

## **Press Release**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Seasons for Sharing grant supports kinship foster families**

**Phoenix, AZ** – The Arizona Republic recently awarded \$20,000 to Aid to Adoption of Special Kids (AASK) through their Season for Sharing grant. This grant provides support for families who open their homes to a child in foster care.

Of the thousands of children in foster care, many are placed with relatives such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings. These kinship foster families take immediate placement of children, but do not receive full state support until they are fully licensed which can take six months or longer to complete.

Receiving this grant makes it possible for AASK to provide support to families before they are fully licensed through a dedicated team that handles the unique needs of kinship foster families. Each family is assigned to a family specialist who helps guide the family through the process of dealing with the Arizona Department of Child Safety, courts, schools, and more. The family support specialists also help their families connect to free or low-cost child and family services.

Aid to Adoption of Special Kids (AASK), licensed by the Arizona Department of Child Safety since 1988, recruits, trains, and provides ongoing support to families that open their hearts and homes to children in the child welfare system.

AASK, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity, has helped facilitate thousands of adoptions and guided hundreds of kinship caregivers through the state licensing process.

