



# COMMUNITY IMPACT I

By Stephanie Hayden  
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## FOOTHILLS LIVING LADIES NIGHT OUT & 100+ WOMEN WHO CARE Foothills Women Join Forces To Help Needy Kids

*May is always a busy month filled with graduations, promotions and other end-of-year festivities, but all that busyness didn't stop a large group of Foothills and Valley women from getting together to support a truly deserving local charity — not just once, but twice.*

The first get together took place at the second quarterly meeting of the brand new women's group, 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun; a collaborative group of women committed to making an impact in their local community by jointly donating to local 501(c)(3)s.

The excitement was palpable as well over 100 women packed the Foothills Golf Course club room on May 5th to hear presentations by members who nominated local charities who are in need of support. One of the charities supports foster children, one assists senior citizens and the final charity provides food to people with cancer.

After a brief question and answer session, a majority of the women voted to aid the Sunshine Angels, a non-profit organization committed to helping local foster children

who live in group homes. The nomination came from Foothills resident and member, Patty Schmid, who was elated that her charity was selected to receive the group's donations.

"May is National Foster Care Month, so the selection of this charity was very timely," smiles Kim Tarnopolski, Executive Committee Member of 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun. "Our members were very moved by the stories of children who are simply trying to succeed given the circumstances they are currently dealt," she says.

Members of 100+ Women Who Care eagerly began writing their checks to the Sunshine Angels right on the spot and when everything was said and done, the group collected a whopping \$8,550 to donate to the charity.

But the giving didn't stop there. Two nights later, Foothills Living Publisher Steve Petruzzella and his wife Jen threw their first annual "Ladies Night Out" with all of the proceeds going to the Sunshine Angels in conjunction with the donations by the members of 100+ Women Who Care.



The community party was held at the beautiful home of Adelaide Boutique owner Allison Altzman and was sponsored by a host of Foothills Living supporters and advertisers (a full list of sponsors is listed at the end of this article).

The Ladies Night Out included a silent auction, raffle, and lots of wonderful free food and wine. There were also numerous local vendors on hand selling gorgeous purses, jewelry and home decor.

"The event was simply amazing," says Petruzzella. "It was a collaboration of support from our Foothills Living Social Committee, 100+ Women Who Care, our advertisers, sponsors and all of the wonderful ladies in the Foothills. Together, we helped 300 foster children who really need this assistance."

By the end of the evening, Foothills Living had collected an incredible \$4,559.00 to add to the Sunshine Angels donation from 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun. "I was very humbled and honored to be invited to present the check in person and get a tour of the Sunshine Angels facility and meet the incredible volunteers that work and support these kids on a daily basis," Petruzzella says. "Being able to support 100+ Women Who Care and the Sunshine Angels in the same evening makes me very proud that Foothills Living is right

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in step with our mission statement of turning neighborhoods into communities," he smiles.

Joining Steve and Jen Petruzzella at the check presentation event on May 19th were 100+ Women Who Care Executive Committee Members Kim Tarnopolski and Stephanie Millner, as well as nominating member Patty Schmid. Together, they presented a total of \$13,109 to the Sunshine Angels President, Sandra Hurst. "The donation will help this organization expand its tutoring program," Hurst explains. "Only .5% of children in the foster program graduate from college. This is why we place so much emphasis on our Success in Learning program. By celebrating the kids and teaching them how to learn, we empower them and show how much we care," she says.

100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun is comprised of two sister groups, one in Ahwatukee and one in Scottsdale. Together the chapters donated over \$19,000 during the second quarter of 2015.

New members are welcome! The next meeting of 100+ Women Who Care Valley of the Sun, Ahwatukee will be held on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Foothills Golf Club located at 2201 E. Clubhouse Drive Phoenix, AZ 85048. For more information, to become a member, or register for the next meeting, visit [www.100wwcvalleyofthesun.org](http://www.100wwcvalleyofthesun.org).

#### **Foothills Living Ladies Night Out Sponsors:**

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