



Family previously served through Save the Family's Housing Program
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Phoenix Scholar House Grand Opening

Phoenix Scholar House: Breaking Barriers Through Housing, Education, and Opportunity

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For many low-income parents, pursuing higher education while raising children can feel out of reach. The challenges of finding affordable housing, securing reliable childcare, maintaining employment and succeeding in school often force parents to put their educational goals on hold. As a result, opportunities for economic mobility can remain elusive for families striving to build a better future.

Phoenix Scholar House, a program of Save the Family Foundation of Arizona (Save the Family), was created to address these interconnected challenges through an innovative two-generation approach that supports both parents and their children.

As the exclusive Family Scholar House affiliate in Arizona, Phoenix Scholar House combines affordable housing, educational support and comprehensive

services to help low-income parent scholars achieve degree completion, career advancement and long-term economic self-sufficiency. The program is based on the nationally recognized Family Scholar House model, which has helped thousands of families across the country achieve educational and economic success.

For single parents, the competing demands of housing, childcare, employment and school can make degree completion particularly difficult. According to the Institute for Women's Policy Research, only 8% of single mothers who enroll in college earn an associate or bachelor's degree within six years. In contrast, graduation rates among participants in the Family Scholar House model have reached 89%, demonstrating the transformative impact of combining stable housing with education-focused support services.

Located in Phoenix, the community includes 56 affordable housing units,

with 20 units designated specifically for parent scholars enrolled full-time in higher education or workforce training programs. Residents have access to one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments, along with services designed to reduce barriers to educational attainment and family stability.

Beyond housing, the community was intentionally designed to support family success. Residents have access to academic and career coaching, financial aid and scholarship assistance, childcare coordination and basic-needs resources. Additional amenities, including a community gathering space, computer lab, fitness room, children's play area, and secure bike storage help foster connection, wellness and educational achievement. Located near colleges, workforce opportunities and healthcare providers, Phoenix Scholar House reduces many of the barriers that often prevent parents from completing their education.

The program's two-generation model recognizes that investments in parents create lasting benefits for children. By helping parents complete degrees, obtain workforce credentials and secure higher-paying careers, Phoenix Scholar House creates a pathway to greater family stability and long-term economic mobility. At the same time, children benefit from a stable home environment and increased access to educational and developmental opportunities.

Phoenix Scholar House serves families from diverse backgrounds who are working to create brighter futures through education. Currently, 78% of residents identify as people of color, reflecting the diversity of Arizona's communities and workforce. Additionally, 82% of occupied units are headed by single parents, highlighting the program's commitment to supporting families who often face some of the greatest barriers to higher education, affordable housing and economic opportunity.



As a newly launched initiative, Phoenix Scholar House is expected to serve approximately 56 families representing more than 150 individuals through housing, while also providing case management and academic guidance to an additional 50 parent scholars who do not require housing but can benefit from supportive services. This expanded reach allows the program to impact a broader community of families working toward educational achievement and economic independence.

As Arizona continues to experience workforce demands and housing affordability challenges, innovative models like Phoenix Scholar House demonstrate how housing can serve as a platform for educational attainment, economic mobility and generational change. By combining affordable housing, higher education and comprehensive support services, Save the Family is helping parent scholars earn credentials, secure sustainable careers and build



Front view Phoenix Scholar House

stronger futures for themselves and their children. In doing so, Phoenix Scholar House is not only changing individual lives, it is strengthening Arizona's workforce, economy and communities for generations to come.

Join us in creating pathways to opportunity. To learn more about Phoenix Scholar House, support parent scholars, or help expand access to affordable housing and education, visit www.savethefamily.org.



Robyn Julien is Chief Executive Officer of Save the Family Foundation of Arizona, where she leads innovative programs that help prevent homelessness and promote housing stability, education, and economic mobility for more than 800 families annually across Maricopa County.

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