

NEWS RELEASE

Date: January 26, 2016

Contact: Catherine Rea

Community Information and Referral Services (CIR)

Phone: 602-263.8845 CRea@CIR.org

2-1-1 Arizona Day Third Annual Telethon Announced for February 11 (2-11) 2016!

Phoenix, Arizona - Community Information and Referral Services (CIR), provider of statewide 2-1-1 Arizona services is pleased to announce it will be holding its third annual telethon fundraiser in honor of **2-1-1 Arizona Day on Thursday, February 11, 2016**. Through a statewide proclamation issued by Governor Doug Ducey, 2-1-1 Arizona has been recognized as "invaluable to the continued health and well-being of many Arizonans."

2-1-1 is the easy to remember three-digit dialing number designated in 2000 by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for easy access to information and referrals for health, community, government and human services. 2-1-1 Arizona was started in 2011 and benefits include:

- Easy access to vital community, health, and human service programs available in Arizona.
- Coordination of volunteer needs and opportunities.
- Demographic feedback on trends in needs, services, gaps, and poverty areas.
- Acts as a support system for emergency 9-1-1 operatives and disaster relief

With over 1.3 million service requests fulfilled last year, CEO Catherine Rea is taking this opportunity to go directly to the public to help fund 2-1-1 Arizona services. "We are holding our third Annual Telethon for 2-1-1 Arizona services and asking the community to simply dial 2-1-1 or go to our website at www.211Arizona.org to donate." Staff and volunteers will be accepting donations and pledges from 7 am to 6 pm **Thursday, February 11th, 2016**. Rea assures that there should be no disruption in 2-1-1 Arizona services.

Community Information and Referral Services (CIR) was founded in 1964 and incorporated in 1979 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and provides 2-1-1 human services information and referrals for the State of Arizona. CIR currently refers to over 37,000 services provided by participating agencies and community programs, and assisted Arizona residents with over 1.3 million service requests fulfilled in FY 2015. CIR programs include the 2-1-1 Arizona, Arizona Mortgage Foreclosure Hotline, and the Maricopa and Balance of State HMIS Projects. Donations to CIR are tax deductible.

###