It was another record-setting year as The Thunderbirds and the Waste Management Phoenix Open raised a record $10,147,441 for local charities through proceeds from the 2017 tournament. This is the highest single-year charitable donation in tournament history, breaking last year’s record total of $9.3 million and the first time eclipsing $10 million in tournament history. It also marks the third-consecutive year breaking the tournament record for charitable dollars raised in a single year.

"Each year our goal is not only to put on the best golf tournament in the world, but to raise millions of dollars for charity," Andy Markham, President of Thunderbirds Charities said. "The Thunderbirds are proud of our history of giving back to the community and excited to break our single-year record for the third straight year, reaching $10 million for the first time. We have a great support group that helps us achieve this goal, from our outstanding title sponsor Waste Management, as well as our corporate sponsors, volunteers, and our great fans."

The Thunderbirds and the Waste Management Phoenix Open have raised more than $56 million ($56,154,683) for charities since 2010 when Waste Management became title sponsor. In its history, dating back to 1932, the Phoenix Open has raised more than $122 million ($122,201,249) for charities in Arizona.

"Waste Management is extremely proud of our role as title sponsor of the ‘Greenest Show on Grass’ and one of the most charitable tournaments on the PGA TOUR," said Jim Trevathan, Waste Management executive vice president and chief operating officer. "The Waste Management Phoenix Open truly makes an inspiring difference from both a community and environmental standpoint.

The 2017 Waste Management Phoenix Open was another record-setting event on the course as well, as a total of four attendance records were broken. For the week, 655,434 fans attended "The People’s Open", breaking the 2016 record of 618,365, marking the second consecutive year that more than 600,000 fans attended for the week. Additionally, single-day attendance records were broken on Wednesday (77,906), Friday (169,004) and Saturday (204,906).

Thunderbirds Charities has now raised more than $122 million for Arizona Charities since 1932.
Arizona Science Center is on a mission to bring an increased focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics – the subjects commonly referred to as STEM – to teachers, students and families across Arizona through its innovative, signature STEM Extravaganza program. Thunderbirds Charities awarded Arizona Science Center $100,000 in grant funding to help provide customized learning to 3,500 students and 400 teachers from Metro Phoenix schools through the delivery of STEM Extravaganza programs at eight K-5 schools in 2017. The first program kicked off March 6, 2017 at Acacia Elementary School. Including this gift, Thunderbirds Charities has provided close to $475,000 in grant support to Arizona Science Center projects and programs since 1994.

“This model is brilliant,” says Christine Hollingsworth, principal of Acacia Elementary in the Washington Elementary School District. “Previously, teacher professional development, providing students with exciting and relevant hands-on science content, and engaging families in this process would happen with separate programs. Each taking sufficient time and resources to plan and execute. With a STEM Extravaganza, we are utilizing the expertise of Arizona Science Center to provide our students and families with engaging, hands-on science content while our teachers have a chance to be inspired and supported with their own type of learning. The more hands-on, visual learning we can do, the better,” she said.

The mission of Arizona Science Center is to inspire, educate and engage curious minds through science. The Center, located at 600 E. Washington Street in downtown Phoenix, features more than 300 hands-on exhibits, live demonstrations, the state-of-the-art Dorrance Planetarium and the five-story Irene P. Flinn Giant Screen Theater. CREATE at Arizona Science Center®, adjacent to the main building, is the newest addition. This 6,500 square foot community makerspace provides workshops, including 3D printing, laser cutting, woodworking and sewing. The Center also offers programs for all ages, including: Camp Innovation, Teen Science Scene, Professional Development and Learning for Educators, and adults-only Science With A Twist. For further details, please visit azscience.org.

“We are proud of what the Waste Management Phoenix Open has become and even more proud to be able to assist so many in need in our Arizona communities.”

Andy Markham
President of Thunderbirds Charities
AUDUBON ARIZONA

“The Thunderbirds’ continued support of Nature in your Neighborhood programs will allow us to reach a tremendous number of children, many of whom would otherwise have no opportunity for an experience in nature,” said Sonia Perillo, Executive Director of Audubon Arizona.

Thunderbirds Charities has partnered with Audubon Arizona for several years, providing support for the construction of the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center and the Thunderbirds Charities Ramada where students gather during field trips, as well as support for the Nature in your Neighborhood education programs.

“Audubon Arizona brings nature to life through these hands-on interactive education activities, and we are excited to support such a great neighborhood program,” said Andy Markham, President of Thunderbirds Charities.

Audubon Arizona is the state office of the National Audubon Society and a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization with the mission of connecting people with nature, using science, education, and advocacy to protect Arizona’s birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and earth’s biodiversity.

DUET: Partners in Health & Aging

Also receiving funds is the interfaith organization Duet: Partners in Health & Aging. Duet received a $10,000 grant from Thunderbirds Charities to support Duet’s Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program.

“The grant from Thunderbird Charities will make such a huge impact to grandfamilies [grandparents and the children they are raising] facing numerous challenges,” said Patricia Dominguez, director of kinship care services for Duet, in a press release. “Many of the families are in distress. Emotions are high and they’re confused as to what’s happening. Duet is that lifeline to making sense of their situation and providing hope.”

According to the most recent U.S. census, more than 100,000 children in Arizona are being raised by their grandparents or other relatives. Grandparents raising grandchildren often face an array of complex challenges such as dealing with school systems, health insurance, financial support and legal issues.

Duet offers these grandparents respite assistance, legal guidance and more.

“For any grandparents raising grandkids out there I’d encourage them to go to support groups for help. It’s been a lifesaver for me.”

Patricia, hopeful grandparent raising a grandchild
The Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council (GSACPC) is pleased to announce it has received a $50,000 grant from Thunderbirds Charities. These funds will allow GSACPC to expand their Family Engagement efforts in areas without a tradition of Girl Scouting.

Family Engagement is an outreach strategy that allows GSACPC to reach more girls, families and potential volunteers throughout the year in the form of relationship-building, sharing of information, special events and activities that offer a taste of Girl Scouting. We understand the importance of engaging the whole family in some communities to grow our membership and volunteer base. Over the last five years this strategy has been very successful in retaining girls and volunteers within the Latino community, specifically in South Phoenix. With the help of Thunderbirds Charities, we will expand our Family Engagement efforts into other communities within our jurisdiction, including Flagstaff, the Navajo Nation and other underserved areas in Maricopa County. This grant will provide the opportunity for 500 more girls to experience the power of Girl Scouting.

GSACPC serves girls throughout central and northern Arizona, and is committed to ensuring that all girls can build their courage, confidence and character and make the world a better place through Girl Scouting.

Florence Crittenton

Florence Crittenton received $35,000 to provide a safer environment for the at-risk young women residing in its Permanent Supportive Housing program.

“There are many passersby who walk onto our housing properties making our vulnerable girls express concerns about the safety of themselves and their children,” said Dr. Kellie M. Warren, Florence Crittenton’s Chief Executive Officer. “We are incredibly grateful for the Thunderbirds Charities support to help us put our girls’ concerns at ease and to create a safe environment for them and their children to reside.”

The Permanent Supportive Housing program is located in a transient neighborhood in urban Phoenix where it houses parenting and non-parenting women, ages 17½ to 25, who are often aging out of the foster care system and/or are at risk of becoming homeless. The funds will be used to upgrade their building’s exterior fencing, install a security camera system and a key entry security gate for its residents to improve the safety conditions of these women’s residence.

While residing in the agency’s Permanent Supportive Housing, the girls, many of whom have been diagnosed with substance abuse or serious mental and emotional illness, also receive supportive services, life skills training and counseling. For more information about Florence Crittenton and its programs and services, visit www.flocrit.org.
Musical Instrument Museum

Thunderbirds Charities awarded $50,000 to the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM). These funds will help cover travel costs for nearly 23,000 Arizona Title 1 students and teachers visiting MIM during the 2017-2018 school year; support MIM's Artist Residency Program, which brings professional musicians from around the world to provide unique educational opportunities for students and youth; and train more museum guides to help accommodate the increasing volume of school and youth field trips.

"MIM is thrilled to receive this important grant award from Thunderbirds Charities, which will not only help remove a persistent barrier in transportation costs for Title 1 schools, but also support other enriching aspects of our educational programming," says April Salomon, MIM’s executive director.

Education has always been central to MIM’s mission. A World of Musical Journeys, MIM’s educational field trip program, has served more than 265,000 children and educators/chaperones since its inception. The program offers a variety of field trip options, tailored to grade levels and interests for ages 3-18. All field trip options are designed to meet Arizona K–12 Academic Standards, and each includes an orientation video, museum tour, free-choice learning, and a visit to the hands-on Experience Gallery.

MIM’s Artist Residency Program enables participants to attend a live performance in MIM’s Music Theater and interact with the performers. Many of MIM’s visiting students have been from Title 1 schools and an increasing percentage of visits (72% in 2016) are supported by grant dollars awarded to MIM from individuals, corporations, and foundations, like Thunderbirds Charities. MIM has quickly become one of Arizona’s most sought-after field trip destinations and we look forward to welcoming more students as they broaden their education and discover a world of music.

Chrysalis

Chrysalis was awarded a $67,500 grant from Thunderbirds Charities, to support counseling for children and adult victims of domestic abuse. The funds from the grant will support the non-residential counseling program by providing a Masters level child and family therapist. Chrysalis saw an increase in non-residential counseling services from the previous fiscal year and increased waiting times as a result. An additional therapist allows for more victims of domestic violence to get critical services faster in times of devastating crisis.

"The support from Thunderbirds Charities' will have a direct and lasting impact on victims of domestic violence in our community," said Patricia Klahr, President and CEO of Chrysalis. “Counseling is one of the top three requests Arizona victims make when calling the National Domestic Violence Hotline. Through our therapeutic approach, we provide the tools for victims to create safety and break the cycle of abuse not only for themselves, but also for their children. We are deeply grateful to Thunderbirds Charities for recognizing how vital these services are for victims in crisis.”
Desert Voices

Desert Voices received $80,000 in support of The Toddler Room. “We could not be more thrilled with the Thunderbird’s extraordinary support of our program that helps children who are born deaf speak oral language,” said Tim Louis, Board Chairman. Thunderbirds Charities has been a supporter of Desert Voices for more than 17 years. Their generosity has helped Arizona’s only non-profit, listening and spoken language program for children born deaf and hard of hearing, give voices to hundreds of children.

Desert Voices offers two programs: Early Intervention for children 0 to 3 years of age, where a child learns to hear and speak one sound at a time; and Early Education that takes the child from 3 to 5 or 6 when they mainstream to traditional schools speaking about 3,000 words and having experienced a pre-school environment where they learn to read and write.

The Toddler Room, for kiddos 2 to 3, is a ½ day program 2 to 3 days a week. It moves the child from Parent-Child Therapy where a baby learns to hear and learns sounds into a language rich environment where they learn about 250 words. The beginning vocabulary is the foundation for then teaching complex language in a pre-school program where children learn not only to speak, but to have conversations, read, write and prepares them for traditional kindergarten or first grade of their parent’s choice.

“We are pleased to support Desert Voices and help them continue to achieve their mission to teach children born deaf develop to their maximum potential through listening and spoken language,” said Andy Markham, President of Thunderbirds Charities.

The Society of St Vincent De Paul

Thunderbirds Charities awarded $300,000 to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul towards their first large-scale capital project in nearly 25 years, Building a Resilient Community Campaign. SVdP is dedicated to feeding, clothing, housing, and healing individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn for help. When complete, this new facility will house SVdP’s transitional shelter and outreach programs for homeless and working poor individuals and families and will expand their health and dental clinics. This helps SVdP create a full-service, renewed campus that will increase their ability to feed, clothe, house, and heal working poor and homeless families and individuals in our community.
2016/2017 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

THUNDERBIRDS CHARITIES

A New Leaf $100,000
Faith House Women's Center
A Stepping Stone Foundation $15,000
Literacy Elevates Arizona Families (LEAF)
About Care Inc $15,000
Volunteer Management Program
ACCEL $25,000
East Campus Playground
Act One Foundation $50,000
Act One Field Trip Program
Aid to Adoption of Special Kids $25,000
Kinship Foster Care
All Sports Foundation $10,000
DBA Prostate On-Site Project
Prostate On-Site Project Mobile Prostate Screenings
Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter $20,000
Family Support Program
Amanda Hope Rainbow Angels $50,000
Comfort and Care Program
Arizona Burn Foundation $50,000
HOPE Services
Arizona Cancer Foundation For Children $25,000
Sunshine Pack Program: Spread the Sunshine
Arizona Council On Economic Education $30,000
Economics for Everyday Living
Arizona Friends Of Foster Children Foundation $15,000
Fostering Success for Children in Foster Care program
Arizona Helping Hands $50,000
Helping Hands for Foster Kids
Arizona Recreation Center For The Handicapped $25,000
Cornerstone the Future of ARCH
Arizona Science Center $100,000
Thunderbirds Charities STEM Extravaganza
Arizona Women's Education & Employment $50,000
CLASSWorks - Career Ladders Achieving Success and Security
Assistance League of East Valley $25,000
Operation School Bell program
Assistance League of Phoenix $30,000
Operation School Bell
Audubon Arizona $25,000
Nature in Your Neighborhood
Be a Leader Foundation (BALF) $50,000
Be a Leader Foundation PIPELINE of College-Going Programs
Best Buddies Arizona $50,000
Best Buddies Arizona School Friendship Project
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona $20,000
Site-Based Mentoring for Minority, At-Risk, and Low-Income Students
Boy Scouts Of America, Grand Canyon Council $75,000
Grand Canyon Council Service Center
Boys Hope Girls Hope Arizona $100,000
Technology Expansion Project
Cancer Support Community-Arizona $10,000
Youth and Family Program
Catholic Charities Community Services Inc $100,000
MANA House for Veterans
Central Arizona Dental Society Foundation $10,000
Arizona Dental Mission of Mercy Two Day Clinic
Childhelp, Inc. $100,000
Specialized Therapy Service Enhancements
Childrens Museum Of Phoenix $125,000
New Art Studio
Childplay Inc $25,000
Childplay's School Touring Program
Chrysalis Shelter For Victims Of Domestic Violence Inc $67,500
Counseling for Child and Adult Victims of Domestic Violence
Civitan Foundation Inc $80,000
Camp Civitan Sports and Recreation Complex Renovation
Courtyard's Foundation Inc $17,000
Quality of Life Programs for Individuals with Special Needs
Desert Voices Oral Learning Center $80,000
Thunderbird's Toddler Room program
Detour Company Theater Inc $7,500
2017 Mainstage Support
Dignity Health Foundation East Valley $40,000
Chandler Children's Dental Clinic
DS Network $15,000
Life's Journey...with Down Syndrome
Due: Partners in Health & Aging $10,000
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program
East Valley Senior Services Inc $7,500
Assistance for Independent Living Volunteer Services program
Educare Arizona $20,000
Early Education Extended Day Program
Esperanza Inc $10,000
Salud con Sabor Latino (Health with a Latin Flavor)
Expect More Arizona $25,000
Engaging Parents in Student Success program
Experience Matters Consortium Inc $50,000
Volunteers in Literacy: Buckeye K-3
Family Promise-Greater Phoenix $50,000
Whole and Healthy Families Emergency Shelter program
Florence Crittenton Services Of Arizona Inc $35,000
Providing Safety for At-Risk Young Women
Free Arts For Abused Children of Arizona $10,000
Free Arts Programs for Children
Future For Kids $13,000
Discover Your Future
Gabriel's Angels $20,000
Pet Therapy Program
Girl Scouts Council Arizona Cactus-Pine $50,000
Girl Scout's Family Engagement
Grant Park Recreation and Community Center $30,000
Project ReConnect
Harvest Compassion Center Phoenix $20,000
Food and Hygiene Products
Higher Octave Healing Inc $10,000
Social Connections through Music Therapy Intervention
Homeless ID Project $40,000
ID Empowers Our Community
Homeless Youth Connection Inc $25,000
Empowering Youth For The Future
Homeward Bound $200,000
Empowering Homeless Families with Children
Hope & A Future Inc $25,000
Life Skills Program For Teenage Foster Children
Hospice of the Valley $50,000
Perinatal Palliative Care Program
House Of Refuge Inc $55,000
Adopt a Home Program
Human Services Campus L L C $150,000
Campus Engagement Program
Interfaith Cooperative Ministries (ICM) $25,000
Improvements for food and clothing delivery
Jobs For Arizonas Graduates Inc $10,000
Career and College Readiness Program
Joy Bus $10,000
The Joy Bus Meal Delivery Program
Labors Community Service Agency $5,000
Family Stabilization Project
Leukemia Foundation of Arizona $10,000
Home Is Where The Heart Is program
Local First Arizona Foundation $40,000
Fuerza Local program
Mentorkids USA $7,500
Student Success Program
Miracle League Of Arizona $25,000
"Brand New Ballgame" at MLAZ
Musical Instrument Museum $50,000
A World of Musical Journeys field trip program
Neighborhood Ministries Inc $25,000
Katy's Kids Early Childhood Development Preschool
New Pathways for Youth $30,000
Transformative Mentoring Program
notMykid $37,500
notMyKid Prevention Program for Boys and Girls Clubs VOS
One Step Beyond Inc $50,000
Catering Expansion
Open Table, Inc. $10,000
Phoenix Reconciliation Tables
Phoenix Art Museum $50,000
Teen Engagement Initiative
Phoenix Boys Choir Association $5,000
Phoenix and Mesa Neighborhood Training and Cadet Choirs
Phoenix Children's Chorus $8,000
Enriching Childrens' Lives Through Music
Phoenix Childrens Hospital Foundation $125,000
Hope Lives Here -- The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders Capital Campaign
Phoenix Day $15,000
Safe Travel for Kids
Phoenix Rescue Mission $100,000
R.A.P. (Rescue-Assess-Place) Program
Phoenix Symphony Association $5,000
Mind Over Music (MOM)
Phoenix Theatre Inc $10,000
Partner's That Heal A W.O.N.D.E.R. Project
Playworks Phoenix $50,000
Playworks Arizona Programming
Raising Special Kids $10,000
Partners in Care

Rebuilding Together Valley Of The Sun Inc $10,000
Safe and Healthy Home

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix $25,000
Help-A-Family Program

Rosie’s House A Music Academy For Children Inc $7,500
Aim Wind and Brass After School Music Program for Under-served Youth

Ryan House $45,000
Child Life Program

SARRC $25,000
Intensive Parent Training

Save The Family Foundation of Arizona $75,000
Homeless Families Intervention Project

Shoebox Ministry Inc $25,000
Toiletries and undergarments

Soldiers Best Friend $10,000
Service/Therapeutic Companion Dog Program

Southwest Human Development $33,000
ADAPT SHOP

Special Olympics Arizona $150,000
2017 Special Olympics Arizona State Competitions

St Mary’s Food Bank Alliance $300,000
Kids Café Program Vehicles and Food

St. Joseph the Worker $100,000
Employment Heals Families Outreach Project

Stand For Children Leadership Center $10,000
Family Engagement program

Stardust Non-Profit Building Supplies Inc $10,000
Gifts In Kind program

Summer Youth Program Fund SYPF $50,000
2017 Summer Youth Program

Take Charge America Inc $7,500
Financial Literacy and Life Skills for At-Risk Youth

Teach For America Inc $50,000
Developing & Empowering Leaders in the Movement for Educational Equity

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society $10,000
Local Travel Assistance Program

The Society of St Vincent De Paul $300,000
Building a Resilient Community Campaign

Treasures 4 Teachers Inc $25,000
Treasures 4 Teachers on Wheels program

UMOM New Day Centers Inc $300,000
Ending Homelessness for Families and Youth through Client Assistance

United Food Bank $60,000
Cooler Expansion

United States Veterans Initiative $100,000
Homeless Veterans program at Grand Veterans Village

Upward Foundation $20,000
Project UPWARD Nursing

Valle Del Sol Incorporated $15,000
Valle del Sol Clinic For Children and Families Expansion

Valley Youth Theatre $10,000
Literacy and the Arts program

Voices For Casa Children Inc $50,000
Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Companion Program

VOS YMCA $250,000
Water Safety and Outreach Enhancements

Improving the quality of life in our communities is just one of the many missions of The Thunderbirds, hosts of the Waste Management Phoenix Open presented by the Ak-Chin Indian Community. Like MentorKids. Fresh Start Women’s Foundation. Boys and Girls Clubs. And countless others. More than $111 million has been gifted to Arizona charities over 82 years, but the true impact can be expressed one story at a time. Thanks for your continued support of the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

Carlos Sugich, Thunderbird

For more Arizona success stories, visit www.thunderbirdscharities.org

WHAT DOES $111 MILLION IN CHARITABLE GIVING FEEL LIKE?

ONE VICTORY AT A TIME. TIME AFTER TIME.

ONE SUCCESS STORY AT A TIME. TIME AFTER TIME.