SOLAR PANELS ON PRIMAVERA’S JIM AND VICKI CLICK TRAINING CENTER BUILD AGENCY SUSTAINABILITY, LEVERAGE RESOURCES

The Primavera Foundation’s premiere service site is now benefiting from harvested solar energy, thanks to two significant grant awards that have made it possible to install photovoltaic solar panels.

NeighborWorks® America and stimulus funds awarded through the Arizona Department of Commerce provided $140,000 in funding to support Primavera’s first wave of solar installation.

The 39.95kW system now sits atop Primavera’s Jim and Vicki Click Training Center, 151 W. 40th Street, and will provide the organization with a tremendous cost savings of $76,783 over the next 10 years. These cost savings are being reinvested into the programs and properties, maximizing community resources and Primavera’s ability to serve southern Arizona.

“Implementing ‘green’ strategies throughout the organization is very challenging, but we want to make sure that everything we do at Primavera is healthy and sustainable for our community and our planet for generations to come,” says Peggy Hutchison, Primavera’s Chief Executive Officer.

The installation of solar panels at this location is one of many projects Primavera is launching to conserve energy and to reduce organizational utilities.

Over the last three years, Primavera has undergone two green audits, which have both confirmed that Primavera employees are highly committed to “green” practices and to environmental responsibility.

Primavera staff has been implementing numerous “green” practices throughout the agency, including installing solar screens, relocating thermostats for optimum energy efficiency, reducing the number of light bulbs used in overly lit areas, installing energy efficient lighting, using compact fluorescent lights, reducing paper product usage, cleaning air ducts, recycling, reusing furniture, and perhaps of equal importance—educating and encouraging staff and residents to be more energy conscious.

Primavera’s leadership is creating a Green Mission Statement that integrates green components into the organization’s strategic and operational plans with measurable outcomes for all lines of business, including emergency services, transitional housing, workforce development, property and asset management, homeownership promotion, education, and preservation, neighborhood revitalization, and community engagement. Primavera’s dedication to “going green” reflects its commitment to building a more sustainable organization, and a more sustainable city, county and state.
NEW LOGO
PRIMAVERA SQUASH BLOSSOM GROWS WITH THE AGENCY

Many of you will notice a new look to the Primavera Squash Blossom. The squash blossom has been Primavera’s logo for a very long time—a fact that a squash blossom pre-dates the organization’s name. In 1984, Nancy Bissell, co-founder of Primavera Foundation, drew the very first squash blossom by hand. This ancient Zuni symbol, a reflection of the unique desert setting of Tucson, lent itself to the specific philosophy of Primavera. “From its early beginnings the blossom reflected what was important to Primavera,” Nancy explained. “The circle at the center represented a model of spiritual integration, made possible by the roots growing into the earth below (security, sustainability, safety), and resulting in the flowering of personality and individual worth.” It was after the squash blossom came into fruition that the name Primavera, Spanish for spring, became a perfect complement to the organization’s image.

After several years, the hand drawn version made its debut in the electronic world as graphic artists translated it into design file formats for use in Primavera’s messaging and marketing. Since then the blossom would be visually tweaked here and there as it moved through the types of formats used in design. Prompted in large part by a need to have the logo in newer and more usable file formats, Primavera undertook a process to update the logo.

The updated logo, a silhouette of the blossom on a field of turquoise, creates a bolder visual impact simply by adding color and greater degree of contrast, yet it stays faithful to important design elements from the original: circular, flowing shapes that represent the energies of re-growth; roots anchoring to a strong foundation; and the distinct squash blossom five-petaled flower that speaks to new life.

NEW WEBSITE
NEW WEBSITE REFLECTS GROWTH AND CHANGES AT PRIMAVERA

In 2010 the Primavera Foundation launched a redesign of its website. The new streamlined site provides easy-to-find information about programs, as well as video, success stories, and updates about the organization.

LIFE OF PRIMAVERA BOARD MEMBER RICK ECK REMEMBERED AND ENDOWMENT ANNOUNCED

It is with deep sadness that I share with you that our beloved board member, Rick Eck, passed away on Thursday, February 3rd, after a brave battle fighting mesothelioma.

Rick first joined the Primavera board in April, 1993. He was deeply devoted to Primavera’s mission and vision. His expertise in behavioral health and his passion for helping people with special needs were especially beneficial to us through the years. Rick was a fighter against systems that allow people to fall through the cracks and he always believed that we could create supportive, valuable programs and systems to bring about justice in our time. Rick was a tremendous asset and advocate for Primavera and was also tons of fun— a person truly in love with life. He had a special gift of being present in the moment and his example reminded us all and continues to remind us about how precious life is and how important it is to value every moment and every encounter with another human being. No matter how big the challenges or how unfair the injustice, Rick always had a ready smile and brought humor when people around him felt discouraged.

Rick was generous with his time and resources, and was the driving force behind the creation of a Board-advised endowment to ensure Primavera’s long term sustainability. When others laughed at the idea that Primavera could raise $1 million to start an endowment, Rick said, “Why not?” After $1 million was raised for the endowment, Rick said we would raise $5 million. In memory of Rick’s tremendous vision and contributions to Primavera, it gives me great pleasure to announce that the Board of Directors has named Primavera’s board-advised endowment “The Rick Eck Memorial Endowment”. Rick, we miss you! --Peggy Hutchison

“He was the perfect fit for Primavera and just a great person to be around.”

Gordon Packard, Primavera Co-Founder:

Rick’s passing is a great loss to Primavera, the community, and those of us whose lives were graced by his kindness, keen wit, intelligence, and good judgment. He was the perfect fit for Primavera and just a great person to be around. He helped Primavera from its infancy with wise advice for Nancy and me when the two of us were trying to build a supportive community of people with mental challenges at Pueblo Court, and he was an important support to me at Primavera Builders.

“A good friend of Primavera through our long journey.”

Nancy Bissell, Primavera Co-Founder:

I was so sad to hear about Rick. He was a rare person: passionate, indomitable, quick to see the comic side yet thoughtful and serious when the occasion demanded. And a good friend of Primavera through our long journey. I’ll miss him… and the endowment fund for him is a perfect living memorial.

If you are interested in contributing to the Richard Eck Memorial Endowment, please contact the development team at (520) 623-5111.
Partnerships

Primavera in the Community

HUNDREDS ATTEND TUCSON HOMELESS CONNECT EVENT

Tucson Homeless Connect is an annual one day, one stop, community outreach event created to put homeless individuals in touch with agencies that provide services for Tucson’s homeless population. This year’s event was held at Dunbar Auditorium on March 4th and provided services for 213 individuals. Primavera staff provided transportation for our participants, reserved beds at our Men’s Shelter, connected people to our transitional housing facilities, referred persons to our mail service at our downtown location, provided employment assistance through our Works program and helped with utility assistance.

NEIGHBORHOOD WORKS TOGETHER TO CLEAN UP

As part of NeighborWorks® Week, Primavera joined a partnership of volunteers to beautify the City of South Tucson through a city-wide cleanup of the streets and neighborhoods, along with a trash pickup by City Public Works of bulky unwanted items, such as yard waste, furniture and hazardous materials. Community cleanups are important for the health and well-being of communities and have been proven to improve social and economic aspects of neighborhoods. This cleanup provided an excellent opportunity for residents, elected officials, faith-based and community organizations interested in improving the City of South Tucson to collaborate and strengthen relationships with each other. Primavera’s participation in this event was part of our larger commitment to community engagement and neighborhood revitalization activities.

TUCSON HOMELESS MEMORIAL HELD AT POTTERS FIELD

Every year, local and national groups commemorate National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day to bring attention to the tragedy of homelessness and to remember those who paid the ultimate price for our nation’s failure to end homelessness. On December 17, 2010, the Primavera Foundation, local organizations, interested people and individuals experiencing homelessness participated in an interfaith remembrance service. Over 100 individuals took time to honor the 87 men and women in Pima County who died last year while experiencing poverty and homelessness, many without known family. The program featured music, speeches from elected officials and readings from acquaintances of those who perished.

In response to the January 8th shootings in Tucson, “Ben’s Bells” organized a kindness project in which 1,400 bells were hung throughout the community, in an effort to restore hope and connectedness in our city. Primavera employees enthusiastically volunteered to help hang the bells. Pictured above, some of the Primavera staff that participated in this community-wide event to promote healing and kindness.

STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT DROP-IN CENTER

Salpointe High School juniors volunteered in March to help maintain the grounds at Primavera’s drop-in center, Homeless Intervention and Prevention. This is the second year that Salpointe collaborated with us for their day of service and we look forward to their return.

JPMORGAN CHASE SUPPORTS PRIMAVERA WITH $100,000 CHECK

Cree Zischke, Vice President of Global Philanthropy for JPMorgan Chase for the Northwest and Intermountain Regions, presents Peggy Hutchison, Primavera’s Chief Executive Officer, with a $100,000 check in support of Primavera’s HomeOwnership and Neighborhood Revitalization Programs. Both of these programs have also received national recognition by NeighborWorks America® for their successful neighborhood stabilization efforts. Read the impressive case study at www.primavera.org “SUSTAINABILITY” / “Create Change”

Students Make a Difference

Board members Adrian Duarte (second from left, top photo), Adriano Cohen and Joel Gastelum (not shown) helped neighborhood families with the South Tucson cleanup project.

FLUX Gallery in Tucson held an evening of art on January 21st to benefit the Primavera Foundation. Over 50 people attended the event, including Primavera board members Leslie Cohen, Joseph Scott and Susan Tarrence. Thirty percent of the sales of artwork sold that evening was donated to Primavera, generating a gift of approximately $2000.

Ben’s Bells Rings Out for Healing

Primavera Foundation
Investing in Primavera

In 2011 Cox VP & Sales Manager for Southern Arizona Lisa Lovallo and Restaurateur Janos Wilder

together, this support will raise around $40,000 for Primavera.

For the third consecutive year, Cox Communications will be the title sponsor for the Primavera Summer fundraising dinner. They will also host a corporate buyout dinner at Janos restaurant. Together, this support will raise around $40,000 for Primavera.

CORPORATE BUYOUT DINNERS GIVE
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Raytheon hosted a corporate buyout dinner on September 18 with some of Tucson’s finest chefs to up with some of Tucson’s finest chefs to

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