

# ALCA Members Provide Backyard Landscape for Florence Crittenton's Transition Home

Florence Crittenton's Transitional Living Program is comprised of girls ages 17½-21 with or without children who are determined to take their life from system dependence to independence. They learn, develop, grow and gather strength from each other on a daily basis. Previously, there was no place for these girls and their children to gather as a group. Each of their three transitional living properties are in close proximity to each other but there was no comfortable place to meet, have a meal together, talk, reflect or play.

When Bob Franchetto with Horizon and Judy Gausman, Executive Director of the Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association, first walked the stark large backyard of the young girls' transitional home, they immediately knew that this was a project fellow ALCA members would jump in to help. With the design work of Dennis Canedy, President of Sunset Landscaping & Designs and Bob Franchetto coordinating and overseeing the entire project, the backyard was transformed after 4 days and \$19,000 of donated materials and labor.

On December 9, 2008, the Transitional Living outdoor community living space or En Su Patio Trasero was officially dedicated. This space will now provide these families with a true sense of community. Approximately 23 girls and their children will utilize En Su Patio Trasero each year with dinners and meetings to be held weekly, as well as opportunities for solace and thought. En Su Patio Trasero will help to provide that outdoor family atmosphere and place of peace that was lacking throughout their young lives.

When asked about his participation, Gerry Pierick, of Ditch Witch of Arizona said: "Thank you for the opportunity to be involved with this project. I'd like to tell people that we're just good guys and we give without receiving but actually we seem to get back more than we give. In this case we walked away with feeling good about what we were a part of." Beth Gosnell, owner of All Season Wholesale Growers, added, "It was my pleasure to contribute. I love to be reminded that plants really can make a huge difference. Thank you for including me in that great project."

Florence Crittenton wishes to thank and express its heartfelt appreciation to the Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association and Dunkin' Donuts for their participation in this vital project. Without the generosity of time and spirit of the following individuals and companies, this project would not have been possible:

Judy Gausman, Executive Director, Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association; Dunkin' Donuts; Beth Gosnell - All Season Wholesale Growers; Ed Macias - The Groundskeeper; Gerry Pierick & Ricky Garcia - Ditch Witch of Arizona; Erik Lanini - Cutting Edge Curbing; Brian Sitarz - Pavestone; Dennis Canedy - Sunset Landscaping & Designs; Dwight Faures - Vista Professional Outdoor Lighting; Phoenix Precast Products; Cody Hill & Mike Alexander - Forever Lawn; Gordon Keith - Sun West True Value; Bob Franchetto - Horizon; Nate Gould - Hunter Industries; Dave & Katherine Kredit - Kredit Lawn Sprinkler & Outdoor Lighting and Tim Freiland - Quality Iron Designs.



Before



After

