Arizona Baptist Children's Services & Family Ministries
providing hope & care

It Starts With One
Annual Report 2025

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A letter from the *Executive Director*

As we reflect on 2025, I am reminded of a simple but powerful truth: a seed planted in faith can bear much fruit.

Throughout 2025, we have witnessed many stories of transformation that began with a single step. A child learning about the power of baptism. A supporter inspiring others by sharing her passion for the ministry. A life renewed through the care and support of this community. Like the mustard seed in Matthew 13:32, what begins as the smallest offering can grow into something far greater than we ever imagined, taking root, sprouting and becoming a place of strength and refuge for many.

This work is not done alone. A difference might start with one, but it grows thanks to community. Your generosity, prayers and commitment allow seeds to be planted every day across Arizona. Together, we are sharing the love of Christ and creating lasting change in the lives of children and families.

Thank you for being part of this mission. We are grateful for you.

Steve Hanna
Executive Director

"Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

Matthew 13:32

In late summer, supporters of Arizona Baptist Children's Services & Family Ministries (ABCS) were invited to do something new. The campaign, "Share Why You Care," asked them to express the heart behind their involvement.

At ABCS, we often talk about impact, like children placed in safe homes, families encouraged and individuals encountering the love of Christ. This campaign instead turned the focus to supporters. Behind every story of hope is someone who chose to step in, to give, to pray or to serve. The invitation went out through letters, social media and personal emails, with the goal of hearing from those who faithfully move this work forward.

Nearly 60 people responded, taking time to reflect on why this mission matters. Some shared personal experiences of hardship, shaped by firsthand understanding of the difference support and compassion can make. One grandmother wrote about the positive impact on her grandchild's life, *"Her counselor was able to work through emotional issues and give her the needed tools to help her remain a child… Thank you ABCS!"*

Others shared how God stirred their hearts, leading them to serve. One volunteer expressed simply, *"It is the very least I can do. Serve."*

Together, the collective story reminds us that this ministry is not only about what happens through ABCS, but what God is doing through each person involved. Each person who partners in the work of ABCS is making a difference. We are grateful for all the people who make it possible to serve our communities across the state.

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A Prayer to Remember

In July, ABCS foster parents Susanna and Rode Zambrano were struggling with their new placements, sisters Ashley and Gloria. Ashley's frequent tantrums had strained their relationship, so the family met with an ABCS licensing worker and a Department of Child Safety representative to discuss solutions.

After Susanna and the licensing worker prayed to close the meeting, five-year-old Ashley asked to pray too. She thanked God for her foster parents and said, *"I ask for help with my tantrums…Jesus, you are the King of this house."* Everyone was moved by her sincere, childlike faith. In November, Ashley and Gloria were adopted and we praise God for how He is moving in the Zambrano family. You can read the full heartwarming story by visiting abcs.org/a-prayer or scan the QR code.

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Have You Been Dunked?

Sometimes a conversation about Jesus is just around the corner, but you can't see it coming. ABCS parent aide Candice had the privilege of serving siblings Sarah, Lana and Pedro* last year. Every Saturday, Candice picked the girls up and drove them to their Nana's house, where their mom lived. The girls were always excited to see Candice pull into the driveway and rushed out to greet her, sometimes followed by the dog. At Nana's house, pancakes, cereal and games were always waiting. The family would watch TV together and play ball outside in the small courtyard. Over months of weekly drives, the girls grew comfortable with Candice and looked forward to their time together.

One quiet drive home, Lana asked, *"Ms. Candice, have you ever been dunked?"* Thinking of a carnival dunk tank, Candice asked her to repeat herself. Lana clarified, *"I mean, baptized?"* Delighted, Candice told her she had. *"I knew it!"* Lana shouted, and Sarah added, *"You can tell."* The girls lit up and paid close attention as Candice told them about baptism, Jesus and faith. Though no one in the family attended church, Lana said, *"I wanna get baptized!"* Later, she shared, *"I talk to Jesus when I am scared."* Candice reminded them that Jesus is always listening and He cares deeply for them.

We are grateful that this sweet family no longer needs supervised visits. Pray these girls continue walking with Jesus, and one day they themselves would be *"dunked."*
**Names changed*

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The Power of a Question

For more than a decade, Denise has faithfully volunteered at New Life Pregnancy Center (NLPC), serving behind the scenes wherever it was needed. After retiring from teaching English to refugees, she began assisting clients through material assistance with greater flexibility in her schedule.

In 2025, NLPC volunteers across the state participated in evangelism training through PreBorn, a partnering organization. Before the training, spiritual conversations were uncommon in Denise's volunteer work. The center stayed busy, clients came and went quickly and language barriers made deeper conversations difficult. Prayer, however, was always present.

Around the same time, Denise reflected on Proverbs 16:25: *"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."* She sensed God leading her to turn Scripture into a question that could open the door to conversation.

During a volunteer meeting in Tucson, Denise shared the idea of asking clients, *"Which way seems right to you to get to heaven?"* She was encouraged to try it! The clients' answers became natural bridges to conversations about grace, sin and the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Denise realized she was not always inviting clients to respond to the invitation. Once she began to make room for a response in the conversation, she saw God move. While serving a client, Denise shared the gospel and the woman accepted Christ. A staff member nearby connected the client to a local church, completing what Denise described as *"just a God thing the whole time."*

When asked what she would say to someone hesitant to start a spiritual conversation, Denise answered without hesitation: *"It boils down to obedience. All you have to do is open your mouth and He will provide the rest."*

ABCS is grateful for volunteers like Denise who faithfully partner in ministry and share a passion for sharing the gospel.

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Treasures in Darkness

Neil Anthony Johnson was just like any other 11-year-old boy. He was sensitive and thoughtful. He loved planes and spending time with his little brother Nick and his "Grammy" Carrie Johnson. Four years ago, Neil was killed in an ATV accident. Just before he passed away, Neil met Jesus. With his last breath, Neil asked the emergency response team, *"Do you know Jesus?"*

Neil's family went through a heartbreak that seemed unbearable. Yes, Neil is in Heaven, but what do you do with sadness so deep it seeps into everything? Carrie found some comfort through donating bibles to ABCS in Neil's memory and sharing his story. Read more of the story by visiting abcs.org/neil or scan the QR code.

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Help, Hope and Haircuts

ABCS volunteer Rafael, a barber and hairstylist in Yuma, uses his skills to bless families by offering free haircuts to those in need. One day, Stephen* called the ABCS office seeking help for himself and his two sons as they experienced homelessness. He had a job interview, but he didn't have clean clothes or a way to get a haircut. Rafael immediately stepped in, setting up his chair at the Yuma New Life Pregnancy Center. While the family was waiting, one of Stephen's sons asked for a Bible! Stephen and his sons were not only refreshed by the haircuts but also renewed by the hope of the gospel.
**Name changed*

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Dessert in the Garden

In January, Pursue Life Adult Ministry hosted Dessert in the Garden at the Desert Botanical Garden to encourage attendees to live their legacy now. In Phoenix, Vice President Mona McDonald invited aging adults to gather together to glorify God and remind them that their stories matter. Over 40 adults attended, enjoying cake, coffee and fellowship in one of the valley's most beautiful places. They celebrated major milestones and sang "Happy Birthday" to everyone. A musician from Citypoint Church performed popular songs from several decades, and attendees clapped, sang and even danced along with the music. When a Christian hymn was played, voices lifted together to praise the Lord.

After the music, speaker Brad McDonald shared an inspiring message from Psalm 90:15–17 about the importance of passing wisdom, faith and stories to younger generations. He encouraged attendees to pursue reconciliation with their children, take the high road in strained relationships and remember it is never too late to share the love and salvation of Jesus.

Each attendee received a journal with prompts to begin writing their story. Every person has a legacy worth passing down, and God can use the seeds planted by faithfully sharing one's testimony to change someone else's eternity.

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Keys to Independence

Jim Czuba has faithfully served as a volunteer at Rio Vista Center, a ministry of Arizona Baptist Children's Services & Family Ministries (ABCS), for 20 years. Since 2006, he has supported food distributions and served families visiting the center.

In fall 2025, Jim's dedication was recognized in a life-changing way. On October 15, he received a 2019 Honda CR-V through the National Auto Body Council Recycled Rides® program, a nationwide initiative that refurbishes and donates vehicles to individuals in need.

This story began in 2023 when Farmers Insurance volunteers served at Rio Vista and stayed connected. The following year, they introduced staff to the program. Director Aaron Norwood immediately thought of Jim and submitted his nomination. The process took more than a year, requiring income verification and other qualifications, and even included a setback when an earlier vehicle fell through. Aaron continued to advocate until the opportunity was realized.

The donated vehicle, refurbished by Gerber Collision & Glass and supported by multiple partners, was presented to Jim, providing reliable transportation after years without a personal car. *"Jim has given so much of his time and heart to serving others,"* Aaron shared. "*Seeing the community come together to bless him in this way was incredible.*"

We are grateful for Jim and how the community came together to bless him for his many years of faithful service of those in need around him.

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From Conversations to Connection

In 2025, New Life Counseling (NLC), a ministry of ABCS, expanded its workshops across Arizona, creating more opportunities to equip individuals and strengthen churches and communities. By combining Biblical truth with professional counseling tools, these gatherings offered practical and accessible support.

Throughout the year, NLC hosted nine workshops, reaching nearly 125 individuals from Tucson to Eagar and Overgaard. Each event was tailored to the needs of the hosting group, fostering relevant conversations around anxiety, depression, loneliness, conflict resolution and trauma. These spaces encouraged honest dialogue while offering faith-based tools for everyday challenges.

One especially meaningful workshop in Sun Lakes focused on loneliness among seniors. What began as a presentation became a shared conversation, where participants connected over personal experiences and explored simple ways to rebuild community and find hope. Through each workshop, God opened doors for healing, meeting people where they are with compassion and care. Churches continue to benefit from these customized gatherings, gaining tools that extend far beyond a single event.

To read the full story and learn more, visit abcs.org/connection

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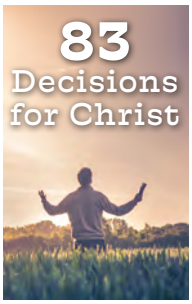
Ministry Highlights



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Vice Chairman

Ann Seiden
James Loui
Kathleen Orr
Kyle Hall
Lisa Hill
Mark Mucklow
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President & Executive Director

Chris Chan
Assistant Executive Director

Mona McDonald
Vice President

David Trenbeath
Co-Regional Director
Central

Lucas Bass
Co-Regional Director
Central

Jessica Ellington
Regional Director
Eastern

Lauren Belcher
Regional Director
Northern

Sheryl Van Horn
Regional Director
Southwest

Answering the Call

At 2:00 a.m., Jeff and Wendy answered a call from police about one of Jeff's coworkers, homeless and alone. Without hesitation, they drove across town and welcomed him into their home. For four months, they offered stability, transportation and encouragement as he rebuilt his life. What they did not realize was that this simple act of compassion would shape their future.

Soon after, Wendy felt led to explore foster care. As empty nesters, they had space and a growing sense that God was calling them to use it. They began fostering teenage boys, partnering along the way with Arizona Baptist Children's Services & Family Ministries. Encouraged by ABCS parent aides, they experienced firsthand the power of support rooted in genuine care.

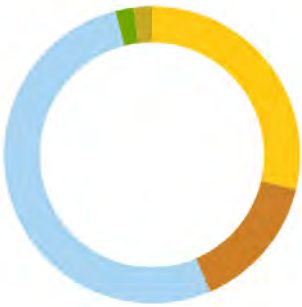
Their plans shifted when they welcomed younger siblings to keep brothers together, eventually adopting them. Over time, their family continued to grow, including children with unique needs and even a newborn placed in their care. Through each step, ministries like New Life Pregnancy Center provided practical help and hope.

Today, Jeff and Wendy's journey reflect a simple truth. When compassion leads, lives are changed. Read the full story by visiting abcs.org/answering-the-call.

Financials

2025 Support & Revenue

STATE CONTRACTS (FOSTER CARE AND PARENT AID)	$3,482,717	29%
PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS	$1,836,253	15%
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	$6,388,559	53%
PRIVATE CARE	$195,445	2%
OTHER REVENUE	$184,171	2%
Total Support and Revenue	$12,087,145	100%



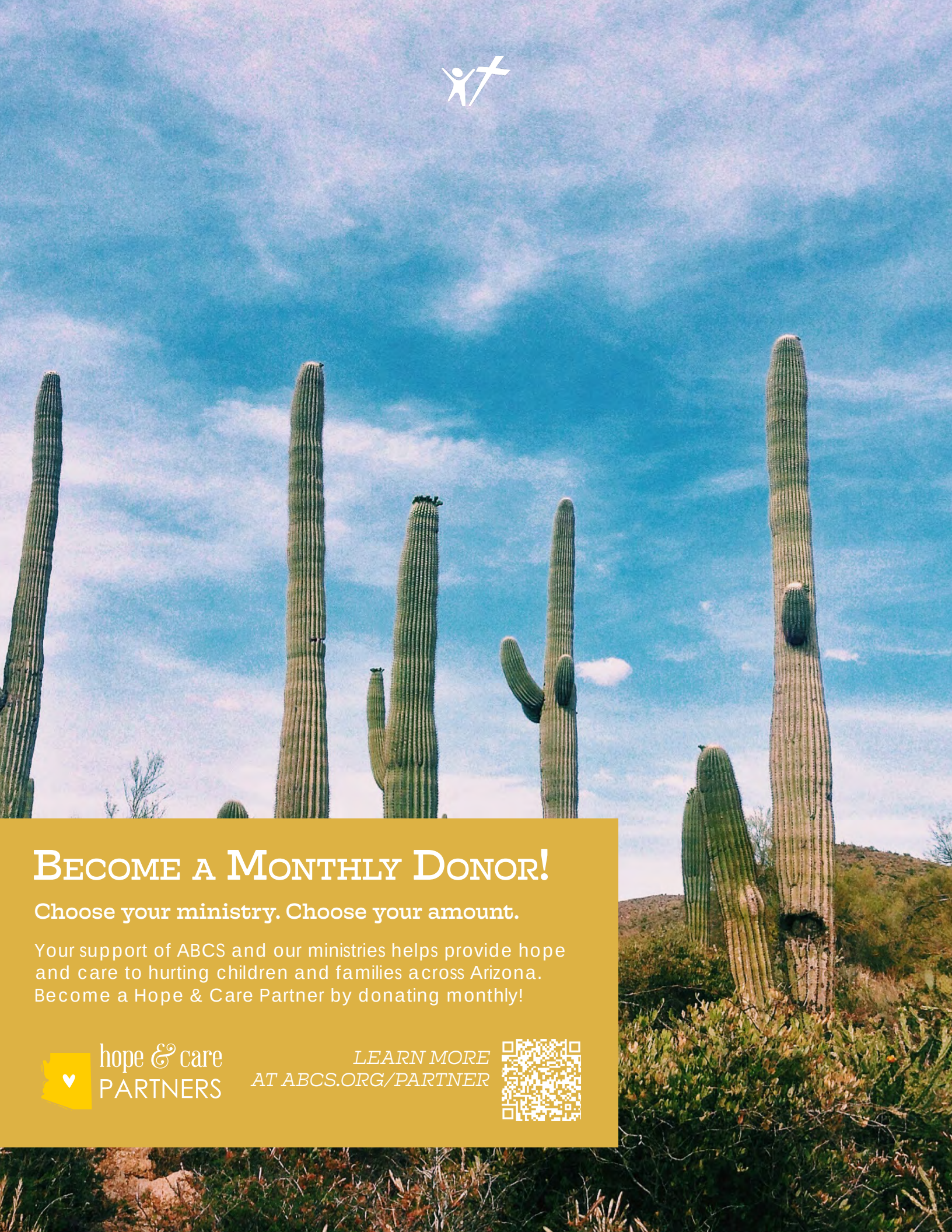
2025 Public Contributions

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS	$1,104,660	60%
CORPORATE/CIVIC GIFTS	$134,910	7%
ARIZONA MISSION NETWORK	$258,614	14%
CHURCH GIFTS	$338,069	18%
Total Public Contributions	$1,836,253	100%

2025 Expenses

PROGRAM SERVICES	$10,646,487	84%
SUPPORTING SERVICES - ADMINISTRATION	$2,045,975	16%
Total Support and Revenue	$12,692,462	100%

The numbers above are from the 2025 audited financials. They do not include Caring Ministries, a separate 501(c)(3) organization under the ABCS ministry umbrella. The full audit is available at abcs.org. We know that donors have many choices when it comes to supporting ministries and charitable organizations, and are grateful for your support and interest in learning more about ABCS. Gifts made to ABCS are used wherever the need is greatest, unless a specific ministry is designated. Funds stay locally in the region where the contribution is given. ABCS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. We value financial integrity and transparency.



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Choose your ministry. Choose your amount.

Your support of ABCS and our ministries helps provide hope and care to hurting children and families across Arizona. Become a Hope & Care Partner by donating monthly!

hope & care PARTNERS

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