



NEWS

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Florence Crittenton's chief executive officer retires after 25 years

PHOENIX (June 10, 2011) – Chief Executive Officer Linda Volhein announced her retirement from Florence Crittenton, effective June 10, 2011. Volhein's announcement caps a long and distinguished career at Arizona's leading provider of single-gender services for young women. She was employed by Crittenton for 25 years and served as CEO for the past 18 years.

Under Volhein's leadership Florence Crittenton expanded its programs reaching out to serve more girls. Notable accomplishments include: building the agency's 7th Avenue & Mariposa Campus through the "Building New Beginnings" capital campaign; attaining certification through the Council on Accreditation; securing the Board of Visitors million dollar matching gift to create a Health and Wellness endowment; building a new thrift store, Flo's on 7th Avenue; to creating the agency's Transitional Living housing program for girls aging out of foster care.

"Linda Volhein's strategic vision and faithful service leaves Florence Crittenton poised to expand its reach into the community," said Michael J. Olsen, chair of Florence Crittenton's Board of Directors. "The opening of Florence Crittenton's newest initiative in August, Girls Leadership Academy of Arizona, serves as a watershed moment for the agency and for girls in our community. In addition, program expansion is planned for Transitional Living Housing and the Board is strengthening educational resources for the young women in our Therapeutic Group Home."

The Board of Directors has created a committee to conduct a national search to recruit a CEO who possesses the sterling quality of being a visionary leader for Arizona's most productive agency serving young women. During the search process, Gayle Jackson, chief administrative officer, was named interim CEO. Jackson has been a senior administrator at Florence Crittenton for nearly five years.

Florence Crittenton Services of Arizona was founded in 1896 and is the state's oldest social service agency. The agency's mission is to give every girl whose life its touches safety, hope and opportunity. Florence Crittenton supports young women and their families on their journeys to safe, healthy and successful futures. For more information, please call 602-288-4514 or visit www.flocrit.org.

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