



# PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Claire E. Scheuren, Executive Director  
Pima Prevention Partnership, 520-977-7786;  
cscheuren@thepartnership.us

## **PIMA PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP MERGER WITH COPE COMMUNITY SERVICES BRINGS FULLY INTEGRATED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS TO TUCSON YOUTH**

*Tucson*—Two successful and well-established Tucson nonprofits announced a merger today. The youth-serving 23-year old Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP) merged with the adult-serving 40-year old COPE Community Services (COPE). The merger of PPP and COPE will expand capacity for both organizations to ensure the availability of a full continuum of high-quality integrated human services across the life span.

Evidence-based children and adult services, including education, prevention, early intervention, treatment, and primary physical healthcare will soon be available to participants in both organizations.

According to Dr. Brenda Even, Chair of the COPE Board, “Up until now, our organizations have been branches of the same tree, both serving the community with broad-ranging services, COPE for adults, and PPP for adolescent youth. We both foster wellness and self-sufficiency. This is a very exciting opportunity for both organizations.”

The nationally award-winning PPP serves over 9,000 youth and their families each year with a myriad of adolescent and family services including three charter schools, teen pregnancy prevention, family strengthening, mentoring, workforce readiness, Pima County Teen Court, and Sin Puertas outpatient behavioral health treatment. The PPP has also distinguished itself as a provider of technical services conducting community needs assessments, program evaluation, grant writing, and building public health infrastructure systems for other nonprofits and governments, locally, statewide, nationally, and in the U.S. Pacific Jurisdictions.

COPE serves 10,000 adults each year and will provide a variety of services to add substantially to the spectrum of services for PPP youth and family participants, most immediately in the realm of behavioral and primary health care, health promotion and wellness.

“We have been talking about a merger for over two years, and now the time is right. We recognize the sustainable benefits of whole-person and whole-family support”, according to Tom Donovan, CEO of COPE Community Services. “One of the major benefits of merging the two agencies is the truly impressive capabilities that now come together,” Donovan continued.

According to Claire E. Scheuren, Executive Director of the Pima Prevention Partnership, “As a merged organization, we can do more, substantially more, to serve youth and families.”

A combined COPE and PPP board of directors will maintain control over the policies and strategic direction of the PPP and COPE.

PPP has \$12 million in annual revenue with 143 staff, and COPE Community Services has \$43 million in annual revenue with a staff of 450.