Established in 1978, the Arizona Community Foundation is a statewide family of charitable funds supported by thousands of Arizonans. With five regional offices serving communities across Arizona, ACF is among the top 25 community foundations in the nation with more than $960 million in trust and endowment assets. ACF is certified under the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations and recently earned its ninth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, recognizing ACF for executing its mission in a financially efficient way and demonstrating to the public its trustworthiness.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PUBLIC POLICY ENGAGEMENT BY ACF:**

**Arts and Culture.** A thriving arts scene and diverse cultural offerings bring enjoyment to residents and visitors, and are important drivers of our economy.

- ACF supports policies that enhance Arizona’s infrastructure to create a vibrant arts and culture community, celebrates a rich history and recognizes and embraces diversity, and creates valuable learning experiences for children and adults.

**Strengthening Arizona.** ACF’s statewide presence catalyzes the generosity of donors and partners to focus on local needs and opportunities through the Foundation’s robust network of affiliated community foundations throughout Arizona.

- ACF supports policies that strengthen rural communities in Arizona and address the issues facing their specific needs and diversity within their regions.

**Quality Education.** A quality education system is a significant driver of Arizona’s economic competitiveness and quality of life and ranks as a top priority for the state.

- ACF supports policies that provide long-term funding solutions for Arizona’s education system from early childhood through college and career readiness. ACF will also support policies that encourage equity and excellence, expand and scale innovative solutions and address high-quality reforms that benefit all Arizona students.

**Community Improvement and Development.** Safe housing and stable neighborhoods are the building blocks of a healthy community.

- ACF supports policies that provide access to affordable housing, promote economic success initiatives for the working-poor, ensure basic needs for Arizona’s most vulnerable populations, promote social justice for all, and build strong communities for all generations.

**Environment and Sustainability.** Arizona’s natural resources are among the most highly valued attributes of our state, and a top priority of residents.

- ACF supports policies that protect, preserve and responsibly manage Arizona’s natural resources in both urban and rural areas.

**Philanthropy, Nonprofit Capacity Building, and Charitable Giving.** Arizona’s diverse nonprofit sector is a thriving network comprised of thousands of social-purpose organizations tackling many of our state’s most difficult problems with innovative programs and services.

- ACF supports policies that encourage charitable giving, promote partnerships between nonprofit organizations and government agencies to stimulate collective impact, and advance the sector’s role in advocacy.

**Health Innovations.** The quality and access of health services are critically important to our shared quality of life.

- ACF supports policies that improve the health and wellbeing of all Arizonans, ensure a strong health care safety net for our most vulnerable populations, and create healthy communities that enhance the quality of life across Arizona.

**Philanthropy for All.** ACF recognizes Arizona’s growing population and increasing diversity within the state. We value strong, vibrant and inclusive communities that support strong economic growth and create a positive quality of life for all.

- ACF supports policies that address the issues facing Arizona’s growing populations and promote diversity and inclusion for all populations across the state.
**Arts and Culture.** In 2018, ACF and the Arizona Commission on the Arts formed a public-philanthropic partnership to support Arizona artists. By pairing ACF’s arts resources with the Commission’s existing reach and infrastructure, this partnership expands Arizona’s investments in artists and supports the work they do as innovators and creative contributors to Arizona’s future.

**Strengthening Arizona.** To ensure an accurate 2020 Census, ACF has partnered with the NALEO Educational Fund and One Arizona to increase outreach to hard-to-reach populations that are frequently underrepresented in Arizona’s census data, including children, Latinos and Native Americans. ACF also serves as a member of the Arizona Complete Count Committee’s Philanthropic Partnerships subcommittee.

**Quality Education.** In partnership with Education Resource Strategies, Rodel Foundation of Arizona and ACF published a report highlighting challenges and opportunities for Arizona’s teacher labor market. Additionally, through a partnership with other local funders and the Governor’s Office for Education, ACF leveraged additional resources for programs such as FosterEd Arizona and Arizona Pathways to Prosperity.

**Community Improvement and Development.** As a member of the Arizona Housing Coalition, ACF advocates for policies to end homelessness and provide safe, affordable homes for all Arizonans. Additionally, in partnership with business, nonprofit, and philanthropic partners, ACF provides interest-free pre-development loans to leverage funding for affordable housing projects throughout the state.

**Since inception, ACF and its affiliates have awarded more than $783 million in grants, scholarships, and loans to nonprofit organizations, schools, and government agencies.**

**Philanthropy, Nonprofit Capacity Building, and Charitable Giving.** In an effort to preserve and incentivize charitable giving in Arizona, ACF partnered with the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits and other community organizations to support legislation allowing Arizona taxpayers taking the standard deduction to claim charitable donations on their income taxes.

**Health Innovations.** With financial support from ACF in 2018, Arizonans Concerned About Smoking worked with community members and the Prescott City Council to move forward with a Smoke and Vape-Free Parks Ordinance that would protect health for Prescott residents and guests at all Prescott parks.

**Philanthropy for All.** Since 2017, ACF’s Courage to Listen, Learn, and Act series—a platform for community dialogue around persistent and critical challenges—has brought together key stakeholders around the topic of mass incarceration. Community members, grassroots organizations, and public officials have participated in constructive dialogue that increases knowledge, leverages resources, and maximizes connections to influence community change.

**Environment and Sustainability.** Between 2014 and 2018 ACF partnered with Republic Media and the Morrison Institute for Public Policy on three philanthropic prize competitions housed under the New Arizona Prize banner. These prizes addressed the sustainability of Arizona’s water future and drove the development of new and innovative solutions that raised awareness around this important issue.