



News from Phoenix Children's PARENT ACTION COMMITTEE



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Parent Action Committee Online

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Rep. Kyrsten Sinema visits PCH



President Obama selected State Representative Kyrsten Sinema to be on his White House Task Force on Health Reform. She visited Phoenix Children's this month to learn more about the special issues we face as a children's hospital.

PCH stance on healthcare reform

Want to know where Phoenix Children's stands on the national healthcare reform debate?

[Read Bob Meyer's opinion piece in the Arizona](#)

Making a Difference for Arizona's Children

Issue 7 - July 2009

This month's update from the Parent Action Committee covers two very different topics, but they both remind us that when it comes to our children, we must stand up for them every single day.



We'll give you tips on how you can do that in the articles below, but another way you can help is to join the conversation with us on Facebook or Twitter (see sidebar at left). We post updates daily, covering the latest news, forwarding interesting articles, and sometimes just sharing the latest in caring for kids.

And finally, this newsletter was created just for you - so we want to make sure we're giving you the news you can use. Ideas? Suggestions? Success stories to share? E-mail us at pchpac@phoenixchildrens.com.

Thank you.

Arizona's budget debate: A new twist on "The Neverending Story"

Last month - thanks to your calls, e-mails, and conversations - Arizona lawmakers passed a state budget for 2010 that protected significant funding for Phoenix Children's Hospital. But if you've been following the news since then, you know that lawmakers are still trying to figure out how to pay for a big gap in that budget.

As our elected officials consider their next budget moves, they need to know that children's healthcare is a priority to you. Ask them to protect funding to Phoenix Children's and other safety net hospitals that serve our most vulnerable children.



Already, since 2007, the Legislature has forced Phoenix Children's to absorb more than \$18 million in funding cuts.

And although your work helped us defeat this year's original proposal that included \$20 million in cuts for Phoenix Children's, we

[Republic.](#)

[Watch an interview with Bob Meyer on Horizon.](#)

still ended up taking \$6.5 million in cuts through the 2009/2010 budgets.

Phoenix Children's has managed taking these cuts by cutting operational costs, eliminating our reliance on temporary staff, and even making adjustments to the timeline of our much-needed expansion.

But we have no way to know what the future holds as our lawmakers continuing debating how to fix the hole in our budget.

To protect children's healthcare in Arizona, we need your continued help. Please continue to express your concern to your legislators, and thank you for your help in this ongoing fight!

[Find your state legislators on the Arizona Legislature Web site.](#)

Wear a purple ribbon - because one drowning death is too many

Join the campaign to increase awareness of child drownings and water safety by wearing a purple ribbon.

For the sixth year in a row, the Water Watchers program, led by Phoenix Children's Hospital along with Arizona fire departments and local businesses, are recognizing August as Drowning Impact Awareness Month. We recently kicked off this awareness month with an event at Phoenix Children's Hospital.



Arizona ranks second in the nation for child drownings, and summer months bring increased incidents. So far this year, there have been eight fatalities in Maricopa County. It's a tragedy that knows no bounds and it is completely preventable.

What you can do:

- Wear purple awareness ribbons.
- Include water safety information in existing newsletters and marketing information.
- [Educate yourself on water safety.](#)
- Incorporate Drowning Impact Awareness into activities throughout August.
- Encourage water safety discussions.
- Spread the word about existing efforts for maximum attention and support.

If you'd like to get involved, you can [request and distribute purple ribbons](#) or volunteer for Water



Watchers at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Most importantly, practice water safety in your home. To learn more, [visit the Water Watchers Web site today.](#)

Thank you for all of your help as we work together to speak up every day for Arizona's children!

Sincerely,

Parent Action Committee
Phoenix Children's Hospital



Email Marketing by

