

Agency Announcements cont'd.

- **YOTO.** The annual YOTO fundraiser “Top of the Town” will be March 6th at the La Paloma Resort with students telling their stories. Less formal this year, a cocktail party and dance plus silent & live auction. The master of ceremonies is local TV personality Chuck George.
- **Giving Tree.** Crystal Hart and Donna Vanacore reported that the Giving Tree is in the midst of improving procedures, and will have an interview aired on Tucson’s access cable TV tonight. The reorganization is going smoothly. The Thursday and Sunday food box, clothing, and hot meal distributions continue. No youth under the age of 18 are residing with the Giving Tree without their parents at this time. There has been a great deal of staff turnover, and hiring of better qualified staff. When youth stay with the Giving Tree with their parent or parents, they are working to get them tutoring, case management., and connections with groups such as the Girl and Boy Scouts, and to keep their lives as steady and normal as possible. A couple of the youth recently received scholarships to a local Desert Christian Academy.

- 4. Next Meeting.** Friday, March 5th, 9:00-10:00 a.m., La Paloma Family Services Meninger Center, 240 W. Navajo St.

Submitted by Settle Madden

Attendance

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|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Don Blascak | ICH | dblascak@comcast.net |
| Jacque Birkeihiser | La Paloma Family Services | jacque@lapalomakids.org |
| Sarah Castelhana | Youth On Their Own | scastelhana@yoto.org |
| Joe Haro | Our Family Services | jharo@ourfamilyservices.org |
| Crystal Hart | The Giving Tree Outreach | |
| Karla Murua | La Paloma Family Services | karla@lapalomakids.org |
| Lucia Ortiz | Tucson Preparatory School | lcortiz@yahoo.com |
| Brandon Rawls | Open Inn | brawls@openinn.org |
| Heidi Reynolds-Stenson | Youth On Their Own | hstenson@yoto.org |
| Kim Sisson | Stand Up For Kids | kim.sisson@comcast.net |
| Jane Song-Gin | Youth On Their Own | song-gin@yoto.org |
| Irene Timms | La Paloma Family Services | irene@lapalomakids.org |
| Donna Vanacore | The Giving Tree Outreach | 4kids@thegivingtreeoutreach.org |