



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UMOM New Day Centers Among First to Receive Bezos Day 1 Families Fund Grant
Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos donate \$97.5 million to 24 nonprofits across the U.S. working on family homelessness

PHOENIX – November 20, 2018: Today, UMOM New Day Centers is excited to announce it has been selected to receive a \$5 million grant from the Day 1 Families Fund.

Tonight, more than 200 families in Maricopa County will live on the streets, sleep in their cars or spend the night in fear because of an unstable living situation, even if they've sought help. A lack of resources means these parents and children must wait an average of 11 weeks before a shelter unit becomes available.

The grant funding awarded to UMOM New Day Centers will significantly reduce the need for a wait list for family emergency shelter in the Phoenix community and will expedite the existing process for getting into shelter. In addition, funding from this grant will allow more families to quickly access housing, employment and community resources necessary for them to be self-sufficient.

"This is the United States, yet we have young children, right here in Phoenix, living in the worst situations imaginable," said UMOM CEO Darlene Newsom. "This gift means we can end homelessness for 100 additional families each year. It is our goal to zero-out that waiting list so not one more family suffers. UMOM cannot express our appreciation enough to the Day 1 Families Fund for this transformational gift that will change lives and truly allow more children and their families to sleep safe at night."

UMOM New Day Centers is one of 24 nonprofits to receive the first Day 1 Families Fund grants, totaling \$97.5 million. Recipients from around the country include: Abode Services, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami, Catholic Community Services of Western Washington, Community of Hope, Community Rebuilders, Crossroads Rhode Island, District Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH), Emerald Development & Economic Network (EDEN) Inc., FrontLine Service, Hamilton Families, Heartland Family Service, Housing Families First, JOIN, LA Family Housing (LAFH), Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS), Primo Center for Women and Children, Refugee Women's Alliance (ReWA), SEARCH Homeless Services, Simpson Housing Services, The Salvation Army of Greater Charlotte, The Salvation Army of Greater Houston, UMOM New Day Centers and Urban Resource Institute (URI).

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Founded by Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos, the Bezos Day One Fund consists of two programs: the Day 1 Families Fund that provides grants to nonprofit organizations fighting homelessness, and the Day 1 Academies Fund that will fund and build a network of pre-schools in low-income communities across the country. The Day 1 Families Fund's vision comes from the inspiring Mary's Place in Seattle: no child should sleep outside. A small group of expert advisors provided input to the Bezos Day One Fund team to select these organizations. The Day 1 Families Fund will be awarding grants annually. For more information, visit www.BezosDayOneFund.org/Day1FamiliesFund.

ABOUT UMOM NEW DAY CENTERS

UMOM New Day Centers is a nonprofit organization serving Maricopa County, Arizona, with a mission to prevent and end homelessness with innovative strategies and housing solutions that meet the unique needs of each family and individual. UMOM offers shelter and a wide range of supportive services to homeless families, unaccompanied youth and single women. Learn more at www.umom.org.

UMOM BY THE NUMBERS:

Established: 1964

Families served annually: 2,000 (2017)

Available family shelter units: 130

Available affordable housing units: 394

UMOM has the following performance targets for the families served through our emergency shelter program:

- *70% of families will exit to permanent housing*
- *70% of adults will exit with income at program exit.*
- *90% of adults will be connected to mainstream benefits in the community at program exit.*

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