



Florence Crittenton
Where Hope Comes to Life

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NBA Legend Bill Walton and Holocaust Survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein Share Their Passion for Life to Help the Valley's Youth

PHOENIX (February 16, 2011) - Florence Crittenton will host the 9th Annual Teaming Up for Kids Luncheon March 1, 2011, at the Arizona Biltmore, 2400 E. Missouri Ave. Co-chaired by Rebecca Ailes-Fine and Kathy Munson, the event will feature NBA legend Bill Walton as the keynote speaker and will honor noted author and Holocaust survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein. As the nonprofit organization's signature fundraiser, the luncheon generates support for its mission of providing safety, hope and opportunity to at-risk girls and young women.

Florence Crittenton's goal is to raise \$566,000 at this year's luncheon. The money raised will help the organization provide a comprehensive continuum of care designed to help at-risk girls and young women from 10-21 years old overcome issues of severe abuse and neglect and help them become successful adults in the community..

Florence Crittenton's mission is supported by their vision of being the national leader in changing the future for girls. This is achieved by: achieving excellence in all we do, growing to serve all girls in need and being the foremost expert in gender-specific services for girls.

Florence Crittenton of Arizona is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has served Arizona's youth and their families for well more than a century. Today we offer a comprehensive continuum of care designed to help at-risk girls from 12 to 21 overcome issues of abuse, neglect, teen pregnancy, teen parenting, and behavioral and/or mental health problems.

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Keynote speaker **Bill Walton** is a basketball superstar and member of the Basketball Hall of Fame. Walton made sports history playing for UCLA when he led the team to two NCAA championships and a record 88-game winning streak. Walton inspires audiences to reach their goals through dedication, perseverance, flexibility and teamwork.

The 2011 Hope Award recipient is **Gerda Weissmann Klein**, a noted author a survivor of the Holocaust. She is one of 15 winners of the Presidential Medal of Freedom award, to be presented by President Obama in November of 2010. Recipients of this award have lived extraordinary lives that inspire us, enrich our culture and make our country a better place. Klein uses her experiences to help young people understand the world and translate that understanding into positive actions.

Tara Hitchcock, anchor for 3TV's *Good Morning Arizona*, will emcee this year's event.

For more information on Florence Crittenton, please visit flocrit.org.

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