



**Empowering individuals  
to enhance their quality  
of life and reach their  
optimum potential**



**2024**  
ANNUAL REPORT



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## OUR STORY

Horizon Health and Wellness has been serving underserved communities for over 40 years. Horizon's origins began in the late 1970s as the Behavioral Health Agency of Central Arizona. Horizon adopted the name Horizon Human Services in 2000. Diverse patient needs helped the organization gain awareness of the need to provide integrated healthcare services. So, in 2015, Horizon Human Services merged with Mountain Health and Wellness and became Horizon Health and Wellness, as it is known today.

Horizon Health and Wellness is a non-profit 501(c)(3) integrated health care agency licensed by the State of Arizona to provide an extensive array of services, including primary care, behavioral health care, services for the intellectually and developmentally disabled, recovery homes, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and mobile crisis intervention services in central and southern Arizona.



**Laura Larson-Huffaker**  
Chief Executive Officer

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As we reflect on another year of serving Arizona communities, we celebrate the number of people we reached and the meaningful differences we made in many important areas. As communities and individuals struggle with issues such as homelessness, drug overdoses, suicide, and health issues, Horizon Health and Wellness has emerged as a vital resource in Pinal, Maricopa, Gila, and Yuma counties.

This year, we implemented some new programs through federal grant funding. In Florence, we started our Medical Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) program, which provides integrated care for those who need medically assisted treatment for substance use. This program adds to our existing services for substance use disorder treatment, including counseling, intensive outpatient treatment, and residential services, as well as community education and provision of Narcan® for overdoses. Through these programs, we are helping individuals statewide to obtain sobriety, reduce their dependence on substances, and reduce overdose deaths.

We also received grant funding for a zero-suicide initiative in Pinal County. This initiative aims to reduce the rate of suicide in the county. Through this initiative, we now have several members of staff who are certified to provide evidence-based training for suicide awareness and prevention, and we have been providing this training throughout the county. Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and safeTALK provide education to professionals and community members about the risk factors, warning signs, and how to help individuals who may be suicidal. We have provided this training not only to our staff but also to law enforcement, school staff, and Pinal County residents, significantly increasing the number of people in the community who can be helpers to those in need. This, coupled with our

outpatient and crisis services for individuals needing help, has made a meaningful difference in reducing suicidal behavior.

Horizon was also provided with funding to help address homelessness throughout the state. We provide low-income housing for individuals at risk of being homeless in Apache Junction, Casa Grande, Globe, and Yuma, as well as those with serious mental illness. In addition, we provide support to housed individuals at risk of losing their homes to help keep them in a stable environment. We also have a homeless outreach program with dedicated staff who connect with and support unhoused individuals in Pinal County, guiding them toward treatment when needed, assisting with transitional housing, and helping them find safe, stable places to call home. Through these programs, we are helping our communities reduce the number of individuals who live on the streets.

As a Federally Qualified Health Center, Horizon Health and Wellness offers primary care and behavioral health services to everyone, regardless of ability to pay. Through these services, we have improved the health of thousands of individuals and help them prevent serious illnesses. Our cancer screenings, depression and suicide risk screenings, diabetes programs, vaccinations, trauma-informed care services, and more have led to positive health outcomes for the people we serve.

While we can celebrate the good work we've done, we also need to look ahead to ensure that we can continue providing vital support, resources, and services to our communities. Thank you to our dedicated Board of Directors for their support and guidance, our funders for their confidence in us, and our community partners for the collaboration that allows us to succeed. We look forward to continuing our achievements in the upcoming year.



# MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our diverse board of directors is comprised of community leaders, professionals, patients, and independent voices. Together, they are unwavering in their commitment to driving Horizon forward, creating a profound and lasting impact on our communities.



Michael Morales  
President



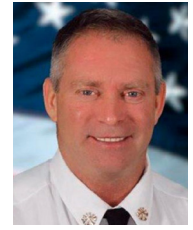
Robert Huddleston  
President-Elect



Tim Mechlinski  
Secretary



Brent Billingsley  
Treasurer



Mike Farber  
Member



Quindia Palmer  
Member



Himanshu Patel  
Member



William Pearlman  
Member



Chief Michael Pooley  
Member



Jeanne Golden-Burke  
Member

## WE'RE ON A MISSION

**Promote health and wellness by engaging, educating, and empowering the communities we serve.**

We take a patient-first approach, offering holistic and culturally sensitive care that addresses both physical and social factors affecting health.

As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), our impact goes beyond medical care, as we actively promote health education, disease prevention, and community outreach. By encouraging healthier behaviors and empowering individuals to manage their own well-being, we make a meaningful difference in the community.

Our mission ensures that no one is left behind on the journey toward a healthier, brighter future.







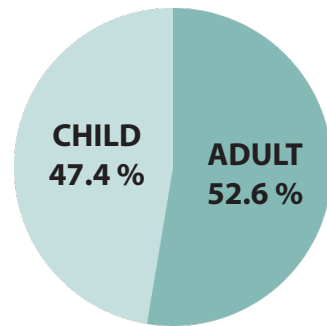
We provide a wide range of services, including physical and behavioral health care, addiction treatment, and social support for those who need it most. With a strong focus on inclusivity, we are dedicated to serving everyone, regardless of their level of health or ability to pay, ensuring that quality care is accessible to all.

In Fiscal Year 2024, Horizon Health and Wellness generated a total revenue of \$44,360,000. This distribution highlights the breadth of services we offer:

- Behavioral Health: \$23,921,000 (53.9%)**
- Primary Care: \$5,727,000 (12.9%)**
- Crisis Intervention: \$5,424,000 (12.2%)**
- Habilitation Services: \$3,834,000 (8.6%)**
- Pharmacy: \$2,626,000 (5.9%)**
- Other Services: \$2,828,000 (6.4%)**

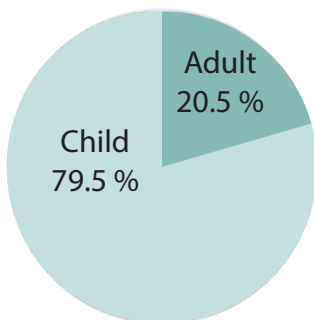
## TOTAL PATIENTS SERVED:

# 17,134



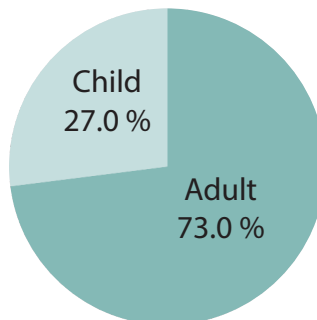
### PRIMARY CARE TOTAL SERVED:

**6,649**



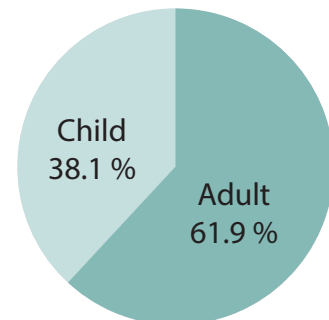
### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TOTAL SERVED:

**10,485**

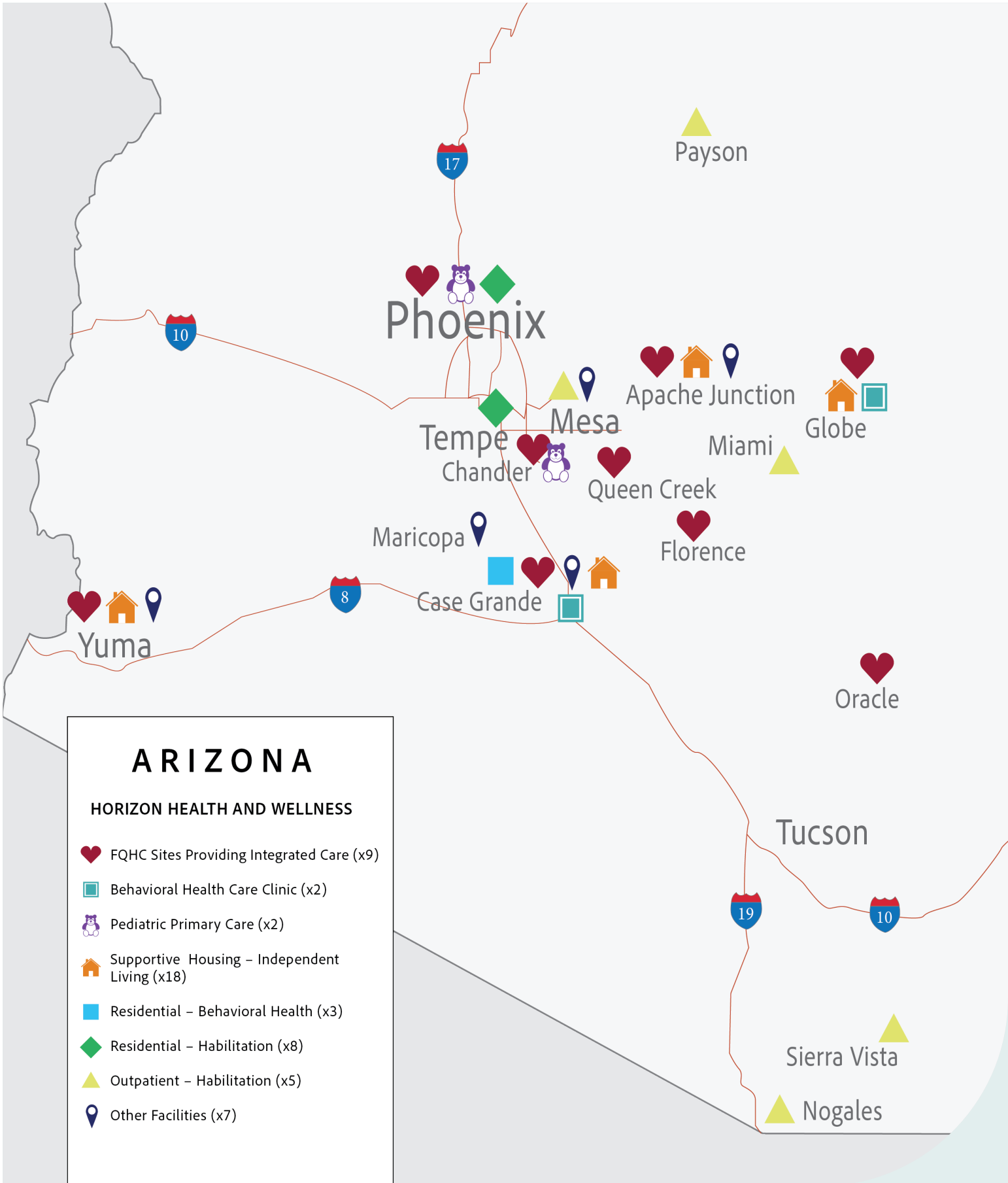


### CRISIS INTERVENTIONS:

**1,770**



# MAKING A LASTING IMPACT





**Apache Junction Clinic**  
 625 N. Plaza Drive  
 Apache Junction, AZ 85120

**Casa Grande Clinic**  
 210 E. Cottonwood Ln.  
 Casa Grande, AZ 85122

**Chandler Pediatric Care**  
 600 S. Dobson Road, Ste A2  
 Chandler, AZ 85224

**Florence Clinic**  
 495 N. Pinal Pkwy, Ste 106  
 Florence, AZ 85132

**Globe Clinic**  
 415 W. Baseline Spur  
 Globe, AZ 85501

**North Valley Pediatric Care**  
 702 E. Bell Rd., Ste. 107  
 Phoenix, AZ 85022

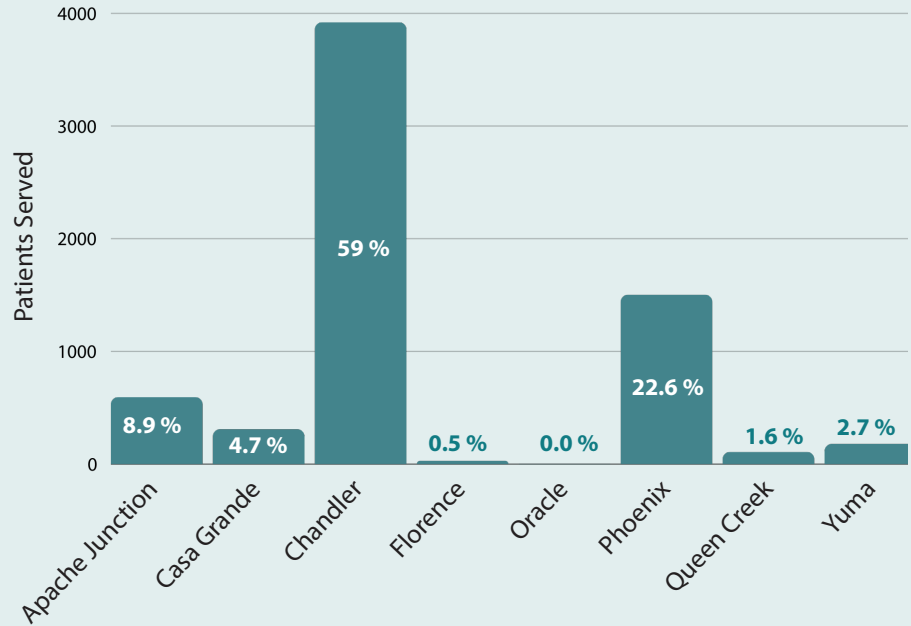
**Oracle Clinic**  
 980 E. Mt. Lemmon Rd.  
 Oracle, AZ 85623

**Queen Creek Clinic**  
 22713 E. Ellsworth Rd., Bldg. A  
 Queen Creek, AZ 85142

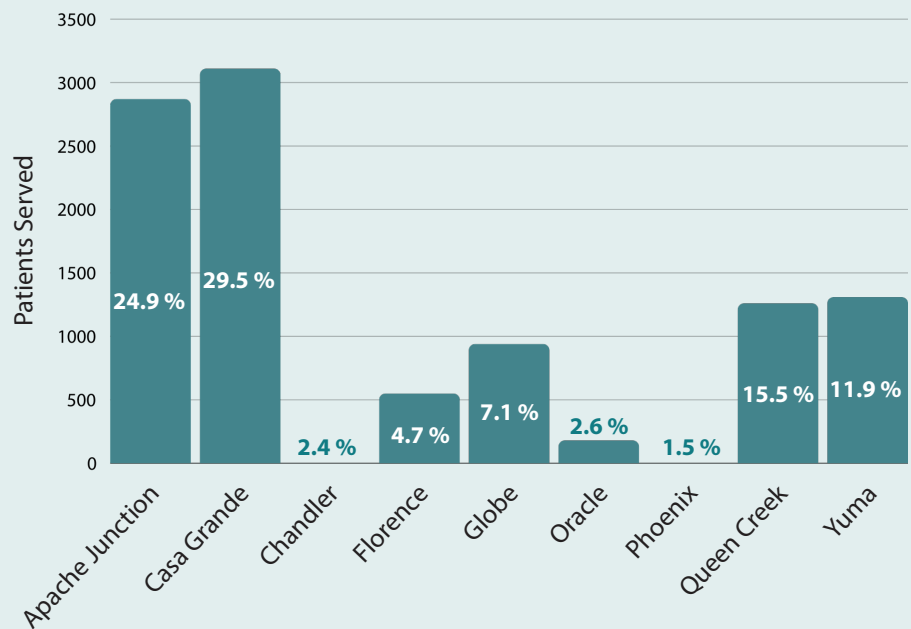
**Recovery Village**  
 352 S. Peart Rd.  
 Casa Grande, AZ 85122

**Yuma Clinic**  
 1185 S. Redondo Center Dr., Ste. 1  
 Yuma, AZ 85365

## Primary Care - Patients Served



## Behavioral Health - Patients Served



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Our ACT Team is a  
cornerstone of  
comprehensive care.

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### **Building Stability through Assertive Community Care (ACT)**

On February 1, 2024, our Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team celebrated one year of providing life-changing care throughout Pinal County. Covering over 5,300 square miles, our ACT team delivers personalized, community-based support to patients across multiple cities, ensuring they receive the face-to-face care they need. With the opening of the ACT House, which provides housing for six members, we're helping individuals find stability and stay connected to their care. Patients are reducing emergency visits and making strides toward healthier lives.



Provided life-changing support to

**74**  
**patients**



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Our dedication to accessible care ensures that those who need it most receive the support they deserve, helping to build healthy, thriving communities.

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### **Connecting Communities to Life-Saving Care**

Horizon Health and Wellness has been awarded the Zero Suicide Grant from SAMHSA, empowering us to reduce suicide rates in Pinal County. By enhancing our programs with tools like the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) and expanding suicide prevention training for our staff and community, we are taking bold steps to ensure individuals receive the care and support they need. This initiative reaffirms our commitment to saving lives and connecting people to vital mental health services.



Screened and provided critical interventions for suicidal thoughts to

**270**  
**community members**





Above: The ACT team delivers community-based care to patients across over 5,300 square miles of Pinal County.



Right: The ACT House provides housing for six members.



A key component of our efforts is Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), an in-depth, two-day workshop designed to equip staff with the skills to engage with individuals experiencing thoughts of suicide and keep them safe.



Additionally, safeTALK is a half-day suicide prevention training open to community members. This program teaches four essential steps to create life-saving connections, empowering participants to respond effectively when someone expresses thoughts of suicide. Together, these trainings strengthen our ability to prevent suicide and foster a community where everyone feels supported, connected, and safe.



Expanded suicide prevention efforts by training

**45**  
employees



Broadened the safety net for suicide prevention by training

**117**  
participants

## Transforming Crisis Response in Pinal County

In partnership with the Florence Police Department, CBI Inc., and Mercy Care RBHA, Horizon Health and Wellness hosts Pinal County Crisis Trainings, a five-day behavioral health program for public safety personnel. Based on the internationally recognized Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model, this training equips officers with the tools to handle mental health crises with empathy and skill. By bringing this program to Pinal County, we are strengthening the support system for individuals in crisis and empowering our public safety teams to respond effectively and compassionately.



Trained empathy and care response for

**26**  
police  
officers



## Guiding Individuals to Recovery Through Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Program

Our Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) program provides individuals struggling with opioid addiction the tools to reclaim their health. Offering outpatient care that fits their needs, the program guides participants through every step of recovery, from their first treatment to long-term maintenance. The program creates long-lasting change in rural and underserved areas by ensuring that individuals and families affected by addiction can access life-saving care. This program goes beyond treatment—it's about restoring hope, empowering people to make lasting changes, and creating healthier, stronger communities.



Delivered critical support for the recovery of  
10

**118**  
people







### Bridging Hope for the Homeless

Since forming our homeless outreach team in July 2023, we have made a profound difference in the lives of individuals experiencing homelessness across Pinal County. By working closely with law enforcement and the community, we have broken down barriers and created vital connections for those in need. This year, Robert Robles and Breanna Shank earned the the Community Engagement Award, a testament to their dedication and compassion to serving those facing homelessness.



Supplied pathways to stability and care for

**363**  
contacts



Placed or secured housing for

**146**  
individuals



### Supporting Veterans' Wellness and Recovery

In March 2024, Horizon Health and Wellness received the Arizona State Opioid Response (SOR) II Grant, allowing us to expand support for veterans in Pinal County. Our new Veteran's Outreach Team, made up of veterans and military family members, provides essential resources and care to veterans struggling with substance use. By working with local organizations and attending community events, we're making sure veterans get the help they need.



Connected crucial resources and help to

**59**  
veterans





## Creating Pathways for Healing at Recovery Village

At Recovery Village, we are making a profound difference in the lives of adults facing substance use disorder. By providing a safe, supportive environment, we help individuals in our community begin their journey to recovery. Our residential treatment programs offer a full spectrum of care, tailored to meet each participant's unique needs. Through personalized treatment plans, we empower individuals to break free from addiction and take meaningful steps toward lasting recovery.



Supported  
life-changing  
transformation for

# 232 residents

Top left: Our Recovery Village location in Casa Grande provides residential homes for substance use recovery.

Top right: Horizon representatives gather with residents at Recovery Village.

Bottom right: Inspired by resident stories, artist Jules Muck painted butterflies to represent the transformation that happens through healing.

Opposite page: Residents painted the garden wall with words of hope for future residents.



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Horizon is committed to serving all patients, at all levels of wellness: No matter who you are, or where you are, we will meet you there.

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## JOHN'S STORY

John, now a recovery technician at Recovery Village, was once a client seeking help. On May 17, 2016, after years of substance use and homelessness, he found his way to Horizon Health and Wellness, where he was connected with Recovery Village—the place that gave him the tools he needed to change his life.

I was sleeping in a tent behind Walmart. I woke up the next morning on May 17th, and I was just done. The night before, I had begged whatever was out there to do something with me. I checked into CBI. At this time, I had already been seven days without any kind of mood or mind-altering substances, so they wouldn't let me stay at CBI because I wasn't detoxing. When I was leaving one of the guys asked me and said, "Where do you plan on going now?" and I said, "I'm probably going to go back to the dope man's house because I don't have anywhere else to go." And he said, "On your way back, stop by Horizon on Cottonwood." And that really upset me. I've gone to CBI a lot but just for somewhere to stay and clean up so I can go back out and do it again. But this time, something had changed. So it really offended me because I'm really here this time because I want to be here and now you're telling me that I can't be here.

I didn't know anything about Horizon and I didn't know anything about Recovery Village. I lived in Casa Grande for the majority of my life and never knew this place was here. So I'm walking down Cottonwood, and I'm very upset, screaming, cussing,

yelling, looking like a madman walking down the street. I happened to lift my head up, and there's a big sign that says Horizon Health and Wellness, and I thought, man, I've sold drugs on that street so many times before that, and I never knew that place was there.

I went in there, and I told the lady; I said, if you don't give me some help today, I'm going to get high. She sat me down, and she said just give me one second, and we'll help you. That's how I found Recovery Village. You know, I can sit here today and say that, you know, it's funny how things happened, and it's coincidences, but I don't believe that. I honestly believe that my conception of a higher power today was like hey, this is where you need to be.

For the first time in about four or five years, I actually had a bed to sleep in. I had a shower to take a shower in and food to eat, and I didn't have to worry about getting robbed in the middle of the night, or you know, hurting somebody or hurting myself, and

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Recovery village is something that saved my life.

I felt safe. For me, at that time, to go to sleep without having to worry about those things was like the greatest gift I could ever have.

Now, when I come into Recovery Village the thing that I see is accountability, structure, love and tolerance. A lot of tolerance. Because I know when I came in here, everybody that worked here tolerated me and loved me until I could love myself. What's personal to me about Recovery Village is that this is where my story started. The majority of the team I work with are people who were staff when I came through here. So that was a huge, huge thing for me, especially when it comes to the addict or the alcoholic or whatever—somebody took the time once to say, "Hey, John, what can I help you with?" and I honestly feel like that's a debt that I can never repay, but I'm willing to try to do that every day.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Fostering Health and Hope through Community Outreach

Through outreach events, collaborative programs, and strong partnerships, we bring essential health services, education, and resources to individuals and families who need them most. Our efforts ensure that those in underserved areas have access to mental health support, recovery services, sustainable living practices, and family-friendly activities that promote wellness and connection.

Our annual Earth Day and Pumpkins in the Junction events draw hundreds of families to our Earth Heart Park and Community Garden, where they enjoy festivities and engage with local resources. Families release ladybugs, participate in scavenger hunts, trunk-or-treating, and a teddy bear clinic where children learn about routine check-ups.

By actively engaging in these events and building relationships with local organizations, we remain a trusted, accessible presence.



Top Left: Staff attend a Faith and Blue event to connect with the community.

Middle Left: Cubby, our mascot, interacts with children at the Pumpkins in the Junction event.

Bottom Left: A family releases ladybugs into the garden as part of a hands-on activity.

Top Right: Community members join in the fun at a trunk-or-treat activity.

Below: Two children participate in a teddy bear check-up, learning the importance of routine healthcare.





# WITH GRATITUDE

We are deeply grateful to our grant foundations, local donors, and community partners for making our work possible. Your generosity and support empower us to bring essential care, resources, and hope to those who need it most. Together, we are building healthier communities and changing lives. We couldn't do it without you!



Fry's Food Stores donates to support Earth Heart Park and Community Garden, which offers free produce and gardening education for the community.

# THE STORY CONTINUES

Looking ahead, we are committed to growing and reaching even more people with life-changing care, especially in underserved communities. As part of our mission to create lasting change, we are introducing new HIV Services through the Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative. At our Queen Creek location, we will provide confidential testing, access to PrEP, and essential health education. Through inclusive, affirming care, we are working to reduce new infections, eliminate stigma, and move closer to achieving health equity.

Our Chandler Pediatric Care clinic is also breaking new ground through a partnership with Mesa Public Schools, bringing behavioral health services directly to students on campus. By integrating care into the learning environment, we are making mental health support more accessible and empowering students and families to thrive.

As we grow and strengthen our role as an anchor provider in our communities, we remain focused on fostering connections, expanding services, and building a healthier, more resilient future for everyone we serve.



Staff and volunteers gather for a photo at our annual Earth Day event.

# HOW YOU CAN HELP CHANGE LIVES

Everyone can play a part in building healthier communities and making a difference. Here's how you can help:

## SPREAD THE WORD

Share our mission with friends, family, and community to raise awareness about the services we provide.

## DONATE

Your contributions make a lasting impact. Visit [www.hhwaz.org/donate](http://www.hhwaz.org/donate) or scan below to support life-changing care.



## VOLUNTEER

Join us at one of our community events and lend a hand to create meaningful connections.

## PARTNER

Collaborate with us on an initiative or event to bring vital services and resources to those in need.

## LIKE, FOLLOW, SHARE

Connect with us on social media to stay engaged and spread the word. Together, we can build stronger, healthier communities.





625 N. Plaza Drive  
Apache Junction, AZ 85120  
[www.hhwaz.org](http://www.hhwaz.org) (833) 431-4449