi MacDonald, Administrative Coordinator  
Jeremy Serwer, Program Coordinator



## YOTO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Front Desk Receptionist

Help Youth On Their Own save money on administrative costs by volunteering in the office. This position entails meeting and greeting YOTO student clients and supporters, answering general questions and phone calls, and directing calls to the appropriate staff member. It's fun! Flexible hours and days are available Monday – Friday.

### Trucks and Muscles

Volunteers needed on an “on call” basis! Youth On Their Own receives calls regarding contributions of household goods, such as small couches, student desks, and mattresses and box springs, which are perfect for student use but the donor is unable to deliver items to the YOTO office. This is the ideal opportunity if you are unable to volunteer on a weekly, regular basis but want to help, you possess a vehicle that can accommodate large items and are willing to pick-up items and deliver them to YOTO.

Please contact Maria Castro, YOTO Operations Manager, at 293.1136 x 203 or [mcastro@yoto.org](mailto:mcastro@yoto.org).

### Editor's Corner

YOTO publishes a quarterly newsletter. Please feel free to call or email with your comments, suggestions, or change in contact information.

**Gina Babunovic**

**Communications & Development Director**

520.293.1136 x 208

[gbabunovic@yoto.org](mailto:gbabunovic@yoto.org)

**Thank you!**