

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Citizen Review Panel Program is to assess the Child Protective Services system and make recommendations for continuous improvements that will help ensure the safety and well being of Arizona children and families.



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For more information about the  
**Arizona Citizen  
Review Panel Program**

visit  
[www.cabhp.asu.edu](http://www.cabhp.asu.edu)

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ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

# ARIZONA CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL PROGRAM



**CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!**

This is your invitation to become  
an advocate for the protection  
and welfare of children and  
families.

**Learn how to get involved.**

Are you interested in promoting positive change in the lives of abused and neglected children in your community and in Arizona?

Would you like to participate on a volunteer panel that addresses important issues related to Child Protective Services (CPS) and that develops recommendations for improvement?

Can you devote two hours for preliminary training and approximately three hours once every three months to participate in Citizen Review Panel meetings?



**“The promise of citizen review panels is realized when vulnerable children are better protected as a result of new perspectives on old problems.”**

— Panel Member

**BACKGROUND:** The Arizona Citizen Review Panel Program began in 1999 in response to a 1996 amendment to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) that required states to establish Citizen Review Panels. The three regional panels are located in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff.

**OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of the Citizen Review Panels are to review Child Protective Services state policies, current practices, pertinent data, and case file information on CPS-involved children and families. The panels evaluate the extent to which Child Protective Services is fulfilling its child protection responsibilities, including coordination with foster care and adoption programs. The panels make recommendations to Child Protective Services for system changes and improvements and submit annual reports of activities and goals.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Panels are comprised of 12 to 15 volunteers of diverse backgrounds and experience. Members may include private citizens or professionals such as: educators; child advocates; attorneys; law enforcement professionals; health care, mental health and social service providers; adoptive and foster care parents; and foster care alumni.



## DESIRED QUALITIES:

- Compassion for children and families
- Ability to work, listen and cooperate with other team members
- Ability to think independently and impartially
- Sensitivity to ethnic, cultural, economic diversity and mental and physical disabilities
- A high standard of confidentiality
- Ability to participate in quarterly panel meetings
- Willingness to make a commitment of two years