



A community-wide action plan: Move the line by 2020!

As leaders gather and service partnerships are being built, the Collaboration for a New Century believes Arizona has an historic opportunity to promote prosperity for all segments of our society, and in so doing, create a more livable community for us all.

The problem. Despite Arizona's economic strength, our state continues to hover around the bottom on several key quality of life indicators nationally. The United Way of America's State of Caring Index that tracks national

changes in health, safety, education, and economic well-being ranks Arizona 49th in its latest evaluation.

Notable problems.

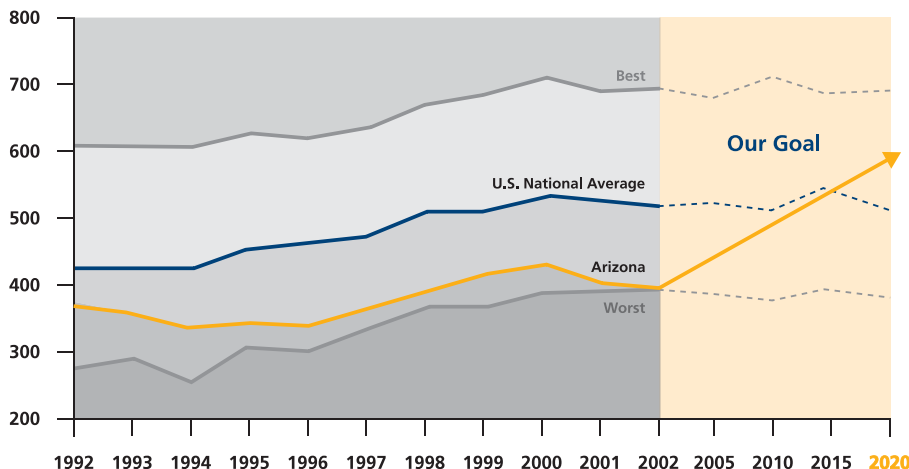
- Declining apartment affordability and homeownership
- Increasing numbers of high school dropouts, teens using drugs, crime and the medically uninsured
- Rising number of families with children headed by single parents

"CITY OF THE FUTURE" ACTION PLAN. Yet strategic alliances among business, government, philanthropic and faith leaders in recent years have produced a community-wide action plan capable of creating major changes in the lives of vulnerable families.

- 1 New cooperation.** Previously the Valley has pinned its hopes on economic progress, government programs, or faith movements, but one sector cannot do it alone. Our needs are too vast for any one individual or institution, yet solvable through the work and prayers of all of us.
- 2 New approaches.** For years we've approached social needs "globally," investing millions in top-down governmental solutions. But increasingly we're rediscovering our community's "natural immune system" – neighbors helping neighbors.
- 3 New alignment.** Partnering with the Valley of the Sun United Way, the Collaboration has selected "champion" Blue Ribbon programs that have proven their effectiveness in six key social service areas (see p. 5).
- 4 New leaders.** One way we can increase our community's capacity to help the less fortunate is to support those who do. This will require a new generation of leadership dedicated to rallying the community to get engaged. Responding to this need, the Collaboration has launched the AZ LeaderForce Initiative described on the next page.

The goal: by 2020. The Collaboration's goal is to raise Arizona's ranking on the United Way's State of Caring Index to above the national average by the Year 2020.

The State of Caring Index*



*Based on a United Way evaluation of states using 36 "State of Caring" indicators on a 1,000-point scale.



OUR VISION – "THE CITY OF THE FUTURE – PROSPERITY FOR ALL"

"Business, faith, philanthropy and government working together to ensure that individuals and families in vulnerable communities have a quality of life beyond mere existence."

OUR MISSION – "ENGAGING LEADERS, CREATING PROSPERITY"

"The Collaboration facilitates partnerships and cultivates leadership for the purpose of pursuing God's best for vulnerable people - moving the Valley of the Sun forward toward becoming the 'City of the Future.'"