

# Angels IN ACTION



Lt. Jacqui MacConnell  
with some Christmas Angels

## Angels and Friends on Christmas Patrol

It is hard to believe that 2010 is already behind us. Christmas is a time of year when the young and the old and everyone in-between are filled with wonder. We delight in our bounty and yet the holidays also make us keenly aware that others lack so much—often even the simplest things we take for granted. Every day, our police officers bear witness to crisis and turmoil within our communities that far too often affects children and families in a profoundly negative way. All year, officers have sent in Family Applications to Angels on Patrol seeking to provide a small amount of relief for kids and families facing a whole range of hardships. These are the families that officers do their best to lift up every day as they do their job. The kids and families you can't just put out of your mind at the end of the day.

What made this Christmas so special for us here at Angels on Patrol was that some of our amazing community partners such as the Valley of the Sun Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) and Wells Fargo reached out and adopted many of the families that AoP has been able to assist during 2010. They understood that often hardships have lingering effects and they wanted to provide some Christmas joy. So this is exactly what they did. They gathered their elves, had a meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and then set about to make some miracles happen. Before you know it, Santa and some very hard-working elves had gathered a sleigh-full of presents for girls and boys and they sent the new elves on their way to accomplish the task of delivering the gifts.

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*The mission of Angels on Patrol is to:*

*Help children and families in crisis who are identified by law enforcement*

*Enhance the public's perception of law enforcement*

*Help officers become more than a "band-aid" and positively affect families after the initial crisis has passed.*



I think I am safe in speaking for all of us involved that the deliveries were the highlight of our Christmas season. Accomplished over a series of three separate days, our partners at IAAP and Wells Fargo, members of the AoP Board and some of our board member's children set out to bring some joy and happiness into the lives of our fellow community members.

For our first delivery, we gathered at Macayo's Central (where the service was grand!) with IAAP and a family that consisted of two very loving and dedicated grandparents, one of their daughters and all 7 of their grandkids. Not only are these angels raising their

grandkids, but their home remains a refuge for foster children when needed. This year, the house they lived in for 40 years burned to the ground—everyone in the family escaped unharmed and AoP was instrumental in helping the family with some of their immediate needs following the devastation of losing everything. But alas, hardships like losing a house to fire can have a long-term impact. IAAP understood that and chose to provide this amazing family with copious amounts of Christmas joy.

Board Member elves and Wells Fargo elves also gathered on Thursday evening and spent most of the following Saturday together completing home deliveries just like Santa had instructed us to do. We met the most wonderful, grateful, and beautiful people. Mom's who have been victimized by domestic violence, families terrorized by violent crime and more grandparents struggling to raise small grandchildren. It was what we all look to do at Christmastime—to go beyond the shopping and the stressing and get down to some serious giving. It is a Christmas that none of us will soon forget.

A very special thanks to **Tynisha Hunter, Demitria Griggs and Ed Lumpkin of Wells Fargo** and **Mary Dineen and Cheryl Brunton from IAAP** for all of their help and support. We were also joined by **Det. Veronica Lumpkin** of the Phoenix Police Department for the deliveries! These Christmas miracles would not have been possible without the hard work and compassionate hearts of so many people.

**The biggest thanks of all goes to the officers who embraced the concept behind Angels on Patrol this year and gave us a chance by submitting a family application. We hope we have done you proud and that you continue to reach out and allow us to help you lift up our communities—one child, one family at a time.**

## ATTENTION PLANET ORANGE INHABITANTS!!!!

One of our biggest supporters since our humble beginnings at AoP has been **Suns Charities**. As a grateful recipient of a grant from Suns Charities, Angels on Patrol is excited to be offering its fans an opportunity for a special **Sun's Game Night Out with Angels on Patrol** on January 28, 2011 for the Suns vs. the Boston Celtics game! Our Board Vice President Dustin Ewert of Cox Communications has been hard at work selling tickets and we have a fun bunch of folks who have already stepped up and purchased their seats. Do not be left out of another fun and exciting AoP event—you all remember how much fun Bowling

Bonanza was right? This time, all you have to do to help out AoP is buy your ticket(s) and go have some serious fun at Planet Orange. You can do this two ways: you can simply email Dustin at [dustin@angelsonpatrol.com](mailto:dustin@angelsonpatrol.com) or go to our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Angels-on-Patrol/236181093709> and click on the event tab for more detailed information.



## Some Local Retailers Who Like to Support Angels on Patrol

We thought that the fans and supporters of AoP would like to know about the local businesses who have aided us in our mission to help officers/detectives help children and families in crisis. This time around we would like to showcase **Walmart Store # 1598** who generously gave AoP a \$500 grant. Special thanks to **General Manager Duane Morrison** for taking the time to let us know about Walmart grant opportunities and being a super supporter of Angels on Patrol!



*"The experience with Angels on Patrol was is indescribable. Though I know I made a difference in these families' lives, it was the sight to see the families' smiles when we delivered the gifts. I got to see the full effect. I hadn't ever gotten to meet the families I have helped in the past. This is an experience I will never forget! Thanks AoP."*

Tynisha Hunter  
Wells Fargo



Tynisha Hunter and Demitria Griggs of  
Wells Fargo

## Our Community Partners

*Angels on Patrol would like to thank our community partners who support us in our mission*

The Arizona Foundation for Women

Suns Charities

Cactus Wren Republican Women

National Association of Women Contractors

AIM IT Services

NotMYkid

The John F. Long Foundation

Soroptimist

Squaw Peak Rotary Club

Martha's LEAP Foundation

IAAP - Valley of the Sun Chapter

Wells Fargo

Special thanks to **Galloway Asset Management** for mentioning AoP in their December 2010 newsletter. Galloway Asset Management, *"Dedicated to Meet the Specific Financial Needs of Firefighters and Police Officers."*

## Angels on Patrol awarded \$25,000 by the Maricopa County Attorney's Office



Angels on Patrol is proud to announce that on November 1, 2010, the office of Maricopa County Attorney Rick Romley awarded a grant to the Angels on Patrol program in the amount of \$25,000. These restricted funds come from the Anti-Racketeering Revolving Fund ("RICO Fund") which relates to funding of gang prevention programs, substance abuse prevention programs, substance abuse education programs, crime prevention, housing, job skills, and other community based programs approved by the county attorney.

*"Being a police officer today is very difficult. They come across some of the most complex situations that involve our youth. Angels On Patrol is an innovative, aggressive tool that helps them make a difference in a young person's life. Thank you Angels On Patrol."*

Carol Romley

We are very excited to be given this opportunity to utilize these funds to keep kids off the streets and in programs that help to mentor and guide them. Our first beneficiary will be a 13 year old young man who has turned away from poor choices and towards making positive decisions about his future. He has been accepted into the Junior Ambassador program and AoP is proud to be providing \$1250 towards the amount needed for him to attend the Junior Ambassador conference in Washington D.C this year using funds from this generous grant. Special thanks to the Community Resource Officer who reached out to AoP and took a chance that we might be able to help.

We here at AoP are hopeful that this young man's experience with the Junior Ambassador program, his interactions with law enforcement through mentoring and his exciting experience in our nations capitol will

help to strengthen his resolve to continue to be a leader amongst his peers and in his community.

Thanks again to outgoing County Attorney Rick Romley, his wife Carol Romley and everyone else at the County Attorney's office for making this all possible and believing in the mission and vision of Angels on Patrol.

## Angels Collaborating with Unstoppable Divas and the Diane Halle Center for Family Justice



This year Angels on Patrol has been fortunate to be part of many amazing and beneficial collaborations and 2011 promises more of the same! To start the year off, we will be partnering with the **Diane Halle Center for Family Justice**, local non-profit social club **Unstoppable Diva's**, **Phoenix PD Maryvale Precinct**, and the **Maricopa Association of Governments** to make 'bunny bags' for officers and detectives to have with them to give to children who have been witness to a police call/visit.

The bags will contain either a color book created by the officers in the Maryvale precinct or a color book from the Maricopa Association of Governments (we have both!), a box of crayons, and a small stuffed bunny. These items are designed to bring a small amount of comfort to a child when life has made things rather uncomfortable. It is important also that children not be terrified by the presence of law enforcement and that they understand the fundamentals of safety and calling 911. The color books are fun and instructive and we hope that officers find them useful to have with them.

Sarah Buel, Executive Director of The Diane Halle Center brought us the idea, stating that a similar campaign in Austin, Texas was a great success! We are hopeful for similar outcomes here in the Valley!

## Big and Exciting Changes at Angels on Patrol

As many of you may already know, Angels on Patrol has operated to date as a donor advised fund under the protective and guiding arm of the **Arizona Foundation for Women** (AFW). Back in 2009, Lt. MacConnell's vision first attracted the attention of then AFW Executive Director Nancy Dean and has since found yet another valuable mentor and ally in current Executive Director Jody Liggett. AFW has been a powerful presence for AoP and there is no way we could have achieved what we have thus far without the assistance, expertise and patience of AFW.

That being said, in 2010 AoP has experienced unprecedented growth and now needs to grow as an organization by securing our own 501c3. This is a BIG step for us and we are excited about the prospect. AoP board member Phyllis Habib, of **Golden Gate Community Center** has taken on this monumental task and done a fantastic job of spearheading this effort for us. Special thanks go to attorney Dean Brekke at the law firm of **Meade and Associates** for undertaking the 501c3 project pro bono for AoP and special thanks to attorney **Danielle Janitch** of **Osborn Maledon** who has generously agreed to do our trademark work so that we may continue to put our funds where they make the most impact--in the lives of children and families in crisis.

*"Angels On Patrol has done groundbreaking work in meeting the needs of an invisible population- the victims of crime who are often children, sometimes children of the offender. There is no government agency or other nonprofit, which focuses exclusively on the needs of this fragile population. Angels on Patrol provides help and hope in situations that are very bleak indeed. I imagine that many of the people whose lives they have touched are forever changed by their kindness. We are so proud to have helped AOP get off the ground, and especially gratified at their growth and independence!"*

Jodi Liggett  
Director of Programs Policy and Research  
Arizona Foundation for Women

# Angels on Patrol Board of Directors

Angels on Patrol is proud to be "green" and have an e-newsletter. If you would like our newsletter sent to your email automatically just click here to sign up:

**Angels on Patrol E-NEWS SIGN UP**

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## LETTERS FROM THE BOARD VICE PRESIDENT, DUSTIN EWERT



### Living out a Dream

**H**ave you ever had a chance to live out a dream? Recently I feel as though I have been able to do just that. This is all because of some great people determined to make a difference in our community. Being around individuals like this, you can't help but feel like you too can make a difference.

Early last year I had a chance to attend an Angels on Patrol board meeting as a guest

and listen to some people who shared a common goal. They all wanted to give back. I too had a burning desire to help the community because I feel that I have been blessed and helped by many "Angels" throughout my life. As I listened to AoP founder Lt. Jacqui MacConnell and the group discuss ways they could respond to children and families in crisis, my heart was touched and I knew right away that this was exactly what I was in search of. At that point I asked if I could continue to meet with the group and partner with them to help "give back" myself.

As a father of four boys, I get to experience their busy lives and see just what children today are faced with. In this fast paced, social media, cyber connected world that we live in our youth are constantly surrounded by negative influences. It is hard to imagine that many of them may be dealing with even more negativity in their home situations, making growing up even tougher. Bad things happen to a lot of good people and I strongly feel that we as a community, sharing this valley, have a duty to help one another. By doing this we are able to feel the sweetest gift that exists, knowing what it is like to positively affect someone else's life. That passion and good feeling is addicting and this past year I have surrounded myself with 'Angels' that do selfless acts every day, like Angels on Patrol and local law enforcement.

I also had the opportunity to spend some time with Phoenix police officers this year by doing a 'ride along' and got a glimpse of what they commonly see as part of their day. It was an eye opener for me. I guess I, like most people, was expecting to see police working hard to keep us all safe and it is great to know they were out there but I know now that I never really gave them the total respect that they deserve. Being involved with Angels on Patrol is allowing me to see what it is like to be close to the action with some real heroes.

I was excited by what Angels on Patrol was all about and was inspired to share their vision with other people. Having told some of my co-workers about the Angels on Patrol organization one of them shared a touching story with me. She told me how a young woman

that had been trying to sell a stroller through an online ad and ended up experiencing the kindness of an Angel on Patrol in action.

You see, this young woman was going through hard times and needed to sell some things to help make ends meet. She sold the stroller to someone who responded to her ad and then immediately went to a corner gas station to put some much needed gas in her car. As the young lady tried to pay for the gas the attendant noticed that the \$50.00 bill she was paying with was counterfeit. Unbeknownst to this young lady the person that had bought her stroller from her had given her a counterfeit \$50.00 bill. As I am sure was the policy of the gas station, the police were called to respond. When the police officer arrived he found the young woman with her baby in the car seat, still parked at the pump, crying and devastated. The police officer listened to her story and reluctantly explained to her that there was not much that could be done about the money she received because she had no information on the person who bought the stroller from her. After spending some time with this young woman discussing the few to no options available to her, this 'Angel' in uniform kindly pulled out cash and went to the attendant and paid to fill her tank. This was a heartfelt selfless act by a great person in our community who happened to be a police officer. I know this happens more than you or I can imagine. Police officers, and others in our community like them that commit random acts of kindness seldom ask for anything in return. After hearing this story it confirmed my desire to be part of an organization such as Angels on Patrol.

So I feel after working on fund raisers and helping to spread the word to the community about Angels on Patrol I have been able to "**live out a dream.**" I am blessed to have met Lt. Jacqui MacConnell and all the AoP board members and enjoy being able to share this dream with them and in turn with many others.

Now, almost a year later, and having served as Vice President to this great organization for the last few months, I have had the experience of being involved in some great acts of giving back. From helping corporate sponsors to adopt families for the holidays to reviewing applications from Phoenix police officers to aid families in crisis, **this really is living a dream.**

If you would like to learn more about Angels on Patrol and what you can do to help, check out our website at [www.angelsonpatrol.com](http://www.angelsonpatrol.com). There you can see some of our community partners, sign up for our quarterly newsletter, read about upcoming events in the community, view the "wish List" and much more. Angels on Patrol is proud to be part of this community and we, as a board, look forward to expanding so that more children and families, identified by law enforcement can get the help and support and relief they need and deserve.

DUSTIN EWERT  
Vice President, Angels on Patrol