



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Homeless ID Project Receives Thunderbirds Charities Grant - \$75,000 will Empower the Homeless, Enable Jobs, Housing and Education

Homeless ID Project received a grant in the amount of \$75,000 from Thunderbirds Charities in support of the "ID Empowers Our Community" Program. Thunderbirds Charities' support will help individuals and families end their homelessness and rebuild their lives by providing the critical first step of identification replacement services.

With offices in the Brian Garcia Welcome Center, Homeless ID Project does much of its work on the Human Services Campus in downtown Phoenix. They also participate in outreach programs intended to reach the homeless and those at risk across Maricopa and Pima Counties.

"Homeless ID Project is honored to receive this grant." said Executive Director Rick Mitchell. "With this ongoing support from Thunderbirds Charities, we are able to help those seeking to end or prevent their homelessness. An ID provides real, direct help for the individual but it also provides measurable value to the community by reducing resources spent on homelessness and by empowering an individual to contribute to the community."

According to Mitchell, "Our mission is to help people end and prevent homelessness by providing access to replacement documents. While it is not something many of us think about, it is impossible to get a job, housing, healthcare, or enroll kids in school without valid identifying documents. Support from Thunderbirds Charities has been critical to sustaining our mission over time. Because of Thunderbirds Charities we are able to provide the critical first step of replacing lost or stolen identification documents necessary for individuals and families seeking to end their homelessness."

About Homeless ID Project

Homeless ID Project is a privately funded nonprofit whose mission is to empower homeless individuals and families to rebuild their lives by providing the critical first step of identification replacement services. The agency was founded in 1988 by Reverend Gerald Roseberry following a month of self-imposed homelessness where he learned that many individuals experiencing homelessness wanting to get a job or find housing had no access to replacement documents that had been lost, stolen or left behind. The agency now serves the community from two permanent locations and 12 shared space locations, seeking both to end and prevent homelessness. More information is available at www.HomelessIDProject.org

About The Thunderbirds/Thunderbirds Charities

THUNDERBIRDS CHARITIES is a non-profit organization formed in 1986 to distribute monies raised through the Waste Management Phoenix Open golf tournament. The Thunderbirds Charities Board consists of 15 board members from varying professional backgrounds. The mission of Thunderbirds Charities is to assist children and families, help people in need and improve the quality of life in our communities. The organization's giving is directed toward organizations based or with a significant presence in Arizona. The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 "active" members and more than 250 "life" members. For more information on the Thunderbirds or the 2018 Waste Management Phoenix Open, visit www.wmphenixopen.com. For more information on the Thunderbirds Charities, visit www.thunderbirdscharities.org.

Contact:

Rick Mitchell, Executive Director
Homeless ID Project
480-510-9700 (cell)
rick.mitchell@HIDP.org