



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Homeless Families Moving Into House of Refuge With Overwhelming Community Support

Mesa, Arizona, May 2, 2017. On May 2, 2016, House of Refuge was notified by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) they were no longer going to fund transitional housing programs for homeless families nationally. After 19 years of support, despite a stellar success rate of moving families from homelessness to permanent housing, House of Refuge was being retroactively defunded. Fifty-nine HUD funded families would have to be moved into alternate housing without bumping other families on a Maricopa County centralized waiting list.

House of Refuge knew that it would have to set on another funding course. They reached out to donors in every corner of the community. The community rallied and simply said "Not in our backyard." They would not allow this tragedy to play out in our community.

Because of the communities' unwavering support and determination House of Refuge has secured 70% of its funding base and is once again providing stable housing for families. With the continued support of the community, House of Refuge is on track to reestablishing 100% of their funding and will be at full capacity before the heat of the summer descends upon the Valley.

"We are inviting families back into our life changing program, back into stable homes where a community has proven they truly care about every human being living within its borders. Because of the support of the community families are safe and children have a place to call home. Paraphrasing the words of Mother Teresa, 'I am a little pencil in the hand of God who is sending a love note' to our amazing community. May God richly bless each and every one of you for your care, support and efforts. You have made a life changing difference in our community and we THANK YOU."

Nancy Marion, Executive Director

About House of Refuge

House of Refuge is a faith-based, non-profit 501(c) (3) that provides supportive services and transitional housing to homeless families. House of Refuge is a work program with case management services, employment support and transitional housing. To learn more about the House of Refuge organization or to Adopt a House through the donor program, please visit www.houseofrefuge.org. # # #

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