

TCC CONNECTIONS

- a Tempe Community Council newsletter

Sharon Doyle TCC Volunteer and 2024 Humanitarian

About Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards

Tempe Community Council will honor Sharon Doyle as the 41st recipient of the prestigious Don Carlos Humanitarian Award. Since 1984, this award has recognized exceptional individuals who have demonstrated outstanding dedication to improving the lives of others and who embody the spirit of compassion and service within the Tempe community. The award is named after Tempe’s founder, Charles Trumbull Hayden, affectionately known by Hispanic pioneers as “Don Carlos.” Charles devoted his life to helping those in need, and the Don Carlos Humanitarian Award reflects his enduring legacy. Recipients of this award are true humanitarians who have significantly contributed to making Tempe a better place for everyone.

Throughout her life, Sharon has demonstrated a legacy of selfless dedication to human services through her longtime volunteer work with TCC as well as multiple other organizations and causes. Sharon has been a member of the TCC Board of Directors, chaired the Youth and Families Board Committee for many years, and is currently Chair of the Tempe Coalition. In addition to her work for TCC, Sharon has played a major role in the Tempe Impacts Education (TIE) Foundation, the Kiwanis Club of Tempe, and Tempe Sister Cities. She has dedicated countless hours to multiple humanitarian efforts, including youth programs, substance abuse prevention, public education, and sustaining community vitality.

Congratulations to Sharon Doyle and thank you for your service to the Tempe community.

Join us in recognizing Sharon and all our awardees by attending the 41st annual Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards dinner and ceremony on November 18, 2024.



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2024 Don Carlos Awardees



DON CARLOS HUMANITARIAN

Sharon S. Doyle

YOUNG HUMANITARIAN **Joselyn Hernandez Rodriguez**

IMPACT AWARD **Andrea White & Karen Maish**

VOLUNTEER AWARD **Mahadevan Iyer**



TEMPE
Community Council



Did You Know?

TCC Volunteer Becomes Points of Light Recipient



POINTS
OF LIGHT



Kathy Stevens became the 7,826th Points of Light awardee on June 4th for her longtime involvement with our Threadz teen clothes closet program. Kathy has been at the forefront of this pivotal initiative, which has aimed to ensure that all students have the resources they need to attend and graduate from high school since its founding in 2009. She helped to establish the first site at Tempe High School and continues to volunteer there today.

Kathy's dedication is evident in her more than 1,000 hours of volunteer service, which have contributed significantly to the program's success and efficiency. Kathy says her favorite part of being a Threadz volunteer is interacting with the students. She is impressed by them, finding them to be smart, funny, kind, and full of promise. TCC staff say Kathy is not only a committed volunteer but also a champion of the program within the community.

The Points of Light Award was founded in 1989 by President George H.W. Bush. President Bush honored 1,000 volunteers across the country for demonstrating how a "neighbor can help a neighbor." Now, an awardee is featured each day to celebrate the power of individuals to lead and lend support to causes they care about, making a change in their community.

Kathy Stevens also received a Mayoral proclamation on June 27 at the Tempe City Council meeting. The proclamation highlighted her Points of Light award and her service to the city of Tempe. **Thanks Kathy for all you do!**

"We can find meaning and reward by serving some higher purpose than ourselves, a shining purpose, the illumination of a thousand points of light...we all have something to give."

- President George H. W. Bush, Founder of Points of Light

Teen Positive Parenting Program

It's Not Always Easy Being the Parent of a Teenager

TCC is proud to offer the **Teen Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)** to parents of teens. Parenting a teenager can be challenging, and many parents approach these years with some level of apprehension due to the unique difficulties they may face. These years bring increased demands for independence and responsibility.

During adolescence, teens seek greater independence and responsibility, while also encountering a variety of conflicting views and influences from peers, teachers, parents, and the media. The temptation to engage in risky behaviors that could impact their health or future is significant.

TCC, in partnership with Tempe Union High School District, is currently offering FREE online Teen Triple P discussion sessions on the following topics: *Getting Teenagers Connected; Coping with Teenagers Emotions; Building Teenager Survival Skills and Reducing Family Conflict*. **Learn more and sign up for classes [here](#).**



"The single most important thing we can do to prevent serious behavioral and emotional problems and abuse of children is to help parents in the most important job in the world, raising the next generation."

*- Dr. Matthew Sanders,
Triple P Developer*



A Word From Our Executive Director

Although summer has lingered in Tempe and throughout the Valley, we have shifted to fall activities. Students returned to their campuses and schedules have become hectic. TCC staff have been planning how we could best serve the community through our programs and services. As always, we keep in mind that we cannot do this work alone. TCC volunteers can and do help in many ways. Whether it's strategic guidance from a Board member or offering 5-star service to a student at a Threadz site, our volunteers help make a positive impact in the community. Together, we bring intentional focus to supporting needs and keeping our community strong.

TCC offers additional ways you can support your community. We'd be thrilled to have your survey feedback for our Human Services Community Needs Assessment and to have you join us in person to recognize positive choices at Celebrating Champions for Youth or philanthropic giving at Don Carlos. During autumn and throughout the service year, we appreciate every action of our volunteers to support Tempe Community Council. If there is ever anything we can do to assist you please reach out to us.

Octavia Harris

Celebrating a Couple Committed to Tempe Causes

Linda Martin and Kevin Brown

Linda Martin and Kevin Brown are not only partners in life, but also partners in volunteering for the Tempe community. They have been TCC volunteers since 2017, committing their time to a variety of our programs, including the Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards, Communities of Practice, agency site visits, Care Fair/ Tempe Human Services Day, the Connector Award, Agency Review, and the Community Impact Board Committee. Additionally, Linda served as a member of the TCC Board of Directors.

Kim Van Nimwegen, TCC's Community Impact Manager, describes them as "exceptional humans who understand that in human services, there is always more work to do than staff to accomplish it." Kevin became an active TCC volunteer to gain a deeper understanding of the issues he was experiencing in Tempe and to be actively involved in supporting needed changes. Kim notes Kevin has jumped right in since becoming involved, volunteering with a great sense of humor, compassion, and a generous heart.

Linda's involvement stemmed from her interest in building community, particularly around addressing social isolation and loneliness. She realized there was vast potential for her and other volunteers to use their skills and talents to make a difference. Kim highlights Linda's tremendous skills and experience, which have greatly contributed to TCC's capacity to achieve its goals. Linda has not only dedicated an immense amount of time but also shared her insightful ideas for improving the Agency Review experience for other volunteers.

We are incredibly grateful to Linda and Kevin for their unwavering dedication, time, and talent which continue to make a lasting impact on our community.



TCC highlights Linda and Kevin for their dedicated service as TCC volunteers. They are two of the many committed individuals TCC is fortunate to have on board.

Tempe Coalition

Preventing Underage Drinking and Drug Use

The **Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and Drug Use** as been dedicated to addressing substance misuse in our community since 2009, evolving from earlier efforts that began in 1996.

A program of Tempe Community Council, the Coalition is funded by federal and state grants and includes local residents and professionals committed to reducing risky behaviors among youth.

With a diverse membership representing businesses, law enforcement, schools, and healthcare, the Coalition leads impactful initiatives like "ShatterStigmaAZ" to combat the opioid epidemic.

The Coalition also offers prevention programs on topics such as fentanyl, marijuana, vaping, alcohol misuse, and internet safety, along with Narcan training and distribution.

For more information, visit: tempecoalition.org.

TEMPE HUMAN SERVICES NEEDS ASSESSEMENT SURVEY

Your voice matters! Help human service organizations better understand our community's needs and identify assistance that supports Tempe residents.

**Take the Tempe Community Council
2024 Survey by October 27.**

Survey is open to
any adult who lives in Tempe.



Survey takes
approximately
25 minutes.

Enter drawing for a \$45 gift
card upon completion!

Celebrating Champions for Youth

Honoring Youth and Adults Who Are Making a Difference

The 8th annual **Celebrating Champions for Youth** event, hosted by the Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and Drug Use and sponsored by Salt River Project, will take place on Thursday, October 24, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. at the Tempe Union High School District's Professional Learning Center Cafe. This free event honors youth, adults and organizations that positively impact local youth by promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing substance abuse. All are welcome to attend.

Do you know a Tempe champion for youth? Submit your nomination by October 6, 2024!

Nominations are being accepted for the following categories:

Youth Awards

Youth Champion - Recognizing outstanding youth or youth groups for their resilience, leadership, and positive influence on peers. Multiple youths will be recognized.

Adult Awards

Inspiration - Celebrating community leaders who inspire and support youth (e.g., educators, coaches).

Protector - Acknowledging front-line responders for their dedication to creating a safe environment for youth.

Advocate - Honoring organizations that advocate for policies or programs benefiting local youth.

To be eligible, all service or actions must directly impact or serve youth who live, work, or attend school within Tempe school district boundaries (Tempe Elementary, Kyrene, Tempe Union High School District), including public, private, and charter schools.

For more information, submit a nomination, or register for this free event, visit tempecoalition.org.





Fall Donation Drive Oct 18-Nov 1

Keep Tempe youth
warm this winter by
donating hoodies
and pants.



[Shop Our
Amazon Wishlist](#)

[Donate a Cash Gift](#)

Threadz Update

Look good, feel good and do well in school!

Tempe Community Councils' Threadz program is off to a great start this school year. All sites opened for Back-to-School shopping on July 22 & 23, welcoming middle and high school students and their families. Students were able to shop at Threadz for free school supplies, clothing, and personal care items to ensure they were ready for the new school year.

TCC is especially grateful to TEPCON, a local commercial construction company, for their generous donation of 48 backpacks filled with school supplies for the Threadz program this year.

The Threadz Warm Wishes donation drive kicks off in October, focusing on collecting sleep pants and hoodies for Tempe students. Those interested in donating can shop from the **Threadz Amazon wishlist**.

If you're passionate about working with middle and high school students in Tempe, you'll love being a Threadz volunteer! Volunteers are needed to keep the sites open every Tuesday and Thursday to serve students in the community. **For more information, please call TCC at 480.858.2300. Register to volunteer here.**



**Thank you
TEPCON for
your donations!**

**We are
grateful for
your support!**



Agency Review Volunteers Needed

Be involved in helping recommend how your tax dollars are spent for human service needs in Tempe.

Volunteer Requirements and Expectations

- Must be 18 years or older
- Live or work in Tempe
- Attend training session
- Review funding application
- Conduct interviews (as needed)
- Attend the final recommendation meeting

Expect to contribute about 20 mostly flexible hours over a three-month period (January-April). No experience necessary - just a desire to help create a healthier and happier community for all.

MORE INFO: tempecommunitycouncil.org/agency-review

UPCOMING DATES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Recruitment for
Agency Review & VITA Tax Site
Begins October 2024

Celebrating Champions for Youth
October 24, 2024

Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards
November 18, 2024

Agency Review Training
January 2025

VITA Tax Site Opens
January 2025

Care Fair / Human Services Day
March 29, 2025

MISSION OF TEMPE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

To connect those in need with
those who care.

TCC does this by convening
community, conducting
research, determining
priorities, implementing
effective programs and
exemplifying prudent
stewardship of resources.



My Favorite Part of Being a TCC Volunteer Is ...

"Being connected to my community in person."

--Dayna M.

"Knowing that my efforts are staying close to home and helping those in need - even if they never see my face!"

-- Nancy B.

"Learning about all the great services Tempe has available for their residents, and networking with fantastic volunteers."

-- Jan D.

"Interacting with the students and hearing their reactions to Threadz."

-- Rosalie R.



Help Others Save Volunteer With the Tempe VITA Tax Program

Join us and be part of our **Tempe Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** program for the 2025 tax filing season!

We offer FREE tax preparation services to low- and moderate-income taxpayers, helping them maximize their refunds through qualified tax credits.

Last year, 40 VITA volunteers contributed 1,800 hours of service, making a real difference in our community. We need passionate volunteers for the following roles:

- **Greeters:** Welcome clients, provide a friendly first impression.
- **Tax Preparers:** Assist individuals with their tax returns.
- **Quality Reviewers:** Ensure accuracy in prepared returns.

Volunteers receive high-quality training and have a direct impact on helping families achieve financial stability. Clients value the support and expertise you provide. Interested in making a difference? **Learn more about the VITA program and sign up today by clicking [here](#) or calling 480.858.2300!**

TEMPE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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**VOLUNTEER
TODAY!**

