

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26, 2018

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More than 1,000 Nonprofits Set to Participate in Arizona Gives Day Next Week

This statewide day of giving has raised more than \$10.14 million since 2013, and hopes to exceed its 2017 grand total of \$2.74 million with increased support from local residents

PHOENIX, AZ — On April 3, Arizonans from Bullhead City to Bisbee will be asked to “invest in Arizona” by giving to organizations that are doing important work to improve the well-being of our state. Participating nonprofits include large and small organizations dedicated to arts and culture, children and youth, community development, health services, animal welfare and more. Each one works to better the state — and all are in need of community support.

[Arizona Gives Day](#) is a grassroots, statewide day of giving that invites Arizonans to support their favorite causes. Donations can be scheduled in advance (to be processed on Tuesday, April 3) at azgives.org or can be submitted day-of on April 3.

Hosted by the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits and Arizona Grantmakers Forum, and presented by FirstBank, Arizona Gives Day has raised more than \$10.14 million for Arizona nonprofits since its founding in 2013.

“Arizona Gives Day is striving to build a community of philanthropists and help everyone understand that it does not matter what your income might be,” said Laurie Liles, president and CEO of [Arizona Grantmakers Forum](#). “Anyone can make a difference with any dollar amount they are able to give.”

For participating nonprofits, Arizona Gives Day offers an opportunity to raise awareness about their work, connect with new donors and win prize money to supplement individual donations. Last year, Arizona nonprofits raised \$2.74 million through the generosity of more than 18,000 donors, with many giving to multiple organizations.

“The power of collective giving can be transformative,” says Kristen Merrifield, CEO of the [Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits](#). “On April 3, if a million people gave just \$10 to their favorite organization, we could raise \$10 million for Arizona nonprofits. That’s incredible to think about.”

In the past, donations large and small have combined to make life-changing advancements possible throughout our state, and this year, the event is poised to be bigger than ever.

“I can’t think of a better, easier and more feel good way to give back than by supporting your favorite cause on Arizona Gives Day,” says Joel Johnson, President-East Valley, [FirstBank](#). “With more than 1,000 worthwhile nonprofit participants, it’s easy to find and donate to a local charity you care about.”

“Giving back isn’t just about building up good karma; it’s the right thing to do. Arizona Gives Day provides an important reminder about personal and corporate responsibility, and it enables us to make a direct impact in strengthening our community,” noted Johnson.

ARIZONA GIVES DAY 2018 FAST FACTS

- **1,020** organizations are participating from across the state
- **260** organizations are joining Arizona Gives Day for the first time

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- **\$180,000** in prize pool money is up for grabs
- Organizations by county: [Apache](#), [Cochise](#), [Coconino](#), [Gila](#), [Graham](#), [Greenlee](#), [La Paz](#), [Maricopa](#), [Mohave](#), [Navajo](#), [Pinal](#), [Pima](#), [Santa Cruz](#), [Yavapai](#), [Yuma](#); [National](#), [International](#)
- See all of the participating nonprofits throughout the state [here](#)

ARIZONA GIVES DAY 2018 EVENTS

All events are being held on Tuesday, April 3. Please contact Jennifer Purcell for further information.

- **Greater Phoenix:**
 - **7:30 – 8:30 a.m.** ICAN 2nd Annual Bright Futures Breakfast; [ICAN](#)
 - **7:30 – 9:00 a.m.** Coffee and Consent / We Wear Teal Day; [BLOOM365](#)
 - **11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Arizona Gives Pop-Up Ice Cream Shoppe; [Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest](#)
 - **9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Read Better Be Better Open House; [Read Better Be Better](#)
 - **10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Homeward Bound Hit the Ground; [Homeward Bound](#)
 - **3:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Portillo's Tempe Goes to the Beagles; [Arizona Beagle Rescue](#)
 - **6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** The Art of Community Engagement; [YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix](#)
- **Tucson / Southern AZ:**
 - **5:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Make Way for Books Arizona Gives Day Celebration; [Make Way for Books](#)
 - **5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Arizona Gives Day Open House; [Higher Ground: A Resource Center](#)
 - **5:00 – 8:00 p.m.** Dinner & Donations at Chick-Fil-A; [Seeds of Hope](#)
- **Flagstaff / Northern AZ:**
 - N/A at this time

SPONSORS

Presenting: FirstBank

Silver: Arizona Community Foundation, BHHS Legacy Foundation, Freeport McMoRan Foundation, Hickey Family Foundation, Intel Corporation, Thunderbirds Charities, Vitalyst Health Foundation

Copper: Community Foundation for Southern Arizona - The Keith Family Fund, Salt River Project, Southwest Gas Corporation, Tucson Electric Power / UniSource Energy Services

Bronze: Sechler Morgan CPAs

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SOURCES

Kristen Merrifield, CEO, Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits

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Kristen brings more than 15 years of association, nonprofit and fundraising expertise to her role as CEO of the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits. She was a donor on Arizona Gives Day before stepping into the leadership role in 2015. Arizona Gives Day has expanded under her leadership, with 2016 giving totals increasing by 28 percent over the previous year. Kristen serves in various volunteer roles with the Arizona Society of Association Executives, the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), and National Council of Nonprofits.

Laurie Liles, President & CEO, Arizona Grantmakers Forum

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Laurie became president and CEO of the Arizona Grantmakers Forum in 2015. She grew up in Arizona and has worked throughout her career to make our state a better place to live and work. With more than two decades of advocacy and association leadership experience, Laurie is passionate about connecting people who want to make a difference in others' lives. She honed her advocacy chops at the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association, where she served as president and CEO and as senior vice president of public affairs, among other roles. In 2014, she was a Washington, D.C. correspondent for Cronkite News, covering politics, immigration and Indian affairs for Arizona news media outlets.

Bryce Lloyd, President – Phoenix Metro, FirstBank of Arizona (Arizona Gives Day's Presenting Sponsor & Incentive Prize Pool Funder)

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About the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits

The Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits is a statewide trusted resource and advocate for the nonprofit community. The Alliance's mission is to unite, strengthen and advance Arizona's nonprofit sector and is comprised of more than 1,000 members – both nonprofits and those in the community who support them – across the state. Since 2004, the organization has been dedicated to furthering the common interests of Arizona's nonprofit community and envisions an Arizona where all nonprofits are valued, empowered and thriving, with support from grassroots efforts like Arizona Gives Day.

For more information, visit www.arizonanonprofits.org, or email azgives@arizonanonprofits.org.

About Arizona Grantmakers Forum

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Arizona Grantmakers Forum is the statewide network that connects, educates and advocates for Arizona philanthropy. Its mission is to empower members to transform Arizona through leadership and meaningful philanthropy. Member organizations make financial grants to nonprofit organizations throughout the state and represent the interests of private foundations, trusts, endowed community foundations, corporations, government agencies and individuals with organized charitable gift programs.

For more information, visit www.azgrantmakers.org, or email support@azgrantmakers.org.

About FirstBank

FirstBank, the nation's third largest privately held bank, operates more than 115 locations in Arizona, Colorado and California, serving over 750,000 customers. The bank offers a variety of checking and savings accounts, mortgages, home equity loans and a full range of commercial loans and business accounts and services. Since 2000, the company has been recognized as a top corporate philanthropist, contributing more than \$60 million and thousands of volunteer hours to charitable organizations. FirstBank is also unique in that a majority of its stock is owned by management and employees. For more information, go to www.efirstbank.com.