



Dr. Lattie F. Coor
Chairman and CEO



Dr. Sybil Francis
Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beat the Odds School Partners Networking and training sessions.

January 23:	Yuma BTO Partners Meeting
February 1:	Phoenix BTO Partners Meeting
February 8:	Tucson BTO Partners Meeting
February 21:	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Meeting

■ The center's Beat the Odds initiative is featured in *Great by Choice*, the recently released *New York Times* bestselling business book by Jim Collins and Morten T. Hansen. The book is a follow-up to Collins' worldwide bestseller *Good to Great*. BTO is a mentoring and training program for principals of schools with low-income student populations. It uses Collins' research methodology to help principals attain demonstrated consistent growth in student academic achievement.

■ Five projects representing communities from across Arizona have been selected by a national panel as the winners of the inaugural Five Communities Project sponsored by the Center for the Future of Arizona. The five projects will jointly apply with the center for \$1.5 million in funding (\$100,000/year over a three-year period or \$300,000 per project) from national organizations to implement their proposals. The winners are:

- **The Arizona Wine Growers Association**, representing Arizona's emerging wine industry in Cochise, Santa Cruz and Yavapai counties.
- **Desert Botanical Garden and the Conservation Alliance**, a collaborative partnership to restore and preserve the mountain park preserves of Greater Phoenix, the largest set of wildland preserves of any major metropolitan region.
- **Gangplank**, a Chandler incubator that wants to expand its impact by moving into new communities and developing programs for future innovators in high schools and community colleges.
- **The International Sonoran Desert Alliance**, whose goal is to transform the community of Ajo from its historic reliance on mining into a place that offers diverse employment, good health and a town center vibrant with civic life.
- **YWCA Tucson**, whose proposal focuses on increasing civic involvement in the community by empowering Spanish-speaking, immigrant women to assume powerful roles as informed, actively involved citizens in educational and government affairs.

More information about the Five Communities Project and the winners can be found at www.TheArizonaWeWant.org.