



Grant Report - January 2022

Since 2020, Phoenix-metro childcare costs have increased by an astounding 84%¹. Simultaneously, area rents have increased by 25% and inflation has driven up basic costs such as food, toiletries, and housewares. Hard working mothers are struggling more than ever to provide for themselves and their children.

In 2021, Live & Learn was able to empower 260 Maricopa County women living in poverty to stabilize, earn postsecondary certifications, and pursue high-demand careers. Many of these women were struggling with domestic violence, reliant on government assistance, or experiencing homelessness when they came to Live & Learn; yet, all of them shared a strong motivation to do whatever it took to create stability for their families and reach self-sufficiency.

No matter how motivated a woman is, barriers such as the cost of childcare can prevent her from pursuing career training or establishing good-wage employment.

A generous grant of \$1,000 from the Arizona Women's Partnership provided financial assistance for childcare costs to 20 women in 2021. Your gift allowed these women to say "Yes!" to employment opportunities, knowing that their children would be in safe hands while they went to work. Each of these women received two weeks of childcare thanks to Live & Learn donors like the AZWP, giving them a chance to earn their first paycheck.

Of these 20 women whom you supported, 19 have retained their employment, 8 are concurrently enrolled in community college part-time, and 2 are now earning over \$24/hour. This is a transformative journey they have been through, one that will have long-term positive benefits for their children. We are forever grateful for the investment you made.

Thank you for believing in Arizona women.

¹ <https://ktar.com/story/3919867/arizona-child-care-costs-skyrocket-during-covid-19-pandemic/>