

PRESS RELEASE

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YWCA Maricopa County and UMOM Form Partnership
Valley Nonprofits Partner to Enhance Services for Women & Children

PHOENIX, Ariz. – (October 13, 2008)... Dana Campbell Saylor, chief executive officer of the YWCA Maricopa County, is pleased to announce the transition of Haven House to UMOM New Day Centers, as a result of collaboration between the two nonprofit organizations. According to Saylor, the organizations share the vision of providing stronger, increased services for mothers and children in need and this partnership is the perfect way to make best use of community resources.

A critical component of this transition was to ensure that the federal, state, and local funding granted to Haven House transferred with the mothers and children. "It was important that the YWCA board of directors expended all efforts to ensure the approximately \$308,000 that sustained Haven House stayed within our community," said Saylor.

"Haven House mothers and children will benefit immensely from this effort," said Saylor. "Because the YWCA and UMOM have similar missions and serve the same communities, our joining forces provides even greater depth and range of services for the families and expands our reach by stretching community resources. Collaboration is the way to initiate systemic change in community investment organizations and we are proud to be part of such an exciting initiative. It's a win-win for all," said Saylor.

Collaboration among nonprofits is an emerging strategy for success in serving communities, according to Dr. Robert Ashcraft, director of the ASU Lodestar Centers and professor, nonprofit studies in ASU's School of Community Resources and Development. Recently, the Lodestar Center announced a Collaboration Prize to recognize nonprofits for these innovative efforts. "Appropriate collaboration is one of the strategies that effective nonprofits use to meet their mission and achieve impact," said Ashcraft. "So this is just the sort of innovative programming we believe contributes to the common good."

Beginning October 1, Haven House families will transition to the facilities at UMOM New Day Centers campus in Phoenix. These families will continue to receive shelter, childcare and educational programs as well as other critical resources necessary to lift themselves out of the cycle of poverty and homelessness. Haven House families who join the UMOM New Day Centers community will be able to use the unique services of UMOM, including the wellness center, chapel, Kids Den for after-school activities, culinary skills education and the Clothes Closet retail establishment for residents and the public.

Through UMOM's New Day Centers, families will have access to Arizona's only accredited child care facility on a homeless shelter campus. The Child center is licensed and accredited for up to 81 children, providing a safe learning environment and sense of normalcy for children who have

experienced precarious living conditions. Attendance develops social skills and improves preparedness for school while it frees the parent(s) to focus on education and employment.

“UMOM and YWCA Maricopa County come together in our common goal of providing services that will allow homeless families to rise above their current situations to prosper and grow,” said Darlene Newsom, CEO of UMOM New Day Centers. “Through this transition, we believe we can more quickly and effectively assist our residents to accomplish their goals of self-sufficiency. We have a responsibility to our residents, donors, sponsors and the community to be financially vigilant in our efforts to do whatever we can to reach more of those in need with our services.”

Both the YWCA Maricopa County and UMOM New Day Centers hope their teamwork encourages a paradigm shift for all nonprofits and organizations serving our communities. “Collaboration is the future for nonprofits,” says Newsom. “In the short term, we see this as the way to stretch dollars and other resources; in the long term, collaborations will be essential to meet the mounting needs of our growing community.

“Nonprofits continue to be at the forefront of tackling our community’s most pressing issues,” commented Brian Spicker, senior vice president of community impact for Valley of the Sun United Way. “Fostering collaborations to better meet the needs of our valley residents is a forward-thinking approach that will yield positive results for all.”

About YWCA Maricopa County, Local – National – International

The YWCA Maricopa County is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has served the Phoenix metropolitan area since 1912. Locally as well as worldwide the YWCA develops opportunities for women’s growth in leadership and justice to achieve human rights, dignity, freedom, health, security and peace for all people.

The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women’s organization worldwide with more than 25 million members in 122 countries, including 2 million members in 300 local associations in the United States. For more information on Maricopa County’s YWCA visit www.ywcaaz.org or call (602)258-0990, Washington D.C. YWCA U.S.A. www.ywca.org and World YWCA Geneva, Switzerland www.worldywca.info.

About UMOM

UMOM New Day Centers was founded by local United Methodist Churches in 1964 and incorporated in 1985 as a private, nonsectarian, nonprofit agency serving homeless and low-income families with food, shelter and tools to build a bridge to self-sufficiency. An Equal Employment Opportunity Employer, UMOM is staffed by professional case managers, crisis counselors, childcare providers, housing specialists, resident assistants and administrators.

UMOM New Day Centers is a charitable organization under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3). All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. For more information about UMOM New Day Centers, visit www.umom.org.

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