



Service Year 2011-2012

*"I want to say thank you for this program for our children, parents, and family....We feel blessed to participate in the (Stepping Stone) program as a family. We have been growing as parents, teachers and educators of our children. **This is something very unique and valuable.***

...The program has motivated me to continue my education and to be a model for my family... My son has been a good example for his sister, cousins, and friends to follow. His teachers are forming and educating him to be a good citizen through books, music, games, teamwork, and their dynamic way of teaching is reinforced with professional ethics."

March 2012, Margarita, parent of a preschooler. You can read Margarita's full letter at the end of this report.

Family Service Numbers and Statistics:

A Stepping Stone Foundation served a total of 41 families; 34 of whom were with us 6 months or more, including Margarita, whose quote is above, and her son Jose. Of those 41 families, 21 had 4-year old children (who turned 5 by the end of the school year) and 20 had 3-year old children (who turned 4 by the end of the school year). Our professional program evaluator, Dolores Retana, will be presenting the children's progress report to staff in August of this year. As in the past five years, we used the Get Ready to Read Screening instrument (updated version) and the Social Competency and Behavior Evaluation scales (SCBE) for our quantitative evaluation tools to monitor student progress. Teachers also used Work Sampling portfolio assessments for a more qualitative preschool evaluation. Please note that in program year 2012-2013 we will be using the Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG) tools to monitor student progress.

Billie Gannaway Scholarship Report

Building a Better Future

Each year A Stepping Stone Foundation awards scholarships to any former Stepping Stone preschooler who: 1) has graduated high school, 2) completes the application and 3) indicates they will continue post secondary education. Repeat scholarships may be awarded on a case by case basis. This scholarship was made possible through a series of lead gifts by the late Billie Gannaway and many other supporters which this year included: Family Arts Needlework Shop (Stitch the Town Event Proceeds), Jennifer Sanchez, DeVry University, Jessica Sanchez and Barbara Freeman (represent gifts of \$100 or greater).

Each year we have a dinner called Bill and Billie's Kids Go to College to announce the scholarship awards. This year's theme was "Building A Better Future". A Stepping Stone Board Members awarded 21 Billie Gannaway Memorial Scholarships at this year's Bill and Billie's event. Those students are: Rafael Aguirre, Sergio Avila, Alyssa Burris, Brenda Cuellar, Ricardo Espinoza, Jose Antonio Hernandez, Oswaldo Robledo Hernandez, Areli Jimenez, Geraldine Medina, Daisy Ixehuatl Nava, Rosa Nido, Bianca Ortega, Angelica Pereda, Gabriela Yazmin Ramirez , Gabriela Reyes, Paola Rodriguez, Francisco Romero, Itzel Ruacho, Guadalupe C. Sandoval, Vanessa Sandoval, and Vanessa Tang.

Enormous thanks goes to Linda Pape, Event Chair, and to her amazing committee: Jennifer Sanchez, Judy Brengi, Bev Carroll, Maritza Hernandez, and Carolyn Keagle. It was Carolyn's idea and energy that began this event some ten years ago.

Without the generous support of Vanessa Tang's Uncle Kenny Leung (pictures), President Beverly Carroll (student gifts), Paradise Bakery and Cafe (donated desert), Drew Hensley and Kellie White (music), Stephanie Swann (design work) and Shadow Rock Church (donated venue) this event could not have taken place. A Stepping Stone children and families thank you all. The Scholarship Committee Chairperson is Charlie Adornetto (past Stepping Stone Board President).



2011-2012 Grant and Sponsorship Report

The following list represents grants \$1,000 and greater to A Stepping Stone Foundation received (as of June 30, 2012) for which we have permission to publicly share:

Program Grants

Nina Mason Pulliam Foundation	\$55,000 (Renewable for one year)**
Verizon	\$25,000
AZ Republic/Chanel 12 Season For Sharing	\$10,000
Avnet	\$10,000
Enterprise Holdings Foundation	\$ 2,500
National Bank of Arizona	\$ 2,500
Carstens Family Foundation	\$ 2,000
Sundt Corporation	\$ 2,000
Masonic Charities	\$ 1,500
US Bancorp	\$ 1,000

** This Grant although awarded this year, will be applied to FY 2012-2013 Budget

Cena y Serenata Sponsorships

	<i>Level</i>
APS	Ruby
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona	Emerald
Helios Education Foundation	Emerald
Cox Communications	Media Sponsor
Urias Communications	Design Sponsor
National Bank of Arizona	Diamond
Tooker Family Foundation	Diamond

Blue Star Sapphire table sponsors: Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Arizona Republic/La Voz, Milena & Tony Astorga, Cancer Hospital Treatment Centers of America: West, Carstens Family Foundation, Climatec, Hensley Beverage Company, DeVry University, Rodarte Law Office, SCF Arizona, SRP, Telemundo, Bob and Mary Dee Sing, UCP-Central Arizona, United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Univision, US Bank, Valley Hispanic Bomberos, Wells Fargo Private Bank.

Individual Donations of \$1,000 or more (Some donors have elected to remain anonymous):

Peter and Regina Bidstrup (The Bidstrup Foundation)
Diane and Gary Tooker (The Tooker Family Foundation)
Tony and Milena Astorga
Joy and Con Englehorn
Jack and Vianne Kucera (Climatec Inc)
Judy Stark in honor of Richard and Alaine Steuk
Candace and Richard Smith
John Murdough
Daniel Ortega
Bob and Carol McMullen
John and Mary Lou Micheaels
Robert Dodd
Robert Donley (Donley Service Center)

Jack and Gladys Bobo
James Gordon and Norma Kafer
Bob and Mary Dee Singh
Charles and Dina Adornetto
Severiano Rodarte
Michael Redfield
Sharon and Dewey Reay
Nancy and Nick Nelson
Rose Mofford
Jan and "Mac" McLaughlin
Jennifer MacCready
Richard Rome

Events Report



Above, EMCEE Frank Camacho dances with Firsta Mexicana at Cena y Serenata 2012 on March 17

STRATEGIC FOCUS ON THE FUTURE:

THE FUTURE IS OPEN!

The 2011-2012 fiscal year was the second year in the past five years that the board passed a balanced budget. The Board has engaged in two major planning sessions facilitated by Diana Hoyt, CFRE. Ms. Hoyt has helped us update our strategic plan, build a meaningful fundraising plan that will help us gain the resources needed to complete our continuing mission to provide stepping stones of success to children and families of limited resources through quality education.

Stories and Testimonials

March 2012

*I want to say thank you for this program for our children, parents, and family. I'm so thankful for all the projects, information and education. We feel blessed to participate in the (Stepping Stone) program as a family. We have been growing as parents, teachers and educators of our children. **This is something very unique and valuable.***

In our culture and country, we don't have that educational support. Thank you for being patient with us. The program has motivated me to continue my education and to be a model for my family. This school year has given me a nice experience with my son. My son has been a good example for his sister, cousins, and friends to follow. His teachers are forming and educating him to be a good citizen through books, music, games, teamwork, and their dynamic way of teaching is reinforced with professional ethics.

You are great people and thank you on behalf of my family.

Sincerely,

Margarita, (Mother of a 3-year-old)

