

## **Cornerstone the Future of ARCH Press Release**

Local Phoenix non-profit, ARCH, has been awarded grants totaling \$940,000 from seven major Arizona foundations to help them purchase the land they have leased from the City of Phoenix for the last 30 years.

Funds have been donated by *Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation, Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation, Del E. Webb Foundation, Thunderbirds Charities and the Molly Lawson Foundation.*

Originally named the *Arizona Recreation Center for the Handicapped* in 1975, ARCH offers a full range of services and recreational programs for kids, teens and adults with developmental disabilities. The 5-acre campus and recreation center is used by thousands of people each year, and is an important community resource for local schools and sports teams.

Board President, Cynthia Bennett, said, "The generosity and support from these foundations and the wider community has been invaluable in reaching our goal. We have been at our current location on Colter St. and 15<sup>th</sup> Ave since 1986, and although we owned and built all the various parts of the facility, the City still owned the land and leased it to us for a nominal amount. The City recently gave us the opportunity to buy it from them if we could raise \$940,000, so we launched our 'Cornerstone the Future of ARCH' campaign in 2016. Less than one year later we managed to reach our target, which is an incredible milestone for our organization".

Almost all of the foundations have invested in the ARCH organization significantly over the years and recognized the importance of securing both ARCH's legacy and theirs, for the years to come. "ARCH has been a light in our community for decades, providing services of immeasurable value to individuals with differing abilities," said Carol Peden Schilling, chair, Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. "Nina supported ARCH for many years and was devoted to its mission, so we are honored to play a role in helping to secure this land."

ARCH Executive Director, Kip Murray, said, "Participants describe ARCH as a family, and a sanctuary where they can belong and develop and maintain their quality of life. We offer them therapeutic recreational choices and promote their independence; providing opportunities for friendships and increased health and well-being. We are so grateful to the City of Phoenix and to all of our kind benefactors that have enabled us to purchase our land, as it is these benefits that we will now be able to keep providing for future generations to come".

*THE END*

## **Additional Notes:**

### **ARCH Information:**

5,000 individuals with disabilities participate per year in ARCH's programs, specifically designed to enhance their health, well-being, and independence. An additional 25,000 individuals from the community annually utilize our facility for youth basketball and volleyball leagues, table tennis, baton twirling, soccer, football and field days.

Our 5-acre Colter St. campus is centrally located in the heart of Phoenix and includes: the main recreation building, classroom space, a large training kitchen, a theater-style performance stage, a full-size gymnasium, an adaptive fitness & training center, a universal sports field and our ARCHKids multipurpose building & playground.

[www.archaz.org](http://www.archaz.org)

[www.facebook.com/archaz.org](http://www.facebook.com/archaz.org)

**ARCH Campus Address:** 1550, W. Colter St, Phoenix, AZ 85015

**Main Office:** 602-230-2226

**Main Press Contact:** Jennie Halbroeder, Grants & Communications Director

**Email:** [jennieh@archaz.org](mailto:jennieh@archaz.org)

## **Foundations Information:**

### **Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust**

Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust supports organizations that enrich health, well-being, and opportunity for the people of Maricopa County, Arizona. The Trust concentrates its efforts in six areas: Arts and Culture, Children, Education, Healthcare and Medical Research, Older Adults, Religious Organizations.

[www.pipertrust.org](http://www.pipertrust.org)

### **Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust**

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust seeks to help people in need, especially women, children and families; to protect animals and nature; and to enrich community life primarily in metropolitan Phoenix and Indianapolis. The Trust has awarded more than \$283 million in grants and student scholarships since its inception in 1997.

[www.ninapulliamtrust.org](http://www.ninapulliamtrust.org)

## **Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation**

The mission of The Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation is to strengthen the daily opportunities and lifelong outcomes for the people and communities of the State of Arizona.

The Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation is a collaborative charitable resource that embraces the entrepreneurial spirit in like-minded philanthropists and non-profits to propel real social change. The Halle Foundation now serves as a leader in promoting new ways to collaborate on issues of social justice. While that begins with funding, our proudest investment is providing time, guidance and support to every partnership we form and every life we touch.

[www.dianeandbrucehallefoundation.com](http://www.dianeandbrucehallefoundation.com)

## **The Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation**

Created in 1990 by Kemper and Ethel Marley, the Foundation has given to many Arizona charities for arts & culture; civic and community enhancement; education; health and human services; medical facilities and research-science and cancer.

## **Del E. Webb Foundation**

### **OUR MISSION:**

The Del E. Webb Foundation invests in productivity that results in long-term benefits.

### **OUR VISION:**

We believe that investing in results-based programs will impact the future of our society by allowing it to reach its maximum potential.

### **OUR VALUES:**

Following Del E. Webb's legacy, our giving is defined by new ideas and innovative adaptations. We invest in results by committing to programs operating within Arizona, California or Nevada that create or enhance opportunities for permanent improvements. We focus primarily on child and health initiatives.

[www.dewf.org](http://www.dewf.org)

## **Thunderbirds Charities**

Thunderbirds Charities was established in 1986 as the charitable arm of the Phoenix Thunderbirds. Its purpose is to grant funds generated by the Waste Management Phoenix Open. The mission of Thunderbirds Charities is to assist children and families, help people in need and improve the quality of life in our communities.

[www.thunderbirdcharities.org](http://www.thunderbirdcharities.org)

## **Molly Lawson Foundation**

A component fund of the Arizona Community Foundation, the Molly Lawson Foundation was created by Molly's parents, Dr. Michael and Doris Lawson, to extend a series of desired benefits to individuals with mental handicaps, grow financial and personnel resources over time and attract additional support from a broad group of interested parties.

The Foundation is particularly interested in funding clinical research into mental illness and Alzheimer's Disease, along with other disorders that occur with high frequency in individuals with Down Syndrome such as obesity and the lack of optimal physical conditioning.

The Foundation also supports opportunities for adult social interaction among clients of group homes and the general public by providing social events and trips, and the overall health and well-being of all persons with Down Syndrome and other intellectual disabilities.

[www.mollylawson.org](http://www.mollylawson.org)