



Bella's Place

Longtime Tusayan resident Sue Winchester has a dream. She envisions a home where foster kids can just be kids and can enjoy the bliss of childhood. Where they can be set

apart from the worries of adults and decisions beyond their control.

Winchester has named the home "Bella's Place," and in order to make it a reality she needs help. Winchester has already purchased three acres of land on the north side of Highway 180 in Valle. What she needs now is help with construction costs to build the home.

The home is named after Winchester's granddaughter, who was kidnapped and murdered in September 2014.

"When this happened I decided I had to turn this negative thing into something that would be worthwhile in a positive way, because that's how I am," Winchester said.

In January, Winchester, Bella's grandmother, adopted Bella's sister Kaylee Nevaeha.

Winchester didn't stop there. After Bella's murder, she took Kaylee home with her. She already had custody of Bella's other half-sister Alexis. When Winchester adopted Kaylee in January, she also adopted Kaylee's baby brother, 8-month-old Gunner Cole. Gunner was born in prison after his mother was arrested on drug charges shortly after Bella's death.

Winchester took him home when he was 36 hours old. Winchester also has custody of 15-year-old Jessica, the daughter of one of Winchester's adopted daughters who passed away, and 7-year-old twin boys Logan and Jacob - the sons of her adopted son. The twins came into Winchester's home a week after baby Gunner came home from the hospital.

"I am 62 years old with six kids," Winchester said. "We've really outgrown the place we live, which really encourages me even more to get a home built."

Winchester wants to give all of her children a home and wants to open the home to other foster children. She plans to use the home as a short-term respite for foster children throughout northern Arizona.

Grand Canyon Rotary Club is seeking contributions for the 2018-2019 District Grant to assist Bella's Place as the family is quickly outgrowing their home, we would like to raise money to provide them with quality bunk beds and bedding, that they can use now and move later when the new house is built. We have already created a district grant proposal on the Matching Grants website. Please help us raise money by making a contribution pledge there! Thank Y

Bella's Place is a 501c3 non-profit.



Grand Canyon
Rotary Club

To make a contribution, please visit the link below at t
Rotary Matching Grants page:

<http://www.matchinggrants.org/district/project1885.h>