

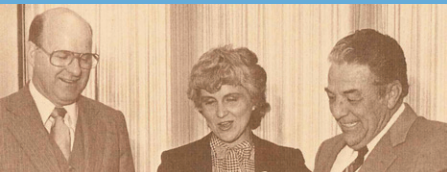
The History of Golden Gate Community Center

1983

From the article "Barrios Historicos," *Phoenix Magazine*, September 2009:

"What (the Golden Gate Barrio) did have was valuable property. From the 1960's to the '80's, the city snatched up patches of Golden Gate to make more room for Sky Harbor International Airport and rental car service expansion, forcing residents to relocate. All that's left is the broken Sacred Heart Church."

The **City of Phoenix** purchased Golden Gate property for \$294,000 as part of the Sky Harbor expansion project.



Board members David Thorley and Mary Ell Ruffner and Golden Gate Director Floyd Hughes, Jr.

Land is purchased and the groundbreaking is scheduled for the Spring of 1985. A major portion of the contracting, architecture and engineering fees are donated by **Chanen Construction Company, Inc.** and **Peter A Lendrum Associates.**

From an article in the *Arizona Republic*, June 14, 1984:

"Golden Gate board member **Ida Pena**, who lives within six blocks of the west side location, said she was not surprised by the decision to relocate Golden Gate Settlement to the west side. 'If they'd asked me, I could have saved them the price of the survey,' she said. 'I don't have to be told where the need is, I live in the middle of it. I've seen the young people hanging out on the streets because there's nothing to do, and know of old people who stay inside their homes because there's no place for them to go.'"

1986

Golden Gate celebrates the opening of it's current location with a ribbon cutting event.

The Golden Gate Latchkey program is established in the elementary schools of the Isaac School District, giving the youth "meaningful activities and supervision until their school day begins...and an afternoon of recreation and other fun activities up to 6 p.m. when the parents will pick them up."



The Golden Gate Headstart program is begun at Mitchell School in 1986, where "each child is a unique individual. Here at Golden Gate Headstart the environment will respect his developmental needs; meeting his physical, emotional, social, intellectual and creative needs."

Board minutes from October 25, 1988 indicate that the name of the corporation is changed on the Articles of Incorporation and ByLaws to be "Golden Gate Community Center."

1984

"Times Change But Human Needs Remain...Help Keep the Gate Open" Capital fundraising drive to raise \$1,700,000 to relocate the Golden Gate Settlement House to 39th Avenue and McDowell begins. The development committee includes **William P. Gresser, Dennis E. Mitchem, George P. Tyson, and Pat Tulley.**



Groundbreaking Ceremony, March 29, 1985

Golden Gate Settlement
Community Center
OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1986
2 TO 4 PM
3 PM RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY

1988

1970s-2000s: The Middle Years

2004

The boards of directors of Golden Gate Community Center and Arizona's Children Association approve the merger of the two organizations. The merger will allow Golden Gate to develop significant partnerships with organizations across the city and county, to bring unique and innovative programs to the center.



Grants from **Thunderbirds Charities**, the **Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority** and the **City of Phoenix** make substantial upgrades to the Center including new flooring, roof insulation and air-conditioning in the gym and fitness center and a gate and fence for the parking lot. In recognition of their generosity, the gym is named in honor of Thunderbirds Charities.

2005

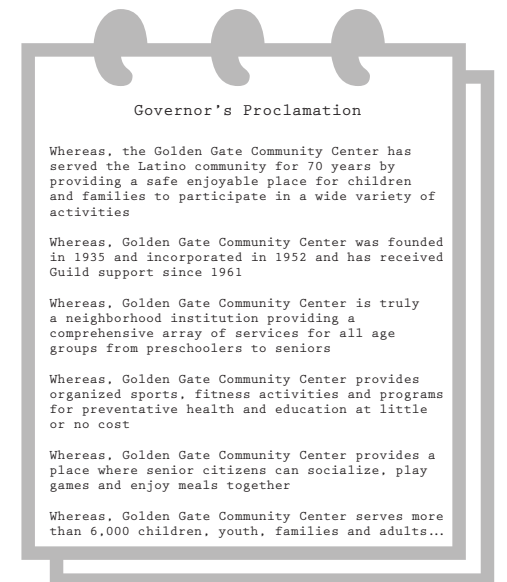
Congressman Ed Pastor, Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon and Councilman Tom Simplot host a Tardeada celebration of Golden Gate's 70 years of service to the community.

Governor Janet Napolitano proclaims the October 23, 2005 "Golden Gate Community Center Day," urging "...all the people of Phoenix to celebrate the Center's more than 70 years of service to the people of west Phoenix."



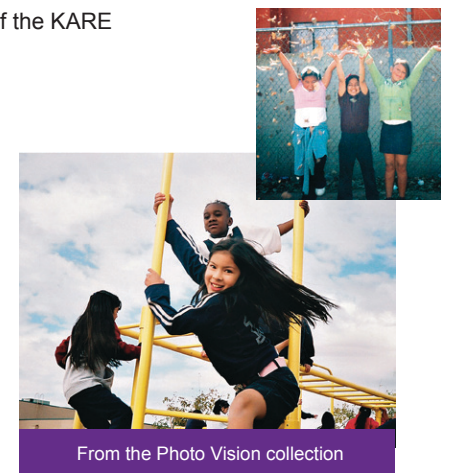
The Gatica family

Also in 2005, Golden Gate established the Kinship and Adoption Resource & Education (KARE) Family Center at Golden Gate Community Center to enable kin families to be stable placements for the grandchildren and relative children in their care. **Amy and Jose Gatica** have been members of the KARE support group since its inception.



2007

Ten children from Golden Gate Community Center take on the challenge of capturing the images of the community they live in. The resulting "Photo Vision" project is a traveling display of hundreds of photos around the themes that the youth see in their community: places to play, friends, family, violence and blight.



From the Photo Vision collection

Golden Gate Community Center

The mission of Golden Gate Community Center is 'to provide programs and services that improve the quality of life for children and families in west central Phoenix neighborhoods.'

Today, Golden Gate offers a myriad of programs and services to meet the needs of its neighborhood residents. "We work with our community residents, to determine the kinds of programs that are needed for our neighbors and go to work to make them happen," said Phyllis Habib, director of Golden Gate Center. "We are a place for people of all ages."



GGCC youth participating in mural painting project

Programs and Services

Golden Gate programs and services include:



Zumba class at GGCC

Improving community **fitness and health**. Although not a health clinic, Golden Gate Community Center is a trusted provider of preventive health care screenings and education programs that bridge the gap between the uninsured and access to quality health care for the community. GGCC's health program utilizes a community based approach through its **Promotoras de Bienestar** program in which Promotoras or 'lay health workers' are women hired from the community to engage with residents and empower them to meet their health care needs.

Golden Gate **health fairs** and **immunization fairs** attract thousands of local residents for immunizations, dental screenings, basic medical exams, hearing screenings, vision screenings, glucose and cholesterol tests, bone density testing, body fat testing, mammograms, fluoride varnish, lead testing, and blood pressure checks.

Eight **aerobics classes** are offered each week and free **Salsa Sabor y Salud** workshops focus on nutrition and physical activities.

Neighborhood health hubs are small neighborhood groups that work together on health initiatives they consider important.



Health Fair line for services



GGCC computer literacy classes

Educational programs for people of all ages including English as a Second Language, citizenship classes, financial literacy classes to help start families down the road to financial success and computer classes that teach students computer basics as well as how to use many popular programs.

Head Start is offered at Golden Gate Community Center and Cartwright School, giving pre-school children a 'head start' down the road to future school success with individualized learning experiences and preventive health care and early detection of health problems.

Today and the Future

Golden Gate comes alive every weekday when the Isaac district schools let out, serving youth from ages 7 – 17 in an **after school program** that offers recreation, homework help, arts and crafts and more. This year, 13 participants in the after school program accumulated the 26.2 miles they needed to complete the annual PF Chang's Rock & Roll marathon, one mile at a time, at Golden Gate. They finished up their marathon with a one mile run at Tempe Beach Park, where they received a Medal, lots of snacks, and a big goodie bag.



Youth working on homework at Golden Gate



Kids at the Rock & Roll Marathon



KARE volunteers prepare for an event

Family members raising grandchildren and other relatives find support at the **KARE Intergenerational Center**, which meets the unique challenges of caring for children born to others with a monthly support group, information and resource referrals, legal resources and more.



Seniors participating in games at GGCC

Each Tuesday **Senior** members of the community get together to play games, eat lunch and enjoy each other's company.

For more information about the programs and services at Golden Gate Community Center, visit www.goldengatecenter.org or call 602.233.0017. To donate, visit www.KeepHopeAlive.org/LPM.

Get Involved

The support of the Golden Gate Guild is a long-standing tradition at Golden Gate Community Center. The Guild was founded in 1961 by a group of dedicated community women who wanted to support the work of the Center and improve the lives of the children in the Golden Gate community. The women of the Guild continue today to raise funds to help support the ongoing programs of Golden Gate. The Guild also provides children and families in the Golden Gate community with clothing, hygiene products and holiday gifts, and hosts a Halloween and a Spring party for families at the Center.

The Guild continues to recruit interested, motivated women to join its ranks. Contact Becky Holton at 602.234.3733, ext.2302 or e-mail bholton@arizonaschildren.org to find out more.