

Gabriel's Angels

Pets Helping Kids



One Child at a Time

History

Pam Gaber, founder of Gabriel's Angels, and her then two-year old Weimaraner, Gabriel, happened upon a journey that would not only drastically change their lives, but those of thousands of children.

After their first visit to the Crisis Nursery, Inc. in Phoenix, in August of 2000, Pam realized the overwhelming need to reach as many children as possible based on the undeniable bond that was created between the children and Gabriel on that very first day.

Since then, Gabriel's Angels has been serving the abused, neglected, and at-risk children of Maricopa County, and more recently in Tucson, through pet therapy. Beginning with just one pet therapy team, Gabriel's Angels has grown to over 80 teams serving nearly 50 facilities in the Phoenix metropolitan area, with dozens more on the waiting list.



There is nothing more heart-warming than to see a child whose own needs have been severely neglected, beam with pride as he grooms and walks one of the dogs from Gabriel's Angels. Crisis Nursery's mission is breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect and Gabriel's Angels is a key partner in our effort.

Marsha Porter
Executive Director

*There is no more important task in living than nurturing a child to reach his or her full potential in life. We applaud Gabriel's Angels for the work they do in teaching the **Homeward Bound** children the principles of caring, trusting, and loving of themselves as well as others. These principles will be lifelong building blocks for our children in achieving a successful life filled with hope for the future.*

Milon Pitts
Client Services Director

Our children literally welcome our pet therapy team, Sandy and Willi, with "open arms" each time they visit. For many of our children, Willi is the friend they always wished to have or the pet they left behind when they became homeless. We are very grateful that Gabriel's Angels is a part of our program!

Billie Paulson
Director of Family Services
Vista Colina



The Fruits of Our Labor of Love

Mission Statement

Gabriel's Angels' mission is to deliver healing and pet therapy to abused, neglected, and at-risk children, nurturing their ability to love and trust, thereby freeing them from the cycle of violence.

Guiding Philosophy

The bond between a therapy dog and a child is strong enough to break the cycle of violence.

Vision

To be the premier provider of innovative children's pet therapy programs throughout the country.

The "Link" Between Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse

- ❖ This type of violence is insidious, cyclical, and is passed on from one generation to the next without some form of intervention.
- ❖ We directly address the root cause of this social problem by intervention and treatment of the cause as well as the symptoms.
- ❖ By providing programs and activities, and developing specific skills that disrupt early patterns and predictors of violence, our Pet Therapy Program intervenes in the cycle of violence *before* these children grow into adulthood.
- ❖ We work on improving healthy core behaviors that are crucial to normal childhood development.
- ❖ Our program works on increasing empathy, self-esteem, trust, social skills, and respect, and works on encouraging nurturing behavior in a safe environment.

How You Can Help

- Become a Therapy Team or a Helping Hand
 - Join a committee
 - Volunteer at an event
 - Join our Board of Directors
- Make a tax-deductible donation
 - Leave a legacy

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Pets Helping Kids®

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