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*"Where others have always shut the door for my son's growth, STARS has opened the door for the future."
-Parent of a STARS participant*

Donate to STARS and take the Credit *

Greeting STARS Supporters

You each have the ability to substantially impact opportunities for growth, learning and recreation for individuals who have cognitive and developmental disabilities by "Donating to STARS and taking the credit."

Arizona has created a significant opportunity for its taxpayers to support the work of Qualified Charitable Organizations (QCO) such as STARS.

Beginning with the 2016 tax year, Arizona's dollar for dollar tax credit for QCO has been **DOUBLED**. Arizona residents now have the ability to contribute up to \$400.00 (\$800.00 if filing jointly) to organizations like STARS and claim the amount as a **CREDIT** against Arizona State income taxes.

It is important for taxpayers to take advantage of the opportunity because tax credits support the work of charities which serve the community's needs.

STARS needs your support in order to continue its 43-year-old mission to improve the lives of people who have cognitive and developmental disabilities. We can't do it without you.

Every day our participants count on STARS to provide them with the tools and skills that allow them to be confident, contributing members of our community.

Our participants' lives are greatly enhanced through STARS' art, music and cooking programs. STARS participants are also given many opportunities to integrate into the community through volunteer work and terrific field trips.

STARS strives every day to be a part of the fabric that makes Scottsdale and outstanding community for people of all ages and abilities to live and thrive.

STARS is meeting a critical community need. An investment in STARS will pay great dividends in priceless human capital for generations to come.

The donation that may be eligible for tax credit treatment can be made in a single payment or in increments up until the time you file your taxes on or before April 15th, 2017. Once your donation is received, we will provide a thank you note indicating your donation may be eligible for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit. If you have any questions about how this impacts you personally, please contact your tax advisor.

To Donate Online Please Visit
<http://www.starsaz.org/taxcredit/>

Checks can be mailed to 7507 E. Osborn Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Anne Gray
Advancement Director
agray@starsaz.org

Featured Art

This month the Scottsdale Artists School hosted six participants from each of our center based employment sites. To celebrate the fast approaching fall season our participants sculpted and painted pumpkins & owls during three ceramics workshops.

The painted sculptures turned out beautifully! We are so proud of our participants for pushing themselves to create these wonderful pieces.

We'd like to thank the Scottsdale Artists School for hosting our participants and hope to continue this partnership in the future.



Music To Our Ears



Happy end of summer STARS supporters, participants and well wishers! For those of you who aren't aware, we have been offering music therapy services every Friday to our day program participants at both our Osborn and Cholla locations.

This prized service is being provided by a fantastic local agency called Audrey's Angels- <http://audreysangels.org/>. Audrey's Angels has traditionally provided music therapy to seniors in assisted living settings but graciously agreed to give the STARS day program a shot and what a match! All of our

participants absolutely love it, the staff members love it, and the great musicians providing the therapy have reported they have a great time as well.

Pop in on a Friday morning between 9:30 and 10:30 if you can. Just follow the music!

Day Program Manager

Tim Smetana



"Music is the great uniter, an incredible force, something that people who differ on everything and anything else can have in common."

-Sarah Dessen



"I have a disability, yes that is true, but all that really means is I may have to take a slightly different path than you"
-Robert M. Hensel

We Need You!

Did you know that STARS has an Advocacy Committee made up families, Board members, community members and staff? The mission of the Advocacy Committee is to raise awareness of issues impacting individuals with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

We need your help! We need participants, family members and the community to join this team! We will share information here every month to let you know how to make your voice heard!

If you're really not sure what "advocacy" means, the Arizona

Association of Providers for People with Disabilities will be offering a number of different legislative and advocacy trainings throughout the fall. These trainings will be offered via webinar and are open to all.

The first two are scheduled for October: **Understanding the Arizona State Legislature** will be held Thursday, October 6th from 12:00-1:30 pm and **Understanding the State Budget** will be held Wednesday, October 19th from 12:00-1:30 pm.

Please participate if you can and help us to build a grass-roots advocacy network! The webinars will be available to view anytime after the event, so if you can't make it at those times, you can still receive the content. Contact Gina Griffiths at ggriffiths@starsaz.org or 480.371.2340 for more information on the webinars, the Advocacy Committee or to see how you can help!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Save The Date!

Don't forget that you have an amazing opportunity to help STARS while enjoying a delicious meal at California Pizza Kitchen!

CPK has committed to donating 20% of your check to STARS. Purchases include dine in, take out, catering and all beverages.



CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN'S

Pizza With A Purpose

THURSDAY 11.10.16
10100 N. SCOTTSDALE RD.
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85253

Saturday 12/03/16

Movie Under the STARS

Chaparral Park

7916 E Chaparral Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Free Admission! 4PM-8PM

Holiday Movie begins at 6pm, bring a picnic dinner, blankets & chairs

Create memories in our photo booth

Visit with Santa and enjoy popcorn & baked goods

Holiday Cards will be available for purchase

Dave's Corner

Greetings STARS supporters,

Last November, STARS initiated an in-house environmental services enclave we joyously refer to as *Shining STARS*. Our objectives for doing so were simple - create jobs for participants and provide a healthy environment for everyone visiting and working at STARS.

Now, less than a year later, I'm excited to share that we have achieved both objectives!

Five days a week a job coach, at first Amanda and now Christina, provides participants with on-the-job training in a variety of housekeeping duties. Unlike typical cleaning services, *Shining STARS* cleans during normal

working hours, attending to unanticipated needs while affording staff frequent opportunity to shower Juan, Tommy, Dominique and Boyd with compliments. Our sparkling offices brighten the day!

Thank you for your continued support of STARS!

My door is always open,
President & CEO
Dave Henderson



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You are receiving this email because you have shown interest in our organization.

Our mailing address is:

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Scottsdale, AZ 85251

[Add us to your address book](#)