

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 8, 2015
CONTACT: Kim Larson, 623-930-2989, Public Information Office

TWO CITY OF GLENDALE EVENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE COMMUNITY *National Make a Difference Day Celebrates the Giving Back to Community*

Glendale, Ariz. — Did you know that Saturday, Oct. 24 is Make a Difference Day? The city of Glendale is making a difference on this date with two separate events designed to encourage volunteers to give back to the community. Glendale employees will team up with other volunteers to refresh Glendale homes with new paint as part of the city's Rock & Roll Paint-A-Thon, while Free Arts for Abused Children is partnering with Glendale to involve disadvantaged youth in community art projects.

Scheduled from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., the Rock & Roll Paint-A-Thon helps maintain neighborhoods by painting homes of applicants who are ages 60 and older and/or have a permanent disability, limited financial resources, or are veterans who are unable to do the work themselves. Through an application process which matches volunteers with those in need of assistance, this annual community effort, in partnership with Rebuilding Together Valley of the Sun, makes a continuous positive impact on Glendale and engages more than 3,000 volunteers Valleywide through hands-on neighborhood revitalization. Volunteers from Vineyard Church North Phoenix will also be painting up to five homes two weeks earlier, on Oct. 10, as part of this effort.

In the last five years, teams of volunteers painted more than 560 homes, including homes in Glendale, during this one-day event. Michelle Yates, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, hopes to see similar results this year. "Glendale is invested in the well-being of our community," she said. "It is so humbling to see the volunteers that turn out each year to help us meet this demand of helping those in need within our city. It really is a rewarding experience!"

Help us make a difference by volunteering! All volunteers must be at least age 14 and volunteers younger than 18 must have signed parental permission slips. For more information, call 623-930-2663.

Make a Difference Day
Add 1.1.1

A different kind of painting takes center stage during the Make a Difference event hosted by Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona in Murphy Park, 58th & Glendale avenues, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. More than 150 homeless and abused children will join 50 volunteers to beautify the downtown area by creating a meaningful mural. In addition, four other small projects will benefit people in need. “Although the children Free Arts serves have experienced challenges of their own, they are always willing and excited to make a difference in someone else’s life,” says program director Jessica Flowers.

Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona, the city of Glendale, Families Giving Back, and the Fiesta Bowl are all sponsors of this event. Live music and a performance will be provided by Free Arts youth and professional artists. Lunch will be served to all who participate. Downtown businesses are encouraged to come out and share in the fun!

Parking is available in the Palmaire Parking Garage located at Palmaire and 58th Drive. For more information, call Mojgan Vahabzadeh at 623-930-3557 or email mvahabzadeh@glendaleaz.com. To learn more about Free Arts, visit www.freeartsaz.org.

Note to the media regarding Free Arts event: Due to the protected population served by this private event, photos of participating youth will not be allowed.

###

◆ *Home of Luke AFB:
Training Site of the F-35* ◆

◆ *Home of Arizona’s
Best Festivals®* ◆

◆ *Home of the NFL’s
2008 & 2015 Super Bowls* ◆