



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Valley Partnership's 2014 Community Project Earns Prestigious Honor

Arizona Foundation for the Handicapped project wins Arizona Forward Crescordia Award for Site Development Private Sector at 35th annual community event

Phoenix, Ariz. – Sept. 14, 2015 – Valley Partnership's 2014 Community Project won a prestigious Crescordia Award Saturday evening at the 35th annual Arizona Forward Environmental Excellence Awards.

Arizona Foundation for the Handicapped (AFH), last year's community project recipient, was honored in the Site Development Private Sector category at the Arizona Forward event at Chateau Luxe in Phoenix.

"We are so thrilled that Valley Partnership won the Crescordia Award," said Robyn Ratcliff, center director at AFH. "We have watched this amazing project come to life through the collaboration of many talented people who donated so much. This award is the perfect way to celebrate all that Valley Partnership does to support the community."

Work at AFH included a built-in grill, seating for outside dining, the re-purposing of a sports court, exterior musical instruments, and a sensory garden. Valley Partnership's member companies and their employees collaborated to add amenities and upgrade the exterior AFH's clients, friends and families.

"The annual community project is at the heart of Valley Partnership's legacy along with advocacy and networking for our members," said Cheryl Lombard, President the CEO of Valley Partnership. "This award recognizes the commitment to community by having hundreds of our members give their time and money to a charitable cause around the Valley every year. I thank Arizona Forward for recognizing our work, and I especially thank Arizona Foundation for the Handicapped for letting us contribute to the meaningful impact it has on our community."

Valley Partnership was represented at the awards show by committee members Dena Jones of Fidelity National Title and Heather Markham of Markham Contracting, the 2014 co-chairs;

Katie Reiner of Pacific Aquascape; Kaylynn Primerano of Norris Design; and Peter Madrid of Cushman & Wakefield.

AFH is a human services organization whose primary mission is to provide quality, individualized services to those with physical or intellectual challenges in the least restrictive environment. It offers programs for adults with physical or intellectual challenges such as Downs syndrome, autism or severe epilepsy.

Arizona Forward is an advocate for a balance between economic development and environmental quality. The non-profit and brings together business, community and civic leaders for thoughtful public dialogue on critical sustainability issues. Considered the “Academy Awards” of the Arizona environmental community, the event is the state’s oldest and most prominent competition of its kind.

The annual event spotlights distinguished projects throughout Arizona that demonstrate a high level of environmental commitment and contribute to the state's overall sustainability. The Crescordia Award (a Greek term that means “To Grow in Harmony”) sets the standard for the exceptional physical, technical and social development of Arizona.

About Valley Partnership

Valley Partnership is the Valley of the Sun's premier advocacy group for responsible development. For more than 25 years, Valley Partnership has represented the commercial, industrial and master-planned community industries and presented a balanced, pro-development perspective. Valley Partnership provides the best education and networking opportunities for commercial real estate professionals.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

Az Forward 1 – The site plan and images of the 2014 Valley Partnership Community Project displayed at the Arizona Forward Environmental Excellence Awards Saturday night.

Az Forward 2 – On hand Saturday night were (l to r) Robyn Ratcliff, center director for AFH and 2014 Valley Partnership Community Project committee members Heather Markham, Dena Jones, Kaylynn Primerano, Peter Madrid and Katie Reiner.