Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2015—Arizona Grantmakers Forum’s 15th year of operations—we celebrate our history and embrace a future filled with potential. Support from more than 66 member organizations enabled us to offer high-quality educational programs and excellent service and embark upon a bold new strategic direction. Opportunities abound to enhance the value of membership in AGF, Arizona’s only statewide association serving the philanthropic community, and to lift philanthropy’s voice as a force for positive change.

Throughout the year, more than 350 members gathered for two dozen educational programs and affinity group-sponsored events to learn the latest trends in philanthropy from national experts and explore local opportunities to collaborate. Our focus on quality versus quantity paid off as participating members gave our educational offerings an average rating of 4.71 out of 5—the highest average rating in AGF history.

We collaborated with the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits to co-organize the third annual Arizona Gives Day on April 7, 2015. Shattering our 2014 record, this 24-hour online giving event raised more than $2 million for 573 nonprofits across the state. Significantly, 78 percent of the 17,260 donors reported they gave a gift they would not otherwise have given if not for Arizona Gives Day. We are grateful for the generosity of eight AGF member organizations that contributed $107,500 in administrative support and prize money to ensure the event’s success.

In June, AGF marked another milestone with a smooth leadership transition. Our founding president and chief executive officer, Marissa Theisen, left after 15 years of dedicated service to return to her management consulting business and CEO Laurie Liles took the helm. Fall brought another highlight as we partnered with Exponent Philanthropy to bring the 2015 CONNECT conference to Chandler in early October. In conjunction with the meeting, AGF sponsored “Arizona’s Philanthropic Horizon: Stories of Hope and Change,” a networking breakfast where more than 25 members and guests gathered to hear a panel of Arizona philanthropic leaders share how the state’s myriad social needs drive their giving strategies. Thanks to our generous member sponsors, the event netted nearly $8,000 in revenue to support our programs and services.

We capped off a dynamic year with the unveiling of our new strategic direction and plan at our Annual Meeting in December. Crafted during an October retreat and formally approved by the board of directors on December 10, 2015, the direction includes our vision of a vibrant Arizona where all people thrive and a new mission to empower our members to transform Arizona through leadership and meaningful philanthropy. AGF’s new core values are Integrity, Collaboration, Community Stewardship, Diversity & Inclusion and Transformation.

We remain deeply grateful for the scores of AGF members who volunteered their time, talent and treasure to ensure our success in 2015. With their continued support, we honor our past accomplishments and look forward to building the future together.

Laurie Liles
President & CEO

Sandi Ernst Perez, Ph.D.
Chair, Board of Directors

LETTER FROM LAURIE AND SANDI
Arizona’s Philanthropic Horizon: Stories of Hope and Change

Arizona Grantmakers Forum partnered with Exponent Philanthropy to bring the Exponent Philanthropy 2015 CONNECT conference to Chandler. CONNECT was the nation’s largest gathering of small foundations in 2015. It offered an intimate and interactive learning opportunity where funders discussed important trends and mission-critical topics.

As a regional partner of 2015 CONNECT, AGF hosted a networking breakfast and panel discussion on October 6. More than 25 AGF members and guests enjoyed breakfast with their colleagues and heard from a panel of Arizona funders who shared how the critical needs in our state – from children’s welfare and education to oral and physical health – are driving their strategic grantmaking. New friendships were formed and attendees gained valuable insights into how, together, grantmakers can leverage their resources and leadership for a better Arizona.

Together, grantmakers can leverage their resources and leadership for a better Arizona.

Special thanks to our sponsors:
The Lodestar Foundation
Arizona Community Foundation
Thunderbirds Charities
Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation
BHHS Legacy Foundation
Arizona Public Service
SVP Arizona
Arizona Coyotes Foundation
Flinn Foundation

AGF Special Event Committee
Barb Kozuh, Chair
Kelly Balthazor
Stella Galaviz
Liz Kaplan
Sentari Minor
Arizona Grantmakers Forum co-organized the third annual Arizona Gives Day with the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits on April 7, 2015. In another record-breaking 24-hour online giving event, 17,260 unique donors (a 25 percent increase over 2014) donated more than $2 million (a 48 percent increase over 2014) to 573 nonprofits statewide. The average amount raised per nonprofit was $3,160 (a 158 percent increase from 2014).

78% of donors said they gave a gift they wouldn’t have otherwise given
36% of donors said they gave to a nonprofit they hadn’t heard of before Gives Day
77% of nonprofits said they raised money they wouldn’t have otherwise raised

“There are many good things about Arizona Gives Day... Probably the most important is the opportunity to be a part of building and strengthening a culture of philanthropy within Arizona.”

—Arizona Gives Day Participant

Thank you, AGF members, for your Arizona Gives Day support!
Arizona Community Foundation
BHHS Legacy Foundation
Flinn Foundation
Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold
Hickey Family Foundation
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
St. Luke’s Health Initiatives
Thunderbirds Charities
Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
Overview
Arizona Grantmakers Forum organized 24 programs and affinity group sessions covering a wide variety of topics and funding areas. In 2015, AGF’s programs and affinity group meetings achieved an average rating of 4.71 out of 5 by attendees - the highest average rating in AGF history. More than 350 members attended AGF programs and seven member organizations hosted at least one AGF event.

Program Highlight: First-ever AGF Speed Networking Event
On May 14, 2015, AGF members gathered for a “speed dating” style networking event. Members interacted one-on-one with everyone in the room in a fun, structured and fast-paced format. This event was such a hit that participants requested we do this event on a regular basis. Here’s what people said about this program:

“It was wonderful, I would definitely do it again.”

“Enjoyed learning about others on personal level. Got some info about organizations I was only moderately familiar with.”

“Great opportunity to meet the other AGF members.”

2015 Annual Meeting
The annual meeting featured guest speaker Bill Somerville, founder of Philanthropic Ventures Foundation. A nationally recognized expert on creative grantmaking and self-proclaimed “maverick” grantmaker, Mr. Somerville discussed “Ideas vs. Problems” and how foundations can approach various challenges in innovative ways that achieve more effective operations and grantmaking.

Volunteers
Approximately 60 AGF funder volunteers served on the AGF board and committees, assisted with the 2015 special event, hosted meetings and programs and shared their work in regional presentations and discussions.

Communications
- Maintained AGF Facebook and Twitter accounts and created the #AGFMember hashtag to highlight AGF member activity
- Produced and distributed six News & Notes e-newsletters to more than 500 funders and nonprofits
- Produced six Member Exchange and eight Resources e-newsletters distributed to more than 215 members
### Corporate
- American Airlines
- Apollo Education Group
- Arizona Coyotes Foundation
- Arizona Public Service
- Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona
- The Boeing Company
- Central Arizona Project
- Cox Communications
- Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation
- Dignity Health

### Family Foundations & Donor Advised Funds
- The Bidstrup Foundation
- The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation
- Carstens Family Fund
- Chauncey Family Foundation
- The David & Lura Lovell Foundation
- Editha House Foundation
- Episcopal Community Services in Arizona
- F2 Family Foundation
- Guerrant Family Foundation
- Hickey Family Foundation
- Katybug Social Innovation Fund
- Kellam Foundation
- The Lodestar Foundation
- McMiles Donor Advised Fund
- Pastoral Care Donor Advised Fund
- Phoenix Rotary Club Charities
- Rosenbluth Family Foundation
- Theresa’s Fund
- T.W. Lewis Foundation
- Whiteman Foundation

### Public Foundations
- AFC Public Foundation
- Arizona Community Foundation
- Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education
- BHHS Legacy Foundation
- College Success Arizona
- Community Foundation for Southern Arizona
- Helios Education Foundation
- The Hopi Foundation
- Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix
- Vitalyst Health Foundation
  (Formerly St. Luke’s Health Initiatives)
- Social Venture Partners AZ

### Private Foundations
- Arizona Foundation for Educational Advancement
- Casey Family Programs
- The Flinn Foundation
- Marguerite Casey Foundation
- Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
- Steele Foundation
- Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust

### Government Agencies
- Arizona Humanities
- First Things First
- Phoenix IDA

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If you are interested in becoming an AGF member, please contact:
President & CEO Laurie Liles – 602.845.1361 – lliles@azgrantmakers.org

To learn more, visit: [www.azgrantmakers.org](http://www.azgrantmakers.org)
Eyes on Learning Vision Screening Initiative

In December 2015, Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust announced its Arizona initiative to strengthen, expand and advance children’s vision health, Eyes on Learning. The effort works to help ensure all children have effective vision screening and appropriate follow-up services essential to good health and learning success.

Arizona Children’s Vision Screening Director, Karen Woodhouse, leads Eyes On Learning and works closely with Terri Clark, who directs Read On Arizona, an initiative dedicated to improving literacy and language outcomes for children from birth to 8 years old.

The Code Talkers to Code Writers Initiative

In August 2015, Intel announced a partnership with Science Foundation Arizona to support the Code Talkers to Code Writers Initiative sponsored by Salt River Project, Arizona Public Service and Tucson Electric Power. The program provides STEM education to Native Americans in Arizona.

This new science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) public-private education outreach initiative is geared toward helping the next generation of Navajo students. The three-year, $2.5 million program brings together business, philanthropy, education and government to create a technology-based K-12 education curriculum. Computer programming professionals from Intel guide teachers and students through the program.

Cochise Celebrates Giving

In October 2015, The Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona joined forces with Arizona Community Foundation of Cochise to award 30 grants to local nonprofit organizations. The grants were given during the annual Cochise Celebrates Giving event hosted by Arizona Community Foundation of Cochise and held at Cochise College.

With a mission towards population health and community wellness, the Legacy Foundation funded grants more specific to addressing those needs. Legacy Foundation funded eight grants and, in partnership with Arizona Community Foundation of Cochise, funded two additional grants.
As of December 31, 2015

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![Graphs showing balance sheet, revenues, and expenses percentages]
President and Chief Executive Officer Laurie Liles took the AGF helm in June and, in her first four months, she visited more than three dozen members and potential members to discuss how AGF can better serve the needs of Arizona’s philanthropic community. Laurie hosted an initial gathering of CEOs from Arizona’s largest foundations and led AGF’s public policy committee in shaping our 2016 public policy agenda.
Our New Mission

We empower our members to transform Arizona through leadership and meaningful philanthropy.

Our New Vision

We envision a vibrant Arizona where all people thrive.

Our New Values

Integrity, Collaboration, Community Stewardship, Diversity & Inclusion, Transformation

A New Strategic Direction

AGF unveiled its 2016-2018 strategic direction at the 2015 Annual Meeting on December 16.

Crafted during an October 2015 board retreat and formally approved in December, AGF’s plan sharpens its focus on enhancing value for our expanding membership, fostering collaboration among grantmakers and engaging members in public policy issues important to Arizona’s philanthropic community. As an essential first step, the AGF board also approved its first-ever Public Policy Agenda for 2016.

To fulfill its mission, AGF will focus on three key strategic goals during 2016-2018:

- Evaluate, enhance and communicate the value we offer to members and potential members
- Achieve membership growth to reflect Arizona’s diverse funding community
- Expand AGF’s ability to influence key issues impacting Arizona

Approved by the board of directors December 10, 2015