



# Raising Special Kids

Families Helping Families



*Angelica and Cat*

## Connecting *Fall 2013*

vol. 18, no. 3

### The Dilemma of Zero Tolerance

The school district's reaction to their daughter's emotional health crisis marked a turning point for Cat's family. A situation that could have gone very badly instead became more supportive in helping things move in a positive direction.

Before being properly diagnosed and treated, Cat's 13-year-old daughter, Angelica, experienced mental health episodes in a public place. The situation triggered a backlash from other students with an explosion of negative reaction

and comments on social media sites. Other students became involved, and the school received multiple complaints.

As the family struggled to get help for Angelica, including a proper diagnosis and appropriate treatment, they also turned to the school to provide an environment in which Angelica could recover. Cat credits the school for acknowledging the health issues Angelica faces and working with her family to identify

— continued on page 3

### *Paulina Serna - Family Support Specialist*



Paulina and her husband had just gotten used to the idea that their new addition-to-be to their family was, in fact, two additions—twins! Then the news came that one of the twins had Spina Bifida.

“We were scared, and we didn’t know what to expect. We were not prepared to hear that kind of news,” Paulina reflected. It was difficult to bring home only one of the twins right after the birth. “It was supposed to be a package of two. That made it extra hard.”

As the family began to deal with the medical realities of their son’s diagnosis, Paulina was glad to find out about Raising Special Kids. “I learned about so many resources I was not aware of,” she said. “We discovered a preschool where both the twins can attend, and I learned about Individual Education Programs (IEPs). Luis qualified for special education services and his twin sister, who does not have a disability, is a peer model.”

When the opportunity came to join the Raising Special Kids staff, Paulina was eager to become a Family Support Specialist. She has been able to draw on her own experience of discovering and dealing with her son’s diagnosis in helping other parents find support and Early Intervention resources for their children.

“Everyone here has a child with a disability and understands where you are coming from,” said Paulina. “When I first called here, they just made it seem like ‘We get you—we REALLY get you!’ Now, I am happy to be part of that.”



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Parent to Parent support is the heart of Raising Special Kids. Information about local services, educational programs, advocacy, or special health care needs is available in Spanish and English. Services are provided at no charge to families in Arizona.

Raising Special Kids is a  
501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

## Your Support Makes It Possible

The mornings are turning crisp, the leaves are putting on a show in northern Arizona, and I am feeling gratitude as the calendar rolls toward another holiday season.

We look at our daughter Julia with pride and love and recognize her incredible accomplishments. We are thankful we chose to advocate for her early in life.

On an average day in Arizona, 25 children leave our Valley hospitals with specialized health care needs and I am grateful that I am part of an organization that sheds light and a positive approach to what can be difficult days.

Looking back on the last 23 years with Julia, I remember searching for answers about what the future could hold for her. Our family became volunteers for Pilot Parents many years ago which grew into Raising Special Kids as we know it today. I am honored to be one small part of this organization and to witness firsthand the incredible ways families are helped to face realities they never imagined and find answers to questions they never dreamed they would need to ask.

Let me thank you in advance for your support which makes it possible for these families to embrace their future with Raising Special Kids at their side.

Raising Special Kids has recently mailed or emailed a letter asking you to support our Annual Fund. We urge you to respond promptly and give what you can. The funds raised through this mailing are our largest source of unrestricted monies. These dollars educate physicians, supply essential information to parents, nurture individual mentoring, and offer families educational conferences.

Raising Special Kids helps thousands of families each and every year throughout Arizona. Your gift today will help another family gain the knowledge and strength to build a brighter future for their child.

Sincerely,  
Paula Banahan  
Board President

*PS – If you owe state income taxes, your gift to Raising Special Kids can be counted as a tax credit.*

*See page 11 for details!*



*Paula Banahan (center) with her son and daughter, Julia*

— continued from page 1

and provide accommodations to help her, and avoid what often becomes a downward spiral toward the juvenile justice system.

Some families' experiences with schools and students' behavioral health needs do not end well.

### **Zero Tolerance Policies**

In the process to re-authorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) also known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB), it was noted that the mandate to raise student test scores has "given schools a perverse incentive to

encourage or facilitate the departure or removal of lower-performing students."

Some schools increasingly rely on suspension, or expulsion, or call on police and juvenile courts to handle school discipline matters. A number of school shootings, starting with Columbine, have led schools to tighten security on campuses with the goal of improving safety. As a result, many parents have seen their child face suspension or worse for pranks or mistakes that would have caused little or no reaction in pre-Columbine years.

— continued on page 4

## **Criminalization of Youth with Disabilities**

Policies that emphasize punitive consequences and exclusion, known as the “School-to-Prison Pipeline,” disproportionately affect students with disabilities—especially those with emotional disturbances.

A recent study found that students with disabilities were suspended at about twice the rate of students without disabilities. These students also experience higher rates of expulsion and involvement with juvenile justice systems.

Gail Jacobs, Retired Director of Special Education and Superintendent for Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections, has noticed a rise in the number of students entering the justice system who have been in Child Protective Services and Foster Care. “Reasons students enter the juvenile justice system are usually not due to just one issue. Often the behavior of students who act up in class is due to unrecognized causes such as Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome or Traumatic Brain Injury—many have drug abuse issues or mental illness.”

The Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) has begun an audit of the suspension rates of students with disabilities in Arizona school districts. Cathleen Dooley, staff attorney at ACDL, is leading the effort to review and reform school suspension rates for children with disabilities in Arizona.

“Education is one of the most important prerequisites to success in our society. Unfortunately, for children who have disabilities that result in difficult behaviors, education is often elusive,” said Dooley. “If these behaviors are not addressed with appropriate services and interventions, kids often end up being suspended,

secluded, or sent home. Students, whose difficult behaviors should be redirected so they can benefit from the educational setting, instead are “pushed out” of school. Students who are sus-

suspended are much more likely to drop out of school. And we know that high school drop outs are up to seven times more likely to be incarcerated during their lifetimes than high school graduates.”

### **Solutions**

There are evidence-based practices schools can use, such as schoolwide Positive Behavior Support, that are proven more effective than zero tolerance methods. A Functional Behavioral Assessment to identify the causes of behavior and the development of a Behavior Intervention Plan suited to a student’s unique needs is one of the most successful methods of changing student behavior. Greater focus on helping students

develop social skills or the “soft” skills that some students with disabilities lack is another tactic gaining more support in the field of education.

Reenrollment, and proper education of students after expulsion or placement in juvenile justice is also critical. “We need to focus on transition from the moment they walk in the door (of justice facilities). These students need to learn how to integrate back into their communities effectively. Many just don’t know how to make a real life for themselves,” noted Jacobs.

Raising Special Kids offers help and assistance for parents with Positive Behavior Support, understanding Functional Behavioral Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans, and working with the IEP team to address behavior issues and help students stay in school.

**During Congressional hearings on the school-to-prison pipeline Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill stated, “For many young people, our schools are increasingly a gateway to the criminal justice system. This phenomenon is a consequence of a culture of zero tolerance that is widespread in our schools and is depriving many children of their fundamental right to an education.”**

# Family Story

Samantha and her husband did not know their 7-month old son had swallowed a small toy. Nor were they prepared for the cascade of medical and behavioral complications it would cause.

The tiny plastic doll necklace did not show up on x-rays, but the damage it created in Greyson's esophagus took months to diagnose and led to severe infection, long term eating difficulties and neutropenia. At age three, he is still prone to bacterial infections.

The mix of symptoms Greyson was experiencing—sensory and eating issues on top of immune system deficiencies—made it especially difficult to identify his most recent diagnosis of autism.



“I was in a very lost place for a few months,” Samantha said. “Our fight for so long was to get our son past the feeding problems and other issues. We always felt there would be an end to all that, but with the autism diagnosis, there was a feeling that this is never going to end. It was very difficult to hear.”

Raising Special Kids helped by connecting Samantha with a parent

who could provide mentoring for her. “Raising Special Kids has given me that opportunity, and it has been such a learning experience. Reaching out and helping other families—it really makes you feel like you’re not alone!”

# Thank You CareScape

The 7th Annual Dandelion Golf Classic on September 28 was quite a day for more than 150 players on the course and the families who will be helped through programs supported by the event.

At the lunch, Parent Leader, Rigo Lopez, provided the parent perspective with a very touching personal story, and CareScape, host of the tournament, presented Raising Special Kids with a tremendous gift of \$44,000!

“This gift will go far in meeting the needs of families for information, resources, and support,” said Executive Director Joyce Millard Hoie.

“This gift will go far in meeting the needs of families for information, resources, and support,” said Executive Director Joyce Millard Hoie.



*Above: Kyle Kennedy (left) of Arizona Business Bank, Title Sponsor of the 2013 Dandelion Classic with Mitch Owens, President of CareScape.*



*Rigo Lopez shared his family story with the audience.*



*Right: Patty Miller (left) and Marcy DeChandt have been the “Organizers Extrordinaire” whose efforts resulted in such success of this event each year.*

# No Cost Workshops & Training

For workshop descriptions or to register online visit [www.RaisingSpecialKids.org](http://www.RaisingSpecialKids.org)  
or call 602-242-4366 or 800-237-3007.

*Our office is a fragrance-free environment. Please avoid wearing fragrances.*

## Phoenix

Disability Empowerment Center,  
5025 E. Washington St., #204,  
Phoenix, AZ 85034

### High School Transition

Sat. 10/19/13, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

### Parent/Professional Collaboration

Sat. 10/19/13, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

### Turning 3, What's Next?

#### AzEIP to Preschool

Sat. 11/9/13, 1:00 - 3:00pm

### Guardianship —

#### Turning 18, What's Next?

Sat. 12/7/13, 1:00 - 3:00pm

### Positive Behavior Support

Thurs. 10/10/13, 6:00 - 8:00pm

Thurs. 11/14/13, 6:00 - 8:00pm

Sat. 12/7/13, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

### IEP Basics

Thurs. 10/10/13, 6:00 - 8:00pm

Sat. 10/19/13, 10:00am - 12:00 noon

Thurs. 11/14/13, 6:00 - 8:00pm

Sat. 12/7/13, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

### Advanced IEP Training

Sat. 12/7/13, 1:00 - 3:00

### Functional Outcomes

Sat. 11/9/13, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

## Yuma

ACHIEVE Human Services, Inc.  
Corporate Office  
3250-A East 40th Street  
Yuma, AZ 85365

### IEP Basics

Wed. 10/23/13, 5:00 - 6:30pm

### Guardianship

Wed. 11/20/13, 5:00 - 6:30pm

### Positive Behavior Support

Wed. 12/18/13, 5:00 - 6:30pm

## Conferences

*Multiple workshops in one day*

### Flagstaff

Early Intervention Conference

Sat., Oct. 12, 8:30am - 3:30pm

Family Resource Center  
4000 N Cummings  
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

- Arizona Early Intervention Update
- Functional Outcomes
- IFSP Basics
- Turning 3: What's Next? AzEIP to Preschool Transition

### Rough Rock

Special Education Conference

Sat., Oct. 19, 2013, 10:00am - 3:30pm

Rough Rock Parent Center  
Highway 59  
Rough Rock, AZ 86503

- IEP Basics
- Bullying Prevention
- Guardianship

### Window Rock

Special Education Conference

Tue., Oct. 29, 2013, 9:00am - 3:30pm

Window Rock Unified Admin Bld  
Off State Hwy 12 & Indian Route 7  
Fort Defiance, AZ 86504

- IDEA: Parent Rights
- IEP Advanced
- Resilient Families OR
- Journey to Adulthood

Wed., Oct. 30, 2013, 9:00am - 3:30pm

- High School Transition
- Getting & Keeping the 1st Job
- Guardianship

### Lake Havasu City

Western AZ Transition Conference

Sat., Nov. 2, 2013, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Thunderbolt Middle School  
695 Thunderbolt Ave.  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86406

- Partners on Transition
- Getting & Keeping the 1st Job
- Disability Benefits 101

## Safford

Special Education Conference

Sat., Nov. 9, 2013, 9:00am - 3:30pm

General Services Bldg.  
921 Thatcher Blvd.  
Safford, AZ 85546

- Parent Professional Collaboration
- Turning Three —What's Next? AzEIP to Preschool
- Positive Behavior Support

## Sells

Special Education Conference

Wed., Nov. 13, 2013, 9:00am - 3:30pm

Sells Recreation Center  
Highway 86/Business Loop  
Conference Room, Sells, AZ 85634

- IEP Basics
- Bullying Prevention
- Positive Behavior Support

## Prescott Valley

High School Transition Conference

Sat., Nov. 16, 2013, 8:30am - 3:30pm

Humboldt USD Transportation  
Training Room  
6411 N Robert Road,  
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

- High School Transition
- Getting & Keeping the 1st Job
- Guardianship: Turning 18, What's Next?

## San Xavier

Conference

Wed., Dec. 6, 2013, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Location TBA

- Journey to Adulthood
- Positive Behavior Support

## Kingman

Special Education Conference

Sat., Dec. 7, 2013, 9:00am - 3:30pm

Manzanita Elementary School  
Multi-Purpose Room  
2601 Detroit Ave, Kingman, AZ 86401

- Bullying Prevention
- IDEA: Parent Rights
- IEP

## CALENDARIO EN ESPAÑOL

Por favor llamar al 602-242-4366 o 800-237-3007 para confirmar su asistencia a los talleres.  
 Vea el Calendario en español en nuestra pagina web: [www.raisingpecialkids.org](http://www.raisingpecialkids.org)  
 Somos una oficina libre de fragancias.

### Phoenix

Disability Empowerment Center,  
 5025 E. Washington St., #204,  
 Phoenix, AZ 85034

**El Comportamiento Positivo**  
 Lunes 11/11/13, 10:00 - 11:30am

**Preveniende de Burlas**  
 Lunes, 10/14/13, 10:00 - 11:30am

**Al cumplir los 18 años, ¿que sigue?**  
 Lunes, 11/11/13, 12:30 - 2:00pm

**Organizando los archivos de sus niños**  
 Viernes, 10/18/13, 10:00am - 12:00pm

**Conceptos Básicos del IFSP**  
 Viernes, 10/18/13, 1:00 - 3:00pm

**Familias Resistentes**  
 Viernes, 10/11/13, 10:00 - 11:30am

### Yuma

ACHIEVE Human Services, Inc.  
 Corporate Office  
 3250-A East 40th Street  
 Yuma, AZ 85365

**Conceptos Básicos del IEP**  
 Miércoles 10/23/13, 7:00 - 8:30pm

**Al cumplir los 18 años, ¿que sigue?**  
 Miércoles 11/20/13, 7:00 - 8:30pm

**El Comportamiento Positivo**  
 Miércoles 12/18/13, 7:00 - 8:30pm

## Standard of Excellence

Raising Special Kids is honored to have received the highest of three achievement awards for a Parent Center - The 2013 Excellence Award from the

National and Regional Parent Technical Assistance Centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).



## Thank You to our Parent Leaders May - August 2013

### Chandler

Dawn Bailey  
 Marti Baio  
 Shauna Braudt  
 Martha Burrer  
 Rigo Lopez  
 Beth Maloney  
 Lisa Myers  
 Kelly Randall  
 June Siegel  
 Cathy Turner  
 Noelle White  
 Shelby Willa

### El Mirage

Rosa Ramirez

### Flagstaff

April Judd

### Gilbert

Holland Hines  
 Tammy Leeper  
 Louise Murphy

Annette Tull  
 Kim Updegraff

### Glendale

Fred Burgmann  
 Cathy Humphrey  
 Dawn Kurbat  
 Marci Monaghan  
 Ellen O'Hare

### Goodyear

Anne Dennis  
 Martha Spector

### Meia

Cynthia Elliott  
 Julie Follmer  
 Susan Melton  
 Kristina Park  
 Danielle Pollett  
 Derrill Wolkins

### Phoenix

Kari Andonov  
 Ana Arjona

Jeannie Bremerkamp  
 Marlene Carrasco  
 Lisa Case  
 Inilda Christensen  
 Patty Coe  
 Sara Eaton  
 Jim Gootee  
 Chris Jones  
 Heather Joy Magdelano  
 Elizabeth Naughton  
 Doris Ortega  
 Rolando Paredes  
 Damita Radtke  
 Jacob Robertson  
 Michael Sanderfer  
 Sherri Scruggs  
 Chuck Smith  
 Lori Stuart  
 Paulina Tiffany  
 Betsy Trombino  
 Susan Tucker  
 Nancy Williams

### Scottsdale

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 Carol Levenseller  
 Lynn Michels  
 Katie Petersen  
 Mary Quinsler  
 Ched Salasek  
 Cassandra Yazzie

### Snowflake

Bonnie Heal

### Surprise

Margie Yaw-Mehlos

### Tempe

Jamie & Kathy Cunningham  
 Megan Davis Dey

### Tolleson

Kristie Amator

### Yuma

Juanita Medina

## En Español



### El Dilema de "Tolerancia Cero"

Para la familia de Catherine, la reacción del distrito escolar a la crisis emocional de su hija fue un punto de inflexión. Una situación que pudo haber terminado mal dio pie a más apoyo para que las cosas tomaran el rumbo correcto.

Antes de ser diagnosticada y recibir el tratamiento adecuado, la hija de 13 años de Catherine sufría episodios de enfermedad mental en lugares públicos. La situación desencen-

denaba una respuesta negativa de otros estudiantes y comentarios en las redes sociales. Otros estudiantes participaron y la escuela recibió muchas quejas.

La familia no sólo luchó para conseguir ayuda para su hija, lo que incluía un diagnóstico y tratamiento adecuados, sino que acudió a la escuela para que le proporcionase un ambiente en el que pudiese recuperarse. Catherine

# En Español

reconoce el mérito de la escuela por tomar en cuenta la condición de su hija y trabajar con la familia para identificar y proporcionarle arreglos que la ayuden y evitar así lo que usualmente se convierte en una espiral negativa con relación al sistema judicial juvenil.

Las experiencias de algunas familias con las escuelas y las necesidades de salud del comportamiento de los estudiantes no terminan bien.

## **Políticas de tolerancia cero**

Las políticas que hacen énfasis en sanciones disciplinarias y exclusión, conocidas como “políticas de tolerancia cero”, afectan a estudiantes con discapacidades –en especial a los que tienen problemas emocionales– de forma desproporcionada. Según un estudio reciente, la tasa de estudiantes con discapacidades suspendidos prácticamente duplica a la de estudiantes sin discapacidades. En estos estudiantes también se observan tasas más elevadas de expulsión y participación en los sistemas judiciales juveniles.

Gail Jacobs, Directora jubilada de Educación Especial y Superintendente del Departamento de Arizona de Correccionales Juveniles, notó un aumento en el número de estudiantes que ingresan en el sistema judicial y que han estado en Servicios de Protección Infantil (Protective Services) y Hogares de Cuidado (Foster Care). “Los estudiantes no ingresan en el sistema judicial por un solo motivo. Muchos tienen problemas con las drogas o de salud mental”, señaló Jacobs.

Cathleen Dooley, abogada del Centro para leyes sobre discapacidades de Arizona (Arizona Center for Disability Law, ACDL), está al frente de una iniciativa para revisar y reformar las tasas de suspensión escolar para los niños con discapacidades en Arizona. “La educación es uno de los requisitos más importantes para triunfar en nuestra sociedad. Por desgracia, para los niños con discapacidades que derivan en problemas del comportamiento, terminar la escuela no siempre es fácil”, indicó Dooley. “Si estos comportamientos no se atienden con servicios e

intervenciones adecuados, los niños terminan siendo suspendidos, aislados o enviados a casa. A los estudiantes con comportamientos que deberían redirigirse para que pudieran beneficiarse de la estructura educativa se les termina ‘dando un empujón’ para que abandonen la escuela”, agregó.

## **Soluciones**

Existen prácticas basadas en pruebas que las escuelas pueden adoptar, como el Apoyo al Comportamiento Positivo (Positive Behavior Support), que resultan más efectivas que los métodos de tolerancia cero. La Evaluación del Comportamiento Funcional para identificar las causas del comportamiento y el desarrollo de un Plan de Intervención del Comportamiento que se ajuste a las necesidades únicas del estudiante es uno de los métodos más exitosos para cambiar el comportamiento del estudiante. Esforzarse en ayudar a los estudiantes a desarrollar las habilidades sociales o habilidades interpersonales de las que carecen algunos estudiantes con discapacidades es otro método que gana cada vez más apoyo en el área de la educación.

También es fundamental la reincorporación y la educación adecuada de los estudiantes tras una expulsión o participación en el sistema de justicia juvenil. “Debemos enfocarnos en la transición desde que entran (a las instalaciones de justicia). Estos estudiantes deben aprender a reintegrarse en sus comunidades de forma efectiva. Muchos no saben cómo iniciar una nueva vida por sí mismos”, señaló Jacobs.

La organización Raising Special Kids le ofrece ayuda y asistencia a los padres con relación al Apoyo al Comportamiento Positivo, para comprender las Evaluaciones del Comportamiento Funcional y los Planes de Intervención del Comportamiento y trabajar con el equipo del IEP para atender problemas del comportamiento y ayudar a los estudiantes a permanecer en la escuela.

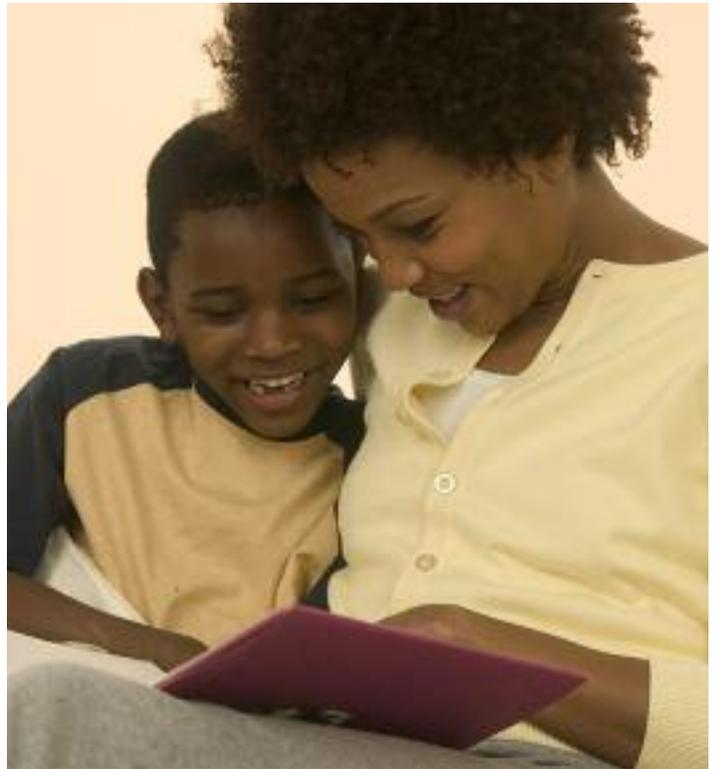
## Move On When Reading Law

### *How does this new law apply to students in special education?*

Some parents are wondering how the new 3rd grade reading requirement will apply to their children enrolled in special education. Arizona's law known as Move On When Reading mandates that beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, third-graders must pass a state reading test or they may be held back from being promoted.

Students in special education may qualify for an exemption. The Arizona Department of Education states exemptions may be provided for "Students with disabilities provided that the pupil's individualized education program (IEP) team and the pupil's parent or guardian agree that promotion is appropriate based on the pupil's IEP."

If you have further questions on the expectations for your child, consult with your child's IEP team for clarification or call Raising Special Kids at 800-237-3007 or 602-242-4366.



## Marketplace Application Checklist

### *Getting prepared to purchase health insurance online*

If you apply for coverage in the Health Insurance Marketplace, you'll need to provide some information about you and your household, including income, any insurance you currently have, and some additional items.

Use this checklist to help you gather what you need to apply for coverage. Open enrollment started October 1, 2013 for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2014. Open enrollment ends March 31, 2014.



- Social Security Numbers (or document numbers for legal immigrants)
- Employer and income information for every member of your household who needs coverage (for example, from pay stubs or W-2 forms—Wage and Tax Statements)
- Policy numbers for any current health insurance plans covering members of your household
- A completed Employer Coverage Tool (see <http://marketplace.cms.gov/getofficialresources/publications-and-articles/marketplace-application-checklist.pdf>) for every job-based plan you or someone in your household is eligible for. (You'll need to fill out this form even for coverage you're eligible for but don't enroll in.)



## Claim a Tax Credit Today and Make a World of Difference for Families!

New legislation expanded the Working Poor Tax Credit for ALL Arizona taxpayers- not just those who itemize on their tax returns. This program allows you to direct your tax dollars to Raising Special Kids, helping thousands of Arizona families and children with disabilities and special health care needs.

Help families of children with special needs build a brighter future with a gift to Raising Special Kids.

### How much can I give?

Up to \$400 for married couples filing jointly or up to \$200 as an individual.

### When is the deadline to contribute for 2013?

Your Working Poor Tax Credit contribution to Raising Special Kids must be made before January 1, 2014.

### How will the Working Poor Tax credit dollars be used?

At Raising Special Kids, 100% of your tax credit dollars are used to help families find the information, training, and resources they need to create better outcomes for their children.



Visit [raisingspecialkids.org](http://raisingspecialkids.org) today to claim your tax credit!

## Thank You to Our Donors August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2013

### Transformational

Carescape

### Champions for the Cause

Joseph Cammisio, Sr.  
Heather Prouty  
Salesforce Foundation

### Pilots

Nancy Allen  
Patrick Althoff  
Paula Banahan  
Tom Batson  
Kevin Bonner  
Jeni Calkins  
Linda Cannon  
Nancy Gunderson  
Joyce Millard Hole  
Marty Krepko  
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John West

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Amy Allen  
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Linda Anderson  
Scott Anderson  
Martin Aronson  
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Marti Baio  
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Jerry D Gerk  
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Debra Murrell  
Gayle Nobel  
Nothing But Net  
James O'Connor  
Joni Owen  
Laurie Person  
PINS  
Amy Pressley  
Tonya Price  
Irma Ragsdale  
Pam Remsey  
Michael & Genevieve Remus  
Matt Ribeiro  
Jennifer Rigby  
Chuck Riser  
Kristen Roles  
Susie Sands  
Sechler, CPA, PC  
Chuck & Nancy Smith  
Karin Smith  
Vance Smith  
Michael Stanley  
John Stritmatter  
Richard Thompson, Jr  
Christopher & Pauline Tiffany  
Tom Timmer  
Betsy Trombino  
Jan Umhay  
Steve Vial  
Susan Voirol  
Jill Walker  
Virginia Ward  
Waste Management Phoenix Open  
JoAnn Watkins  
Rob & Kelly Watson  
Tim & Sally Watters  
Robert Weigt  
Gary Weiner  
Leslie Williams  
Neil & Michelle Wintle  
Eric Zaharia

### Friends

10 Minutes For Talking  
AIRES  
Nadine Alfonso  
Margaret Anderson  
Lani Angell Comp

Brigitte Bontems  
Rex Bowersox  
Anna Burgmann  
Kylie Campo  
Brianna Carreras  
John Carroll, II  
Steven Carter  
James Carvalho  
Dianna Contreras  
Bob Cox  
Dakota Springs, Inc.  
Jane Dalen  
Lauren Daniels  
Diane Dimmock  
Down Syndrome Network  
Robert Duckworth  
Aruid Faudskar  
Julia Favela  
First Cup - Dunkin' Donuts  
First Smiles Yuma  
First Things First  
Karin Foster  
Angela Fountain  
Elizabeth Freeburg  
Diedra Freedman  
Christine Friedemann  
Paula Friedlund  
Linda Geyer  
Leticia D. Gonzales  
Susan Gregg Odom  
Grace Kasnick  
Jennifer Kasten  
Marianne Kennedy  
Mary Knight  
Nancy Knobel  
Melba Kolling  
Dick & Betty Kowalski  
Diane Kudo  
Doris & Michael Lawson  
Joyce Lefco  
Kelli LeVasseur  
David Lewis  
Nancy Maser  
Shauna Mattson  
Emily Mayhew  
Marilyn Cecelia Mead  
Raun Melmed  
Allison Merritt  
Eileen Mueske

Chellappin Narayanan  
Jodie Nebrich  
Corinne Newbold  
Angela Nguyen  
Nancy Oreshack  
Maria S. Padilla  
Phil Pangrazio  
Michelle Pansulla  
Gwendolyn Parker  
Dr. Leslie Paulus  
Jennifer Perry  
Karen Peters  
Phoenix Children's Hospital  
- The Emily Center  
Maria Angelica Pimentel  
Janice Proctor-Murphy  
Mary Pyles  
Becky Raabe  
Terisa Rademacher  
Katrina Rivera  
Mimi Rogers  
Bob Roper  
Karen Ross  
Robin Roth  
Ellen Rutemiller  
Ryan House  
Gabriela Sanchez Orozco  
Michael Sanderfer  
Paulins Serna  
Sharon Shelley  
Robin Smith  
Jonni Snyder  
Jennifer Sosnow  
Peggy Starrs  
Lin Stoudt  
Cristy Sturgis  
Janelle Tassarot  
Debbie Terrill  
Holly Thompson  
Jaquelyn Thorpe  
Jeffrey Turner  
Anh Toan Vu  
Caryn Walsh  
Robert Washkovich  
Jill West  
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Cynthia Zobrist

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Visit [RaisingSpecialKids.org](http://RaisingSpecialKids.org)  
to start helping us serve families  
with your gift today.

Plans have kicked into high gear for  
our upcoming Party With A Purpose,  
celebrating our 35th anniversary with

## "A Gatsby Affair"

Slated for

March 1, 2014.

We invite you to be the Bee's Knees and  
join United Healthcare; Heinfield, Meech and  
Co.; Lewis, Roca & Rothgerber; and  
Channel 3 as sponsors for this fun evening  
of gangsters and gaming.

Don't be a Wet Blanket!

Log on to [RaisingSpecialKids.org](http://RaisingSpecialKids.org) to get  
the goods on this roaring good time.

It'll be the Cat's Meow.

