



# YOUTH ON THEIR OWN™

COMMUNITY  
REPORT

2012-2013





## OUR 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.



# Youth On Their Own Community Report 2012-2013

### Student Client Snapshot

- 1,137 youth enrolled, compared to 708 in 2011-2012. (61% Increase)
- 128 schools, compared to 120 in 2011-2012. (7% Increase)
- 254 seniors graduated, compared to 188 in 2011-2012. (35% Increase)
- 59% female/41% male students
- 66% of student were ages 12-17
- 34% of students were ages 18-21

### Reason For Homelessness

- 20% parents chose not to be a parent
- 13% physically/sexually/verbally/emotionally abused
- 12% conflict with parent/stepparent
- 12% parental substance abuse
- 12% court ordered
- 9% poverty
- 9% parental death
- 5% lifestyle (lgbt, pregnancy)
- 5% incarceration
- 3% parental illness/mental illness

### Race/Ethnicity

- 58% Hispanic
- 17% Caucasian
- 8% African American
- 7% Native American
- 9% Multiracial
- 1% Asian/Island Pacific

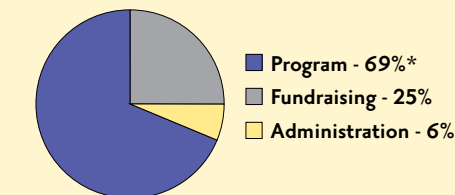
### Snapshot

- 14% pregnant or parenting
- 123 received assistance with rental, utility, transportation, school, or medical services
- 407 received monthly bus passes or 2-way bus passes
- 450 received basic needs assistance with food or clothing

### Living Situation

- 46% relative
- 14% friend
- 12% significant other
- 12% group home
- 7% host family
- 4% alone
- 5% transitional housing or with a roommate

## Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2013



Fundraising Events	\$449,750
Government Grants	\$152,550
Contributions, Gifts and Other Grants	\$1,376,950
Student Events, Misc. Income	(\$53,526)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,925,724</b>
Program Services	\$1,220,775
Administration Expenses	\$110,679
Fundraising	\$444,443
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,775,896</b>
<b>Net Assets as of June 30, 2013</b>	<b>\$1,194,508</b>

\*In FY 2012/2013, fundraising expenses increased to help support our move to and purchase of our new building at 1660 N. Alvernon. The facility better serves youth through its central location on two bus lines, provides needed program space and a desperately needed Student Success Drop-In Center. The Student Success Center affords homeless students a safe place to receive assistance with homework, life management, financial aid, scholarship, college and job applications.

## Board of Directors 2012-2013

**Terry Hilvko**  
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**Jane Stash**  
President-Elect

**Sean Murray**  
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**Mary Stewart**

**Stan Steinman**

# Mission Moments

## Jacquel Student Story

As a young child, I lived with my mom who moved around a lot and was unable to provide a safe and stable home. I moved to Arizona to live with my dad at the beginning of my freshman year and enrolled in Baboquivari High School in Sells. Sadly, my dad and step-mother were arrested and imprisoned during my sophomore year, leaving me on my own.

I bounced back and forth between different family members on the Tohono O'odham reservation and in Tucson. No matter where I lived though, I was committed to school, even when that meant making the 2½ hour bus commute from Tucson to Sells.

Throughout high school, I grew attached to YOTO's Student Advocates. I often called them to visit my school, and over the years they became my greatest cheerleading squad.

Despite the abundant hardships I faced, I graduated in May, 2013 as my school's Salutatorian—I also graduated in three years (not four)! I am the recipient of numerous scholarships, which will ensure that I earn my doctorate without debt. I have been accepted to the University of Arizona and begin this Fall. I plan to graduate from the U of A in three years, go on to medical school, and become a surgeon.



## Dulce Student Story

I had a positive atmosphere growing up—my mother was always there for me. When I turned 12, my mother died of an overdose on over-the-counter medications.

My life flipped upside down. I moved out of my house and was put under the custody of my 19 year old sister.

For the past seven years, my older brother, older sister, and I have been trying to raise each other. We lived check to check and relied heavily on my social security

income. Moving from home to home became a normal thing for me, but I learned to cope and education was an easy escape.

Having Youth on Their Own behind me in my academic success only pushed me more to reach my goal of graduating. YOTO helped me when I did not have enough money for basic necessities and I am beyond grateful to have people who supported me throughout high school and wanted to see me succeed.

I plan on attending the University of Arizona and majoring in Child Psychology. After graduating from the U of A, I want to attend graduate school to get my masters in Psychiatry and work with children.

## Leah Noreng Volunteer Spotlight

Making a difference in the life of a homeless youth is easy. Consider a YOTO volunteer like Leah Noreng. Leah is an Executive Leadership Council member and volunteers as a fundraiser.

To support the summer's Back to School Challenge, Leah hosted a "backpack stuffing party" for friends and family. Leah says, "With 3 young boys always in tow, I made a conscience effort to involve my children in volunteerism. The Back to School Challenge was fun. Every school-age child can help stuff a backpack and understand the feeling of pride in having a new

backpack full of supplies." Leah and her team brought in over 150 backpacks!

Leah is just one example of our many extraordinary volunteers. Our community members donated 20,864 volunteer hours, valued at over \$400,000 in 2012/2013. Volunteers keep costs down while allowing YOTO to increase services to students.

Thank you! To learn more about the many rewarding and diverse volunteer opportunities YOTO offers individuals, groups or businesses, please contact Jessica Hall at [jhall@yoto.org](mailto:jhall@yoto.org) or (520)620-9289.



## Earl & Kris Cohen Donor Story

Our donors come from all walks of life, but are joined by one passion: helping at risk youth graduate. YOTO kids need you, whether you are a high school student or a retiree, **whether you can give a little or a lot—your donation changes lives.**

Earl and Kris Cohen might be retired, but they haven't slowed down one bit! They believe in the value of education and support YOTO's mission at every chance they get—from sponsoring Talk of the Town

and Fall Wine Tasting to throwing their own fundraiser for YOTO with other members of their Sun City Oro Valley Rock and Roll Club. They donated to the Back to School Challenge, sponsored a student for the year and have given to the YOTO mini mall. Kris even included YOTO in her estate plan.

Just like Earl and Kris, **you too make a difference. Your donation matters!** You are never too young or too old, too rich or poor to change a life and impact your community. YOTO thanks ALL our donors for their generosity. To learn how you can be a hero to a youth in need, contact Faith Carrabis at [fcarrabis@yoto.org](mailto:fcarrabis@yoto.org) or (520)620-9243.

## Administrative Staff 2012-2013

**Teresa Liverzani-Baker**  
Executive Director

**Faith Carrabis**  
Development Director

**Dane Binder**  
Program Director

**Karen Llaass**  
Operations Manager

**Joyce Rodgers**  
Finance Manager

**Marissa Cassellius**  
Grant Writer

**Jessica Hall**  
Development Assistant

**Sasha Hawman**  
Program Operations Leader

**Michelle Cooper**  
Post-Secondary/Alumni  
Coordinator Student Advocate


**Alex McArthur**  
Senior Student Advocate


**Jennifer Hedger**  
Student Advocate

**Luis Aparicio**  
Student Advocate

**Daphne Soule**  
Administrative Assistant

## The YOTO Champions Monthly Giving Club

\$15/Month = **THE tassel** 

\$25/Month = **THE star** 

\$50/Month = **THE graduate** 

With your first donation to Youth On Their Own, you became a friend to a young person in need. With your second donation, you showed them the care and commitment of a family member—something they lacked but desperately needed. Now it is your chance to be their Champion.

**Join the YOTO Champions Monthly Giving Club today.** With three introductory levels of just \$15, \$25 or \$50 per month, you enjoy the ease of small, monthly automated debits from your checking account while at the same time, making a BIG, sustainable impact in the life of an at risk youth.

**Be a YOTO Champion.** Contact Faith Carrabis at [fcarrabis@yoto.org](mailto:fcarrabis@yoto.org) or (520)620-9243 or visit [YOTO.org](http://YOTO.org) to learn more.

## You Can Make a **BIG** Impact With Small Monthly Donations

We invite you to become a Champion...

Over the last four years, Youth On Their Own has experienced an astonishing increase of 131% in the number of youth served. But there are still more youth we need to reach.

Together, we can meet the challenge. Make a BIG impact in the high school graduation and continued success of homeless youth by making small monthly donations. By signing up to become a YOTO Champion, you choose to give just \$15, \$25 or \$50 per month, automatically debited from your checking account.

- Saves you time and postage.
- Eliminates credit card processing fees thereby providing more direct support to Youth On Their Own students.
- Offers ongoing, annual desperately needed support to an at risk youth.



# YOUTH ON THEIR OWN™

## How You Can Help

- **Donate** cash, stocks or in kind items to support the youth in our program.
- **Consider** including Youth On Their Own in your will or estate planning.
- **Support** a Student! \$1,260 per school year.
- **Direct** your Arizona State Charitable Tax Credit for the Working Poor to Youth On Their Own.
- **Visit** [YOTO.org](http://YOTO.org) for more ideas and sign up to receive our newsletter, student alerts and update information or call us at (520)620-9243.



### SAVE THE DATE:

#### Fall Wine and BEER Tasting Event

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013 (1 to 4 P.M.)**  
McMahon's Prime Steakhouse  
Tickets are \$50/person at [yoto.org](http://yoto.org)

Proclaimed the BEST wine tasting in Tucson, this year we are also featuring gourmet beer! Enjoy wonderful live entertainment, great appetizers, raffle, silent auction and more.

#### The YOTO Student Holiday Appeal

**NOVEMBER 1- DECEMBER 6, 2013**

Help make Happy Holidays for all YOTO students by donating a \$10 gift card to Target, Fry's, Wal-mart or Safeway.

#### Donate Your Arizona State Tax Liability

**DO THIS BY DECEMBER 31, 2013!**

Donate to Youth On Their Own! Filing married, up to \$400; filing single, up to \$200. **Keep your tax dollars working in Tucson.**

#### Talk of The Town: Celebrating 28 Years

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014**

Loew's Ventana Resort

YOTO's annual signature event! Cocktails, fabulous dinner, silent and live auction, live entertainment, special guests and more! Check website in February 2014 for more details.

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