

# P.R.O. People, Resources, and Organizations in Support of Neighborhoods **Neighborhoods**

## Profile: Opening Doors, Sharing to Learn

### Retrato: Abriendo Puertas, Compartiendo para Aprender

by, por Maria del Carmen Arredondo, Maria del Carmen Coto, Edith Granillo, Maria de Jesús Monárrez, Luz Imelda Parra, Rita Romo  
 English Translation by, Traducido a inglés por PRO Neighborhoods

Abriendo Puertas received a grant from PRO Neighborhoods in December 1999 to create a bilingual book about their own experiences and those of successful people in the community surrounding the Rose Wellness Center near Irvington and S. 12th Ave.

*Abriendo Puertas recibió una beca de PRO Neighborhoods en Diciembre 1999 para hacer una publicacion que habla experiencias propias y de personas exitosas en la comunidad de Rose Centro de Recursos, acerca de Irvington y S. Avenida Doce.*



The Abriendo Puertas group had a photography workshop. This is a picture taken by Maria del Carmen Coto of a community landmark. *El Grupo de Abriendo Puertas tuvo un taller de fotografía. Esta foto es una que tomaron de lugares importantes en la comunidad.*

The Opening Doors group began when the Flex program at Wakefield ended. The women in the program wanted to continue working together to send a message to others in the community that they are not alone and they can succeed. We applied for a PRO Neighborhoods grant to create a book. The book will be a compilation of interviews of people who have succeeded despite many of life's obstacles.

By interviewing people, we learned from their experiences and personal stories the importance of our language, of bilingual education, and of our values and families. For most of the people we interviewed, the

beginning of their education was difficult. Their native language was Spanish. In the schools Spanish was not allowed to be spoken; if you did you were punished. (The interviewees' stories will be in the group's book.)

While working in a group, we have learned the importance of following through on what we initially proposed. It's very important for the group to stay together, to be responsible and communicate. **We are very pleased with what we have accomplished.**

Thanks to the people who have given us their confidence and support to help us move forward with this project. We hope to share our book with people, to inspire them to overcome barriers and work towards their personal goals.

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El grupo de Abriendo Puertas empezó cuando el Programa de Flex en Wakefield se cerró. Las madres pensaron en permanecer unidas, y llevar un mensaje a la comunidad. El mensaje era que no estábamos solas y podíamos salir adelante con nuestras metas. Solicitamos una beca a PRO Neighborhoods para crear un libro. Para el libro, el grupo ha entrevistado a personas que han salido adelante a pesar de haber tenido barreras.

Entrevistando a personas hemos aprendido mucho de sus experiencias y de su historia: la importancia de nuestro idioma, el programa bilingüe, nuestros valores y la familia. A la mayoría de las personas que entrevistamos les fue muy difícil al comienzo de su educación. Su idioma era español. En las escuelas no se

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\* PRONeighborhoods staff welcomes your stories, helpful comments, questions and requests for future newsletters. Call: 882-5885; e-mail: [prohoods@azstamet.com](mailto:prohoods@azstamet.com); write: 320 N. Commerce Park Loop, Tucson, AZ 85745. Hablamos Español. PRONeighborhoods is a partnership of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona, City of Tucson and Pima County. Please let us know if you have moved or have a new phone/fax number or email so we can update our mailing list.

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 les permitía hablar su idioma y si lo hacían se les castigaba. (Las historias completas de las personas entrevistadas se encontrara en el libro.)

Entre nosotras hemos aprendido a seguir adelante con lo que nos hemos propuesto para lograr nuestras metas. Es muy importante permanecer unidas y sobre todo tener responsabilidad y comunicación. **Estámos muy sastisfechos.**

Gracias a las personas que nos han dado la confianza y apoyo para seguir adelante con la meta que nos hemos propuesto. Nuestro objetivo es compartir nuestro libro para motivar a las personas a superarse y obtener el éxito deseado.



A group of participants in PRO Neighborhoods' Asset Mapping Workshop walk around the Amory Park Neighborhood.  
 Photo by Josh Schachter

## Upcoming Workshops Spring 2001

*Workshops are free, but registration is required. Please call PRO Neighborhoods at 882-5885. If you require reasonable accommodations, please call in advance. Please come half an hour before workshops to sign-in. Refreshments provided. Pima College credit available.*

**STRENGTH IN NUMBERS:**  
 How to get and keep people involved

Saturday, February 10th, 9am-1pm  
 320 N. Commerce Park Loop  
 Sentinel Building

**Running Effective Meetings:  
 Techniques for leading meetings that work!**

Presenter: Sally Reynolds  
**Thursday, March 29, 6-8pm.**  
 320 N. Commerce Park Loop,  
 Sentinel Building.

**Basic Grant Writing Workshop**

For first time grantwriters who are seeking grants for neighborhood or rural communities.  
**Sunday, March 4, from 1-5pm**  
 320 N. Commerce Park Loop, Sentinel Building  
 Presenters are Pat DeVito and Jennifer Allen of PRO Neighborhoods and Jean Lewis of Tucson Pima Public Library.

**Making Decisions and Moving On:  
 A workshop on consensus decision-making for grassroots groups.**

Presenter: Sally Reynolds  
**Monday, April 30, 6-8pm**  
 320 N. Commerce Park Loop,  
 Sentinel Building

**Fair Housing Law:  
 Group Homes and Accessibility for People with Disabilities**  
 Thursday, March 8th, 7-8 pm  
 Ward II Eastside City Hall, 7575 E. Speedway  
 presented by:  
 Arizona Center for Disability Law

**Places to Play**

Come learn how to make the most of parks, playgrounds, or vacant lots in your community on  
**Sunday, May 6, 1-4:30pm.**  
 Hope United Methodist Church,  
 6740 S. Santa Clara Ave.  
 Youth are encouraged to attend.  
 Child care provided if requested in advance.

# Arivaca Town Park is Born

by Katherine Andrews, age 14

My name is Katherine Andrews and I am President of the Arivaca 4-H group, The Amigos Project. We applied for a PRO Neighborhoods grant to receive \$2,000 for a town park, and PRO Neighborhoods was glad to give us the grant.

After we received the grant, we had a few meetings to discuss how we were going to go about putting together the town park. The first thing we did was buy the bench tables for the park and, with the help of many of the 4-Hers, we set two great benches up under some shade trees. Then the rest of the park was set up which included: a baseball diamond, volleyball net, tennis court, and horseshoes. All of these came with the play equipment.

After all of this was done, we had a grand opening. We invited all the townspeople and definitely everyone that was involved in the project. Some of the past 4-Hers who had been involved in the beginning that had moved away came. We had pizza, soda, and a great volleyball game in which all of the 4-H students and townspeople played.

Thanks to PRO Neighborhoods, the town of Arivaca now has a local park in town that the people in the town site can go to and have a great time playing volleyball, basketball, tennis, or just sitting on our benches under the shade trees.

*If you and your community have an interest in creating a park, come to the PRO Neighborhoods workshop "Places to Play" to learn how to make the most of parks, playgrounds or vacant lots (see page 2 for details).*



The 4-H Amigos Project members assemble the picnic tables for the Arivaca Town Park.

## Resource Library Update

The following resource packets are available upon request from the PRO Neighborhoods Resource Library:

- ◆ Community/School Gardens and Habitats
- ◆ Getting the Word Out: Media/Publicity
- ◆ Steps for Forming a Neighborhood Association
- ◆ Running Effective Meetings
- ◆ Traffic Control/Transportation
- ◆ Grant Proposal Writing

Typically included in the packets are local resources on the topic, contact lists, a reading on community development, and a success story.

## REMINDER!

Neighborhood Strength through Stories applications are due on February 12, 2001 or April 3, 2001. Please call us at 882-5885 if you need assistance.

## Lucky Pots and Unlucky Scavengers

by April Baison, Neighborhood Organizer

Recently some 65 members of a small neighborhood bordered on the south by Grant Road, the north by Glenn Street, the east by Campbell Avenue and the west by Mountain Avenue, gathered for a potluck meal, a scavenger hunt, and a tour of one resident's sculpture works in his house and yard.

An announcement was made about the formation of a formal neighborhood association for which a kick-off meeting was in the works, thanks to the office of City Councilman Jerry Anderson.

Next, a soccer game materialized in the street, and later the scavenger hunt began. Two teams went door to door asking residents if they had anything from a list of items of the natural world, such as volcanic rocks, bones and seashells. All in all, everyone at the afternoon's events enjoyed meeting new and sometimes old friends, and many placed their name and home location on a neighborhood map, to be added to at future gatherings.

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## .... Community Information Exchange ....

**Grants Collection Orientations** are frequently offered at Tucson Pima Public Library. For more information call 791-4393 or visit their website at [www.lib.ci.tucson.az.us/grants](http://www.lib.ci.tucson.az.us/grants).

**Major Gifts for Small Nonprofits**, presented by Tucson Pima Public Library and Andy Robinson 8:45-12, Feb. 3 at Lower Level Mtg. Rm., T/P Public Main Library, free. Contact 791-4393 to register.

**Funding for the Arts** offered by Southern AZ Grants Network on Feb. 7. Please call 791-5620 for details.

**Spring Permaculture Workshops:** *Desert Housing and Appropriate Building Techniques*, Feb. 10, \$125; *Gardening & Native Foods in Drylands*, March 10, \$100; *Plants & Animals in Sustainable Design*, March 31, \$60; *Sustainable Community Design & Resources*, April 21, \$60. Call 624-1623 for more information and to register.

**Media Relations** offered by U of A Extended University Wed., March 7-April 11, 6:30-8:30pm, \$129. Learn skills needed to obtain media coverage of your organization. UA University Services Bldg., Room TBA. Call 621-7724 to register.

**Meet the Professionals: Networking with Tucson's Professional Grantwriters** presented by Southern AZ Grants Network, May 9. Call 791-5620 for details.

**Contemporary Youth Issues**, for girls 13-18 yrs., the Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission Annual Conference on March 10, 2001. Please call 624-8318 for more information.

**LULAC Twelfth Annual Youth Leadership Conference** Pima Community College-West Campus, March 14-15, 2001 concluding with an Educators Banquet. Call 903-2838 for information.

**Spokes Folkes Bike Club** is looking for adults interested in working with bikes and youth. If you wish to volunteer or donate a bike, please contact David Kha at 323-8278, or [khasan@aol.com](mailto:khasan@aol.com)

**Mid-Town and St. Vincent De Paul Computer Clubs** offer MS Office and the internet classes. Contact David Kha for information at 323-8278, or [khasan@aol.com](mailto:khasan@aol.com)

**Tot Shots** is offering child immunizations at Centro del Sur in South Tucson, 1631 S. 10th Ave. Call 624-5181 for a schedule.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** of Tucson needs volunteer Spanish speaking mentors. Call Laura Villa at 624-2447.

**Our Town Family Center** is seeking volunteers who are interested in working with at-risk youth in the AMIGOS Mentor Program. Call 323-1708x153 for information.

**Tucson Playback Theatre** is a unique form of improvisational theatre. A story is told by the audience which is then acted out by the performers. The group is available to teach others. For more information, please call 887-6484 or 870-9856.

**Creating Neighborhood Newsletters** offered by the City of Tucson, Citizen & Neighborhood Services is the first workshop of the series and will be on Thursday, January 25th 2-5pm. Call 791-4605 for more information.

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