



“Managing the stewardship of charitable giving is a moment-to-moment dignified responsibility.”

VIRGINIA G. PIPER

#PiperTrustMoments

Celebrating 20 Years of Moments

OCTOBER 20, 2019

#PiperTrustMoments, 6th Edition

Virginia Piper cared deeply about the health and well-being of children. She saw how supportive environments and services that strengthened families could positively affect a child's healthy development. While Virginia graciously served on boards of child-focused nonprofits, she was most interested in the practical good her financial support was doing for children.

In light of October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we want to call attention to the important work of [Chrysalis](#), an emergency shelter focused on prevention of abuse that provides comprehensive programs for children and families. Chrysalis helps strengthen families so they can end negative patterns and create positive environments for children to thrive.

I encourage you to learn more about Chrysalis and its CEO Patricia Klahr, a Piper Fellow and reflective leader dedicated to helping break the cycle of abuse so that more people—particularly children—discover confidence, resilience, and hope.



Patricia Klahr shares a candid moment reading to a child—in all of Chrysalis's services, she never loses sight of the children's needs.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "MJ".

Mary Jane Rynd
President and CEO

GRANTMAKING SPOTLIGHT

PATRICIA KLAHR OF CHRYSALIS

Since opening its doors more than 38 years ago, [Chrysalis](#) has helped survivors of domestic abuse get the help they need. “Whether it is victims, family members, children who have witnessed abuse, or offenders, we are there, leading our community to broad-based solutions to prevent domestic violence,” said Patricia Klahr, president and CEO of the organization.

Over the years, Piper Trust has helped Chrysalis achieve this mission. In 2007, the Trust supported a capital campaign to build a Family Outreach Center that serves families at risk of domestic violence. The original plan was



Patricia Klahr (right) with teammates from around the world at Disney's Approach to Business Excellence training, 2014.

(continued)

to build a new building, but Chrysalis took advantage of the favorable real estate market and purchased an existing property instead. “We were really lucky because we were able to get the perfect building for us,” Klahr said. As a result, Chrysalis was able to add services for male victims and substantially increase the average length of stay for domestic violence survivors.

A 2013 Piper Fellow, Klahr passionately describes this experience as transformational for both Chrysalis and herself. The [Piper Fellowship](#) allowed her to step away from the organization she had worked with for more than two decades. She attended programs at the Kellogg School, the Disney Institute, and the Lilly School of Philanthropy, and participated in national conferences with members of the Chrysalis staff. “It was an amazing opportunity and I took it incredibly seriously,” she said. “It gave me a completely different perspective.”

In 2017, a Piper Fellows Organizational Enhancement Award led Chrysalis to become a certified Trauma-Informed Organization. “It was one of the biggest things that I’ve seen in the world of Chrysalis, because we became the first domestic violence organization in the country to be certified by Trauma Institute International,” Klahr said.

In order to achieve certification, Chrysalis staff went through comprehensive training to understand the role violence and trauma play in the lives of people seeking

their services. This led the organization to evolve policies and practices, and make improvements to facilities such as incorporating colors, sounds, and textures that are soothing for clients.

“We are now looking at people, things, and situations very differently,” Klahr said, “from changing our job descriptions to changing how we communicate with one another.”

“We don’t have to be bigger, we just have to be really good at what we’re already good at.”

–Patricia Klahr

Klahr is grateful for the role Piper Trust has played in Chrysalis’s metamorphosis—from the building they are in, to the understanding of their clients, to her own personal transformation. “Piper Trust is near and dear to my heart because the opportunities that the Trust gave me opened me and Chrysalis up to even more opportunity. We don’t have to be bigger, we just have to be really good at what we’re already good at,” she said.



View Patricia Klahr Video

View video: pipertrust.org/pipertrustmoments

A SPECIAL VIRGINIA PIPER MOMENT



Virginia Piper, Carol Critchfield, and Gladys Leach at a construction site at the Virginia G. Piper branch of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale, 1991.

Virginia had great foresight and strong interest in the care of children and families. She was aware of changing demographics in Maricopa County and asked potential grantees how program offerings would respond to demographic shifts. Virginia’s philosophy continues to guide Piper Trust’s work today as staff often reflects on and asks, “What would Virginia do?” and “What would Virginia be proud of?”

**THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF
MOMENTS IN GIVING**

SHARE YOURS

#PiperTrustMoments

ABOUT

Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust supports organizations that enrich health, well-being, and opportunity for the people of Maricopa County, Arizona.

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