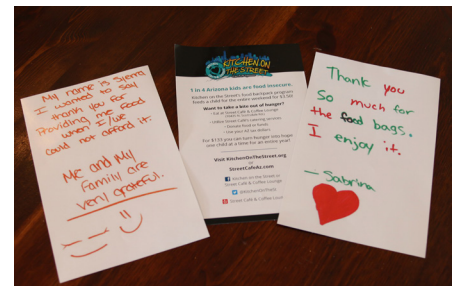


turning *hunger* into *hope*



By **Kim Tarnopolski**

As the media sponsor for 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun, we're honored to be featuring Kitchen on the Street, the selected nonprofit from the August quarterly meeting.

Hunger is a growing crisis in the US. A striking 1 in 4 children in Arizona suffers from food insecurity. When kids go hungry, the entire community is affected. It is proven that adolescents struggling with food insecurity results in academic developmental issues, stunted growth, weakened immune systems and the potential to struggle with obesity later in life.

When Vince and Lisa Scarpinato heard about the prevalence of food insecurity in local Arizona children, they were shocked. They could not believe thousands of children in our community may receive breakfast and lunch at school but were left to go hungry on weekends. They knew action had to be taken and, in 2007, they created Kitchen on the Street.

Kitchen on the Street is a local charity comprised of advocates whose mission is to **turn hunger into hope...one child at a time.**

"At first we were addressing hunger and then we realized we wanted to do more to stop hunger," shared Lisa. Out of that desire came one of the charity's main programs called Bags of Hope. This program provides backpacks filled with individually portioned, shelf-stable meals and snacks for in-home weekend consumption. Bags of Hope are distributed at schools on Friday afternoons so children receive food and nutrition outside of school.

In February, the organization opened Street Cafe which is their restaurant on Scottsdale Road and Shea Boulevard. The café offers dine-in, takeout and catering as a means of inviting the public to come alongside the charity in the fight against childhood hunger. The concept allows you to enjoy a meal with friends and family

with proceeds feeding hungry kids!

Scottsdale resident, Amy Winski, learned of Kitchen on the Street in 2009 when she was asked to help at an event. **"The passion Lisa and Vince have for ending childhood hunger is unmatched! They pour their hearts and souls into turning hunger into hope. I have volunteered at various events with them and their energy and enthusiasm are never waning."**

In August, Amy had the opportunity to share Kitchen on the Street with the members of 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun. Her story touched the hearts of the women present that evening and Kitchen on the Street was awarded donations totaling \$8,600. **This donation will fund over 14,500 meals to kids in school.**

Visit www.kitchenonthestreet.org and www.100wvcvalleyofthesun.org to learn more about these meaningful organizations.