

# Maggie's Place

## The Michael House

By Michele Anderson

Pregnancy is meant to be a joyous time in the life of the expectant mom, but sometimes life takes unexpected turns and the pregnant mom may find herself alone and struggling during one of the most crucial times in her life. For harrowing times like these, Maggie's Place—a Phoenix-based non-profit—is there to help expectant moms who may be alone or on the streets with their immediate and long-term needs. With three houses across the Valley, including the Michael House in Glendale, Maggie's Place has made a difference in the lives of more than 400 moms and babies over the past decade.

At the Michael House, like all of the Maggie's Place houses, moms are welcome to live and thrive there at any point of their pregnancy and can stay up until their baby is six months old. During their stay, they work on a variety of goals and are provided with basic needs—like shelter, food, childcare supplies, and more—and long-term needs, like educational and community resources.



And, thanks to the support of volunteers and organizations across the West Valley, the Michael House has been able to serve several moms and their babies since it opened its doors in 2007.

"We have such an extended family in the West Valley; from our immediate neighborhood to local businesses and families, we are so grateful for their support," says Maria Eichhold, director of the Michael House.

In 2010, Maggie's Place celebrated its 10th anniversary as an organization and hosted a variety of events, including a "Decade of Dreams" celebration and the annual A Race for Maggie's Place. Over the holidays, the Michael House hosted Thanksgiving for the entire Maggie's Place community.

For West Valley residents interested in volunteering, the Michael House welcomes volunteers from all walks of life. From data entry to tutoring to babysitting and home repair, there are countless ways to give back. And, each month the house hosts a "Work Saturday" where locals can come and help with chores and home repairs. The house also accepts donations and regularly posts a list of specific house needs on the Maggie's Place website.



The Michael House in Glendale  
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maggiesplace.org