

**YOUTH
ON
THEIR OWN™**



**2009-2010
COMMUNITY REPORT**



Since 1986, over
10,000 Tucson youth have
GRADUATED high school
with support from
YOUTH ON THEIR OWN.



2009 STUDENT CLIENT SNAPSHOT

- 492 student clients were enrolled in the YOTO program
- 60 total schools served
- 110 students graduated
- 66% female students;
34% male students
- 39% ages 13 – 17;
61% ages 18 – 21

ETHNICITY

- 48% Hispanic/Latino
- 25% Caucasian
- 6% Multi-Ethnic
- 11% African American
- 9% Native American
- 1% Other

REASONS FOR HOMELESSNESS

- 13% abandoned by parents
- 13% conflict with step-parent or parent's boyfriend/girlfriend
- 12% physical/emotional abuse
- 8% parental drug abuse

HELPING HOMELESS TEENS.

INVESTING IN



TUCSON'S FUTURE.

Leadership Council News & Notes

YOUTH ON THEIR OWN (YOTO) Leadership Council was created to support the fund raising and community outreach efforts of the Youth On Their Own mission. Over 100 business and civic minded Tucsonans attended an inaugural Sunset Reception last spring, held at Old Pueblo Grill which resulted in a 30-member council.

The group meets quarterly and supports necessary functions with time and talents as needed. To learn more about their exciting work and the opportunities available by participating in the council, please visit YOTO.ORG.

Go Green – Go Online

Please help us to save money by receiving this and all YOTO information online! Send your email address to EVERLUIS@YOTO.ORG and note your change. Thank you!

Board of Director News & Notes

YOUTH ON THEIR OWN welcomes newly-elected members to the 2010-2011 Board of Directors.

- **Mary Stewart**- long time YOTO volunteer and retired Human Resources Executive at University of Michigan, Blue Cross Association, Medius Systems and Whittaker Corporation.
- **Kara Festa**- Civil Engineer and Principal at Westland Resources.
- **Erin Fitzgerald**-Senior Account Manager with First American Title.
- **Michael Laatsch**-Acquisitions and Asset Manager for Holualoa Arizona, Inc.
- **Ross Sheard**- former school administrator, works in Special Projects for the Pima County Joint Technological Education District (JTED).
- **Stan Steinman**-Academic Dean Workforce and Business Development College.
- **Brian Foulk, D.D.S.**-Tucson, AZ.
- **Eric Ufonde**- 2009 YOTO High School Graduate currently enrolled in community college.
- **Ray Depa**-Sales Manager, Good News Communications.





2009 Volunteer Highlights

Volunteers are an integral part to our mission and help contain operating expenses, enabling us to serve more youths needing help. In 2009, YOTO benefited from over 2,900 volunteer hours completed by 479 volunteers.

The national average volunteer wage per hour was valued at \$20.85 based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Volunteers' service to YOTO was \$59,000.00, approximately 8% of the total 2009 operating budget.

Volunteers come from many sources in our community including: job training programs, the Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona, court ordered community service, as well as individuals. We truly value the time, expertise, and talents of our volunteers.

Opportunities vary by scope, frequency, and time commitment. The minimum age required for volunteers is 18. For more information about volunteer opportunities, please visit our website: YOTO.ORG.

Current volunteer opportunities include: front desk receptionist, student stipend note writer, mini-mall coordinator, mentoring, tutoring and special projects (grant writing, marketing, data entry, landscaping, and maintenance). Please visit YOTO.ORG for more information.



Youth On Their Own Celebrates 25th Birthday! Saturday, April 16, 2011

On April 16, 2011 at 6 P.M., YOUTH ON THEIR OWN celebrates its annual event "Talk of The Town" with a 25th Birthday supporting homeless and abandoned teens in Tucson, AZ. The party, to be held at the University Marriott will feature David Fitzsimmons as M.C., live entertainment, auctions, dining and more. For more information please visit YOTO.ORG.

More than 2000 Teens Homeless in Tucson

Many Tucson citizens are unaware that this problem exists in our community. Since these kids are not trouble makers, they attempt to blend-in as they struggle to complete their education. They come from dysfunctional family environments that lack parental guidance and are affected by violence, poverty and various forms of abuse.

Invest in Tucson! Help a Homeless Teen Graduate

Unfortunately, the number of students needing help increases each year and enrollment is on-going. Without a basic education, homeless teens become homeless, unemployable adults in our town without a purpose to build constructive and functional lives. With a high school diploma, there is unlimited opportunity as YOTO grads live and work in Tucson as lawyers, nurses, teachers, coaches and more!

YOUTH ON THEIR OWN Student Story - Tabetha

As a youth Tabetha grew up in an environment filled with domestic violence and substance abuse. She was forced out into the streets at 17 years old when she questioned her mother about their home atmosphere.

Tabetha lived many places and moved often so she would not become a burden. Upbeat and motivated, she worked over 30 hours per week to support herself during high school; passed all three AIMS tests during her junior year; and earned a "Gold" high school diploma of distinction.

Tabetha is completing her junior year at Arizona State University in Tempe. Her chosen major is psychology. Last year she interned with the American Red Cross and this semester she is an intern at Andre House - a homeless shelter in downtown Phoenix.

"Eventually I want to work with non-profits as a director," she stated. "I never could have imagined myself at this point in life, much less be where I am, without the help of YOTO."



HOW YOU CAN HELP!

YOUTH ON THEIR OWN works very diligently to be fiscally prudent and appreciates the trust placed in our organization.

- Support/ adopt a student with a monthly stipend donation of \$125 for 10 months.
- Donate your 2010 AZ State Tax Charitable Credit to YOTO.
- Contribute a new gift item or certificate to the annual Holiday party for homeless students on December 10, 2010.
- Contribute donations of food or gift cards for students.
- Donate gently used clothing, household items of any kind to YOTO.
- Donate a raffle, gift or sponsorship for Talk of the Town.
- Attend a YOTO Fund Raising event.
- Volunteer your time and talents.

The Student Stipend Program helps homeless students by providing a small monthly cash allowance of up to \$125.00 based on passing grades and good attendance. Special needs include: bus passes; medical or emergency needs; special assistance for school program needs and more.

DONATE ON- LINE or with the enclosed donation envelope. All donations are tax deductible for 2010 made prior to 12/31/2010.

For all of the above, please visit www.yoto.org for details or phone us 520.293.1136.

YOUTH ON THEIR OWN Student Story – Steven

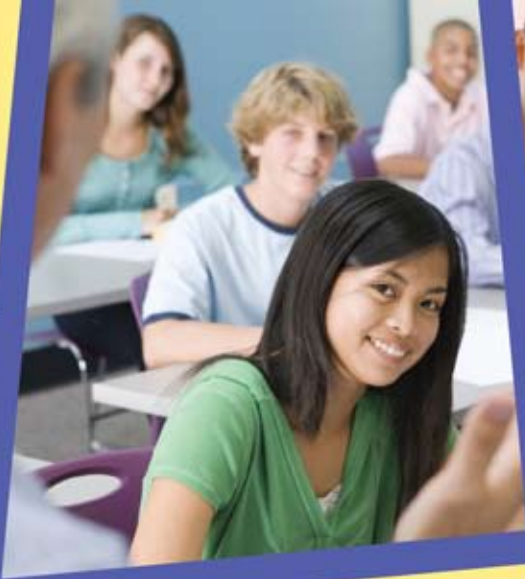
Steven was removed by Child Protective Services from a home of drug use, mental illness and neglect. He is now living in a CPS group home.

Through all this, Steven has managed to earn a 3.8 GPA and develop a love for math and aerospace engineering.

He is very grateful for the support he has found at YOTO and told us, *"I have goals in mind that can only be achieved through the generosity of others, coupled with my own intellect, discipline and endeavor."*

Steven graduated from high school in 2010 and received a scholarship to Pima Community College.





LIVING SITUATION

- 22% with relatives
- 16% with significant other
- 18% with a friend
- 9% in a group home
- 5% alone
- 1% with a roommate
- 4% with a host family
- 5% other (multiple living situations)

PARENTHOOD STATUS

- 26% pregnant or parenting

SPECIAL NEEDS

- 62 students received assistance with rental, utility, or medical services
- 218 students received monthly bus passes
- 374 students received basic needs assistance with food or clothing





YOUTH ON THEIR OWN
1443 West Prince Road
Tucson, Arizona 85705
YOTO.ORG

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Mission:

Youth On Their Own supports the high school graduation and continued success of homeless youth by providing financial assistance, basic human needs and guidance.

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