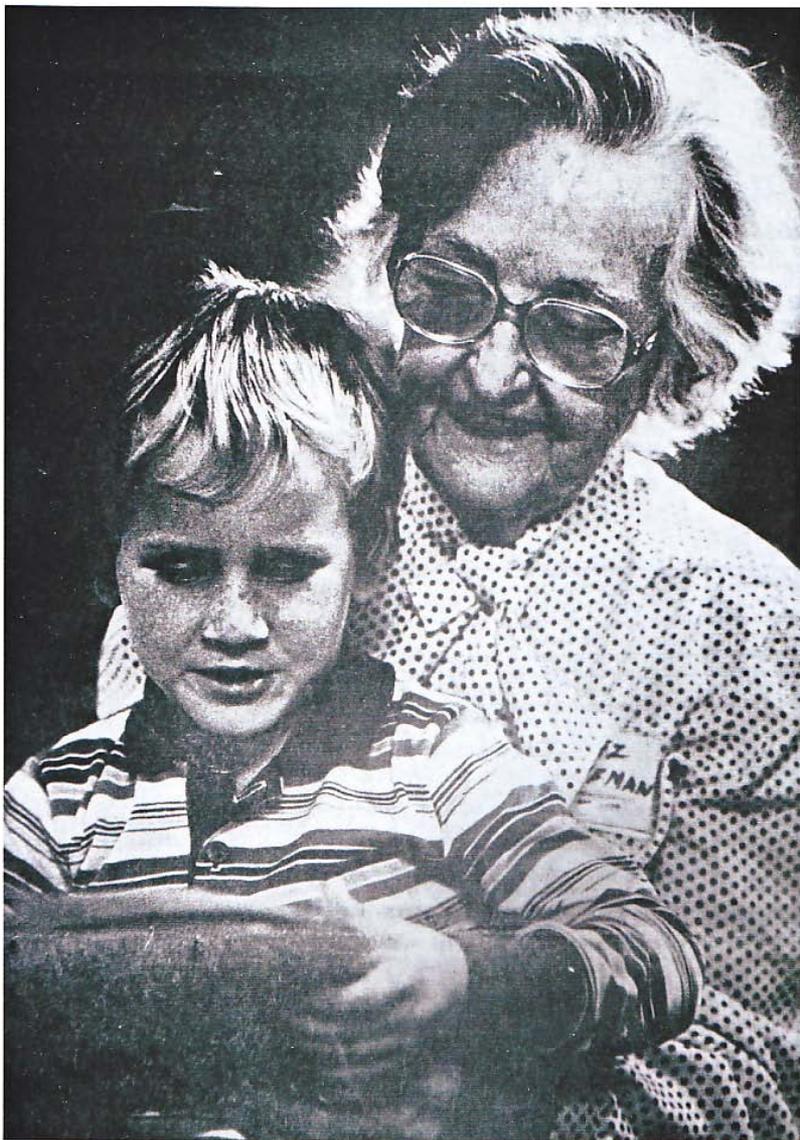




Benevilla Cultivating Caring Communities

Presented by
Michelle Dionisio
President & CEO

Intergenerational Interfaith



Justin Gerard, 5, from Glendale's Pioneer School, shows Inez Hoffman a Thanksgiving card while visiting the "grandmas and grandpas" at Interfaith's adult day center at United Church of Christ in Sun City.

November 19, 1982 edition of the **Daily News-Sun**

Jim Painter/Daily News-Sun

- Non profit 501(c)3
- Established 30 years ago in the Northwest Valley – helping elderly live independently in the community.
- Offering:
 - 1) Adult Day Care
 - 2) Volunteer Based Home Services grocery (shopping, home delivered meals, transportation, handyman, and friendly visitor for homebound elderly & disabled individuals)
 - 1) Information/Referral
 - 2) Support Groups
 - 3) Child Development Center
 - 4) Family Resource Center.
- Intergenerational approach in programming for elderly started early in service delivery - local elementary schools and Boys & Girls Clubs visited elderly at Adult Day Care Center, families volunteered to deliver groceries, adult children of elders obtaining support for care of elderly family members.







Communities of All Ages (CFAA)

- CFAA initiative started 2009.
- With planning grant funding from Arizona Community Foundation facilitated first planning session with community.
- Attendees included 40 community members (youth & adults):
 - ❖ City Officials (Mayor and Councilmembers)
 - ❖ High School Students (seniors from local area)
 - ❖ Rio Salado College representatives
 - ❖ Dysart School District
 - ❖ Police & Fire Departments
 - ❖ Local Food banks
 - ❖ Adelante Healthcare
 - ❖ Congregations
 - ❖ Benevilla.



RIC SALADO
COLLEGE

10.25.2009



Communities of All Ages (CFAA)

- Identification of community needs and wants – conducted a community needs assessment survey and several focus groups.
- Groups identified 5 major components vital to creating a strong and vibrant community:
 - ❖ A city to proud of
 - ❖ Intergenerational career, education opportunities
 - ❖ Connectivity
 - ❖ Leveraging resources through partnership – education & mentorship support
 - ❖ Celebrating Arts & Culture for all ages.
- Goal established: A community that builds on the assets of the young and old to meet intergenerational needs while creating a community to be proud of.



Communities of All Ages (CFAA)

- Strategies/Specific Activities
 - ❖ Increasing self reliance for food needs – development of a Community Garden and monthly Farmers Market and offering free gardening classes at college and senior center.
 - ❖ Creating Community “Connectivity” for All Ages
 - ✓ Renovation of 17 homes in the original town site(OTS)
 - ✓ Installation of a pedestrian bridge connecting community with City Park, Benevilla Human Services campus and Rio Salado College
 - ✓ Advocated for sidewalks to be installed in OTS for pedestrian access
 - ✓ Created a “Next-Step” youth mentorship
 - ✓ Developed intergenerational day care program
 - ✓ Free Wi-Fi at Bistro
 - ✓ Established a transportation stakeholders meeting to advocate for improved transportation







Lizard Run Bridge Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Wirtzie's Child Development Center were the first to cross the new bridge connecting the OTS to Benevilla human service non profit campus, and Rio Salado Lifelong Learning Center.



Communities of All Ages (CFAA)

- ❖ Using all forms of Art to bridge ages and cultures
 - ✓ Senior artists designed and assisted community residents with creating a ceramic/glass art mural for Community Garden
 - ✓ Offer local artist opportunities to show their work at Birt's Bistro and arts fair
 - ✓ Offering a monthly Jazz Jam at Bistro



More Art
Inside

Coca-Cola
CLASSIC



More Art
Inside



We Thank You To Our
Volunteer Musicians
Tips are
Appreciated

Roland

How has the Communities for All Ages impacted the community?

- Created a community gathering place (focal point)
- Created a place where all ages can come and work together
- Provided ways to involve teens and elders to do meaningful work projects for community
- Created a feeling of community pride
- More interest in partnering among various clubs, groups, etc.







JENNIFER PETER
LEADERSHIP CONTEST
PROJECT - 2011
First Place

SYDNEY ELEMENTARY
KINGSDALE LUCE PARK
SURPRISE TADAMSON
WEST POINT WESTERN
PERFORMING
BY: ART HIGH SCHOOL - RIVER

What are some of the Successes and Challenges of the CFAA program?

- Successes

- ❖ Creating more awareness of involving people of all ages in community planning and activities
- ❖ Engaging youth in community service
- ❖ Intergenerational learning opportunities
- ❖ Elderly being recognized for the talents and skills they share for community good
- ❖ Residents becoming leaders in various aspects of community work
- ❖ Spin off of another non profit “Surprise Community Garden Association”



What are some of the Successes and Challenges of the CFAA program?

- Challenges

- ❖ Maintaining focus and momentum in an ever changing environment – i.e. students graduate and move on
- ❖ Funding for special projects
- ❖ Citywide communication to keep residents up to date and involved in activities
- ❖ Succession planning for leadership
- ❖ Finding ways to increase participation of the OTS residents

What would we do differently?

- Find better ways to get the communication out about the initiative in a variety of modes – conduct more outreach for greater participation of residents and organizations
- At the beginning of the effort – educate and involve all city officials and staff
- Create and utilize procedures to ensure inclusion of people of all ages establishing community activities and initiatives
- Identify team leaders



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Log

Sign Up

Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life.



Surprise Community for All Ages (CFAA)

Like

Create a Page

Government & Community · Surprise, Arizona



Wall Surprise Community for All... · Everyone (Top Posts)

Share: Post Photo Video

Write something...



Surprise Community for All Ages (CFAA)

Issac - thank you for securing the 22 fruit trees for the community garden!!

Like · Comment · January 4 at 7:00pm



Donna Miller

Surprise Community Art Mural



Want to like or comment on this page?

To interact with Surprise Community for All Ages (CFAA) you need to sign up for Facebook first.

Sign Up

It's free and anyone can join. Already a member? [Log in.](#)

Wall

- Info
- Photos
- Links

About

Welcome to Surprise's Community for all ages initiative.

33

like this

0

were here

Likes See All



Government & Community in Nearby Cities



Phoenix Government & Community

1894 near Phoenix



Glendale Government & Community

182 near Glendale



Peoria Government & Community

78 near Peoria

How can the success of the CFAA program be replicated?

- Utilize lessons learned from other Communities for All Ages projects – locally, nationally and internationally.
- Commitment from towns, cities and local foundations to assist with providing resources (money, expertise, space/equipment, manpower).
- Support and nurture leaders and ensure succession planning occurs to keep initiative moving forward based on community needs and desires.
- Communities for All Ages Statewide Network has been formed - Contact Eva Oldonez Olivas at EvaOlivas@phxrevitalization.org for more information.
- Questions regarding Surprise Communities for All Ages email Vicki White at vwhite@benevilla.org.