

THE POWER OF PET THERAPY

IMPACT REPORT 2021 | 2022







OUR MISSION: Through the life-changing power of pet therapy, we enhance the social and emotional development of vulnerable children

7 core behaviors taught on our visits: attachment, self-regulation, affiliation, respect, tolerance, empathy, confidence

Tyrion's love for the children at Homeward Bound is endless.

THE POWER OF OUR PRIMARY PROGRAMS

Gabriel's Angels is one of the few organizations that deliver healing Pet Therapy services to vulnerable children throughout Arizona. Pet Therapy teams, consisting of an owner and their pet, offer unconditional love, teach empathy, respect, confidence and other core behaviors that children might not learn through traditional channels. Pet Therapy activities are goal-related visits that improve the quality of the child's life through the power of the human-animal bond. Our programs are delivered in three different settings:



Animal Assisted Activities (AAA)

On these visits, the Pet Therapy team and Helping Hand volunteer visit with a group of 8-10 children, where they work on developing the seven core social behaviors through engaging activities. Visits are on a bi-monthly basis, 45-60 minutes, for a minimum of six months.



Animals, Books and Children (ABC)

This program works on improving each child's reading abilities, fluency, comprehension, and confidence, while enhancing the child's motivation to read. The Pet Therapy team visits three individual children (1st - 3rd graders) weekly for approximately twelve (12) weeks. Visits are 20 minutes per child.



Children and Animals Program for Education (CAPE)

Our newest program CAPE, works on developing relationship building skills, self-awareness, self-management, and responsible decision-making through group discussions and activities facilitated by a Pet Therapy team. Visits are weekly for 11 weeks with middle school students.



COVER: THE POWER OF THE PERFECT PLACEMENT

Tyrion and his handler Sue, were thrilled that they were matched with the children at Homeward Bound where they deliver our Animal Assisted Activities Program. One child that Tyrion bonded with immediately was Vanisa, who was struggling with self-regulation and would try to get attention through negative behaviors. With Tyrion's visits, Vanisa began to improve and her growth was visible just by interacting with Tyrion. She was able to self-regulate and was gentler with her peers after being in the Gabriel's Angels program for just a few weeks.

Vanisa was chosen to be the Leader of the Month and was recognized with a special sign and privileges. Vanisa said this about Tyrion..."I look at our picture every time I come to the library, and it makes me remember you and makes me want to be happy. I want to be with you forever."



social and emotional development of a child. We know that YOU understand the power of the human-animal bond and what that can do to support any human, especially a vulnerable child who yearns for that safety and attachment they may have never received. Arizona is facing a crisis and our children are suffering, yet together we can turn this around.

> The Annie E. Casey Foundation releases data every year on the state trends in child well-being. Unfortunately, the overall score for Arizona fell from 41 to 44, making our state a challenging place to be a child. One of the leading factors that puts Arizona lower was in the category of health. For every 100,000 children and teens in our state, 36 of them will die, mostly by suicide or gun violence. The National average is 28 for every 100,000, the worst number since 2008.

We are grateful for your unwavering commitment to support

our most vulnerable children throughout Arizona, especially at

a time when it is so crucial to deliver services that help in the

The U.S. Surgeon General has reported that we are in a mental health pandemic for youth, which began even before the pandemic. A quarter of parents with children ages 6-17 said their child had been bullied and one in five kids struggled to make friends. It's hard to hear this data, but we know that Gabriel's Angels can be part of the solution to help children emotionally and socially with connection, which is crucial to their development into successful adulthood.

Many of our Gabriel's Angels Pet Therapy teams are going above and beyond their usual one-hour visits and staying 30 minutes longer at their school or partner agency to provide

additional opportunities for children to visit with a therapy pet. We have also ramped up our community support visits. These visits are typically multiple Pet Therapy teams visiting a school or agency for an hour in a group setting. Your support helps us to recruit and retain the volunteers that answer the call for these additional opportunities.

Pet Therapy teams on a Community Service Visit at a mental health fair.

THE POWER OF PASSIONATE PEOPLE

AS CEO OF GABRIEL'S ANGELS, THE DEMAND FOR OUR SERVICES

DRIVES ME TO ACTION EVERY DAY

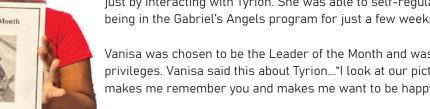
Gabriel's Angels registered Pet Therapy teams and Helping Hand volunteers are empowering children to pursue healing, happiness, and hope to build strong foundations for their future. We have agencies, schools and even individuals calling us every week to ask how we can help their children. I hope that we can answer that call and provide a team no matter where the need comes from across the State of Arizona.

Your belief in us to help the children in our communities with the powerful, unconditional love of a pet ensures our success. We have been working hard on a strategic road map for the next two years and we have revamped our mission statement (previous page) to reflect the hard work our staff and volunteers have taken on. With your continued support, we aim to reach 2,300 children by the end of next fiscal year. Your gifts have been crucial to be able to reach so many who need us, but we want and know we can do more. Thank you for helping to keep Gabriel's Angels strong so that we may deliver our powerful pet therapy services and change lives.

With Gratitude,

Helin & Stelmer

Melissa Steimer, CEO

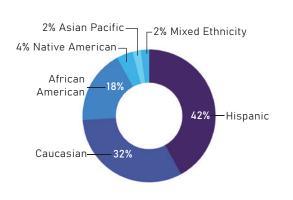






Above, Gin and his handler Paul visit a Teen Step Program for youth with learning disabilities in Tucson. Circle photos/Pet Therapy teams: Diane and Ella, Marlo and Benson, Kerry and Pearl, Gary and Ruby. Below, Pet Therapy team: Kerry and Carmel.

CHILDREN SERVED IN FY 2021/2022





and

Toddlers



and Middle

School





Animals, Books, & Children Program 800 books read 18 words per minute increase 70% reading comprehension improved

THE POWERFUL PULL OF PURPOSE

I started supporting Gabriel's Angels over 12 years ago when a friend pointed out that they involved two of my loves, helping kids and dogs. I learned how the agency worked and watched the effect the therapy dogs had on the kids. Over time my involvement increased because after all, what can be more important to a community than caring for our most vulnerable population? If we care for our abused and at-risk kids, we are sending healthier individuals and contributors into our community.

As I dug in deeper and went on Pet Therapy visits with several teams, I was deeply moved to see how the dogs unconditional love reached these children and the impact was both beautiful and mind blowing. What if we could reach more, heal more, help more, became my constant question. As a member of the community, I saw firsthand how these kids were improving with their mental health and over all well-being. As a business woman in the Valley, I happily contribute to Gabriel's Angels because I know my dollar is touching the many agencies Gabriel's Angels serves and helping thousands of children statewide. What a great bang for my buck! There is no way I could do that on my own, but Gabriel's Angels is doing it on a daily basis. This feeds both my heart and my practical business sense. Now that mental health issues are at the forefront of challenges we are facing, I am even more committed to supporting Gabriel's Angels amazing work. I know because of them, that I am truly making a difference in Arizona and that just feels good.

Jane Spicer, CEO, Daphne's Headcovers Gabriel's Angels Steering Committee Member

THE POWER OF PAWSIBILITIES AND UNLEASH THE LOVE



We are grateful that our supporters love our special events and that we were able to return to in-person gatherings in the fall of 2021, having our first A Night of PAWSibilities Gala at the Arizona Biltmore. More than 275 guests helped surpass our goal in just a few hours.

> A NIGHT OF **PAWS**IBILITIES FY21 \$244,490



The much anticipated Unleash the Love Fundraising Breakfast occurred in both Tucson and Phoenix in the spring of 2022. Hundreds of guests new to Gabriel's

Angels attended to hear about our mission and the life-changing work that we do in Arizona communities. As always, our greatest ambassadors, the Pet Therapy teams, were in attendance to share with guests the invaluable work they do for Arizona's children.

> Unleash the Love \$237,586



Pet Therapy team, John and Beau, with event co-chair and board member, Julie Ernst, at the Unleash the Love



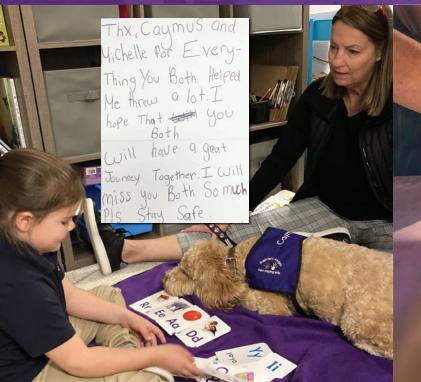
with quests at the Unleash the Love breakfast in Tucson



Unleash the Love Breakfast in Phoenix and Pet Therapy team Karen and Minka

We know that our Pet Therapy visits improve the social and emotional development in children and youth, especially children who have challenges with motivation, attention and socio-emotional functioning. A visit from a Pet Therapy team helps to alleviate stress, anxiety, depression, and feelings of loneliness. Dogs can also teach us important coping and behavior skills. This is where Gabriel's Angels intervenes and can be a solution for kids who are struggling. Below are a few "Love Letters" that the teams have received as a result of their work. We are so grateful for all our volunteers, especially the Pet Therapy teams who share the love of their dog to promote well-being in kids.



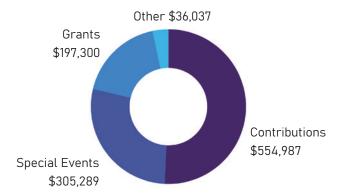


Caymus and his handler Michelle, visit the children at Devereux, a behavioral health residential agency in Phoenix and Gilbert Arts Academy in Gilbert.

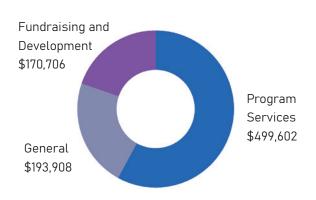


Bella and her handler Bernie, visit the children at Angel House, a behavioral health residential agency in Tucson.

REVENUE Total: \$1,093,613



EXPENSES Total: \$864,216





Left to right: Board Members; Julie Ernst and Patty Nelson, Steering Committee Members; Ann McCartney and Nan Ater, Former Board Members; Jill Heuer and Christine Wilson

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THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

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"During my veterinary career, it was very rewarding to witness the positive impact pets have on people's lives. My husband, also a veterinarian, and I always knew we wanted to do therapy dog work, and in 2013, we had the right dog and the right timing. We have volunteered with several different therapy dog programs, and when I started working with Gabriel's Angels in September 2021, the support, structure, and reach of the program aligned perfectly with what I was looking for. So much so that I was inspired to join the Board and amplify my ability to make a difference in the lives of at-risk youth."

Dr. Annette Bouwer, Pet Therapy Team Volunteer and Board Member Photo: Pet Therapy dog, Phinley (Annette's dog) with a student in the Animals, Books and Children Program



You and your pet can make an impact in your community. Volunteers receive personalized training, activities for pet therapy visits, and on-going support from our Gabriel's Angels staff.



Angel Society members provide a consistent income stream, allowing us to focus more resources on our life-altering programs. This is a 5-year pledge for a minimum of \$1,000 per year.



Sign up for Amazon Smiles to support Gabriel's Angels and check out our Wish List. Items on the list go directly to benefit the children that the Pet Therapy teams visit.



Creating a Lasting Legacy- Planned giving offers a variety of opportunities to support us in a way that aligns with your own personal financial needs and goals.



Donate any amount to help children in your community through the powerful life-changing services of Pet Therapy. \$50 provides healing Pet Therapy to a child for one month.



\$400 for an individual or \$800 for a couple. We are a Qualifying Charitable Organization, so you can designate these funds, and receive a \$ for \$ tax credit on your AZ tax returns. QCO: 20449



Scan to learn more and donate online



Don't forget to check out our website and follow our social media channels.





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