

Press Release

Governor Brewer to Address 16th Statewide Conference on Homelessness

Governor Janice K. Brewer will be a featured speaker at the 16th Annual Statewide Conference on Homelessness, "Growing Home: Nurturing the Present to Cultivate the Future."

Presented by Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness and Arizona Department of Education, the conference is slated for Monday and Tuesday, October 26-27, and takes place at Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix, 9440 N. 25th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

Governor Brewer is a long-standing champion of homeless families and homeless veteran populations in Arizona. Her support of resolving the plight of homeless was exhibited earlier this year in her efforts to restore funding for homeless programs and behavioral health services during the 2009 State Budget process. Reflective of these especially difficult financial times for organizations serving the homeless, the Coalition and conference attendees will present the Governor with the following signed request:

Dear Governor Brewer,

We, citizens in attendance at the 16th Annual Statewide Conference on Homelessness, are writing to thank you for your continued support in helping resolve the plight of the homeless in Arizona. Your advocacy of a comprehensive and balanced solution to our budget crisis through the creation of an additional revenue stream is quite courageous and admirable. As you have mentioned, solely cutting our way out of this crisis will only serve to do long term damage to our state. We count on your continued leadership to maintain a healthy Arizona in which all of its citizens may thrive, including the most vulnerable.

In addition to the Governor, Keynote Speakers will be Becky Kanis, Director of Innovations for Common Ground; Steven A. Cohen, Veterans Integrated Service Network's Homeless Coordinator; and Colonel Joey Strickland, Director, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

The conference is targeted to support the information and education requirements of Direct Service Providers, Homeless School Liaisons, Policy Makers and Advocates, Community Leaders, Executives and Boards, Licensed Professionals and others stakeholders with interest in various aspects of improving the plight of homeless members of the community.

Workshop concentrations for the conference include: Veterans' Track; Education Track; Housing Strategies; Effective Partnerships; Outreach and Engagement; Common Ground's 100,000 Homes Campaign and using The Vulnerability Index[®] to Prioritize the Street Homeless Population by Mortality Risk.

Conference and session descriptions can be accessed at www.azceh.org

Attendees will receive professional development contact hours based on registered attendance.

The Conference is presented by Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness and Arizona Department of Education – McKinney Vento Homeless Education Program.

Conference sponsors include: Arizona Lottery, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, Arizona Department of Housing, Community Partnership of Southern Arizona, Lodestar Foundation, Valley of the Sun United Way, City of Phoenix Human Services Department, SEABHA, Cannon & Associates, Steve and Jamie Capobres, Triadvocates, LLC, Arizona Housing, Inc., CASS/UMOM New Day Centers, Arizona Behavioral Health Corporation, Brad and Ashley Bridwell, Arizona Foundation for Behavioral Health, and Arizona Council of Human Service Providers

For conference registration and additional information, please visit www.azceh.org .