



TCAA Community Connection

It's Official, TCAA Moves to its's 4th location



On April 10, 2017, Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA) moved to its newest program location at **2146 E. Apache Blvd., Tempe, AZ 85281**. The wait was well worth it as we couldn't be more proud of our newest home. To make it official, TCAA hosted a *Grand Opening celebration* on April 26, 2017 to commemorate this highly anticipated event, thank all those who have been instrumental in making this a reality and to honor the building's namesake, two of Tempe's most dedicated and steadfast supporters and one of two TCAA founding families, Ms. Jenny Norton and Mr. Bob Ramsey.

A million thanks to the City of Tempe,
Mayor Mark Mitchell, Tempe City
Council members, Bethel
Development Inc., Ms. Jenny Norton
and Mr. Bob Ramsey, Mr. and Mrs.
Penn Johnson, Edward Jones, Sandy

Kolberg , Local Artist Kyllan Maney, the Tempe Chamber of Commerce and Evens Stevens for making this new facility and Grand Opening celebration such a huge success.

TCAA will also be hosting a **Community Partner Open House** on Wed, May 17, 2017 from 1pm to 4pm at its newest location. Community partners are welcome to come and tour our new facility. For more information about this upcoming Open House or to RSVP, please contact Sophia at sophiac@tempeaction.org



The Norton and Ramsey Center houses TCAA's Food Pantry, Emergency Services Programs, I-HELP team and administrative offices.

- **Regular office hours:** Monday-Friday 8 - 5 p.m.
- **Food Pantry hours:** Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - noon and Tuesday/Thursday 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- **Website:** www.tempeaction.org

Thanking Our Stars: Our Volunteers



In honor of its incredible, **SHINING STARS**, TCAA hosted its Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event on May 3, 2017 at one of Tempe's local faves, [Snooze, an AM Eatery](#). The evening event was an opportunity to let our most active/regular TCAA volunteers know just how special and appreciated they are. For those volunteers who were not in attendance, due to limited venue capacity, their efforts and commitment are no less appreciated by our entire TCAA organization. The passion and dedication of all of our volunteers is truly awe inspiring and sets a wonderful example for all to follow.

They are without question, the heart and soul of who we are at TCAA.

Volunteer Award Winners receiving special recognition included: **Kay Wright, Antonio Figueroa** (pictured on left with TCAA Ex. Director, Deborah Arteaga), **Andrea Wallburg, Shari Hamblin** (pictured on right with TCAA Ex. Director), and the **Escalante and Clark Park**

Community Garden Committees. Delicious food, a spectacular venue (Snooze), raffle prizes and great camaraderie among volunteers, staff, board members and guests topped off the night's festivities.



*"The smallest
act of
kindness is
worth more
than the
grandest
intention."
~Oscar Wilde*



Calling All Corporate Champions!



10 Partners - 2 Weeks - 5,000 Meals = 1 Grateful Community

TCAA's Summer Meals Campaign - June 5th through June 16, 2017

TCAA's Summer Meals Campaign Needs YOU!
Interested in providing food for hungry children, families, seniors and the homeless during the summer months, when the pantry typically runs low on food items? Become 1 of 10 Community Partners to answer the

COMMUNITY ACTION - CALL TO ACTION by conducting a two-week food drive at your place of business.

To register your company and become a Summer Meals Champion, please [email us](#) by May 26, 2017. Participating organizations will be promoted on social media during the campaign and two winners (1 large, 1 small organization) will be selected to receive a popsicle party at their place of business for the total lbs. of food donated.

Childhood Hunger doesn't take a summer vacation.

Did You Know?

Not only can Tempe and South Scottsdale seniors access delicious hot lunches at the Escalante, North Tempe, and Granite Reef Senior Centers ... TCAA also offers light breakfasts as a supplemental activity. We launched the light breakfast program after learning through our biannual surveys that many of our seniors skip breakfast in an effort to save money. Good nutrition and reliable access to meals are so essential to healthy aging! We're grateful to **Depcom Power** and Scottsdale's **Sustainable Seniors** group who provided a grant to TCAA to help ensure Scottsdale seniors have regular access to the light breakfast program in addition to ongoing congregational lunchtime meals offered by TCAA.



Cultivating Partners & Community Action



Community Partners, individuals and organizations alike, assist TCAA in furthering its mission of alleviating hunger, poverty and homelessness in our community. We just couldn't accomplish what we do, without these valuable community partnerships, some longstanding, many more new and untapped. TCAA is sincerely grateful to all of its caring, committed and valued based partnerships that collectively, help better our community, and bring hope and security for thousands more living in it.

With too many to mention, TCAA would like to specifically acknowledge its more recent volunteer groups and partnerships with SRP, Edward Jones, Bethel Development, all of our outstanding faith based I-HELP partners, including our newest: 29:11 Church and Resurrection Catholic Church, our food partnerships, including United Food Bank, Lifelock, Express Scripts, Snooze, Keystone Montessori, Tempe Chamber of Commerce, Evens Stevens, Tempe Empty Bowls, ASU School of Sustainability, Tempe Schools, as well as APS, the Pendleton Memorial Trust, Sustainable Seniors/Depcom Power, Season for Sharing, and Dignity

Runners, Walkers Abound at I-HELP 5K



Ready, set, go! Runners and walkers from all over the valley turned out in droves on Sat. March 25, 2017 at Tempe Kiwanis Park to support a great cause. 398 to be exact. TCAA's Annual I-HELP 5K Run/Walk continues to grow both in registered participants, sponsors, and funds raised each year. This year's event, which is TCAA's primary fundraising event in support of its Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program (I-HELP), Tempe's only homeless shelter, surpassed all previous event fundraising goals, by raising just under \$25,000.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to our amazing 2017 I-HELP sponsors which included: [Grace Community Church](#), [Nick Bastian Realty](#), [Healthsource of Tempe](#), [United Phoenix Fire Fighters Association](#), [Carol Royse Realty](#), [Summit Funding](#), [Tempe St. Luke's](#), [Flexprint](#), [Evens Stevens](#), [TruWest Credit Union](#). Additional thanks goes out to [Landings Credit Union](#) for their in kind donation of water for this event and the I-HELP planning committee and volunteers for their hard work and long hours which helped make this event a huge success. See you all next year!

To learn more about homelessness in our community, click the link

[here](#)

Until there's a place to call home... there's I-HELP.

Plenty of Reasons to Celebrate



TCAA's Health Start program had numerous reasons to celebrate in the month of April. Throughout the world, and particularly within the Western hemisphere, nations celebrate **Día de los Niños** (Day of the Child) on April 30th to honor and celebrate children in their community.

In recognition of this day, Health Start hosted a spectacular event for its children and families, including a family picnic at Escalante park. A record number of attendees, approximately 260 adults and 362 children came out to join in this year's family festivities. Delicious food catered by TCAA's Food Specialist, Roy Cantu as well as music, pinatas, raffle prizes, face painting, sno-cones and popcorn machines, activity booths, and a beautiful dance demonstration by Grupo Tornasol helped to make this an unforgettable, fun family event.

It is also no coincidence that **Día de los Libros** (Day of the Book) occurs on this same day. A huge thanks goes out to **Eagle Scout, Nathaniel Anbar and his troop #697**, who selected TCAA as their Eagle Scout service project. More specifically, they conducted a hugely successful book drive for Dia

de los Libros. Over 400 gently used or new books were donated to Health Start families in honor of this dual celebration of children and books, which took place on Sat. April 29, 2017.



Another Bowl Please!

Tempe Empty Bowls - 2017 Recap

We are deeply appreciative to the 2017 Tempe Empty Bowls committee for another outstanding two day event which took place Feb. 24-25 at the 6th St. Park and Tempe Library Complex. TCAA is one of two event beneficiaries to receive funding in support of Tempe's hunger relief efforts. Thanks to this great group of committee folks and students in Tempe Schools, this fabulous event continues to grow its loyal fan base as well as new attendees to this worthwhile event in support of hunger relief in our community. This year, [Tempe Empty Bowls](#) raised just under \$23,000 which was split between [TCAA](#) and [United Food Bank](#). Thank you for being an incredible partner and for your commitment to alleviating hunger in Tempe.



TCAA Community Gardens: Spotlight

TCAA's [Clark Park Community Garden](#)



and [Escalante Community Gardens](#) continue to innovate, inspire and engage community volunteers and partners in building healthier, sustainable environments for us all. Here are just two recent happenings that help to illustrate their commitment to the Tempe community. We are immensely proud and grateful for the volunteer leadership that has made these two garden programs flourish, specifically, their efforts to create beautiful and safe outdoor environments that continue to enhance the lives and well-being of all individuals, young and old, who share in this

space, volunteer their time and together help build a diverse, caring and resilient community.

*Escalante Community Garden's Rainwater Harvesting System helps
...[continue to full story](#)*

*Clark Park Community Garden Receives Neighbor of the Year Award
from the City of Tempe..[click here](#)*



Learn more about TCAA programs [here](#).
Make a difference today by donating [here](#).

See what's happening on our social sites:

