

## **11 examples of our unique service to the community via police officer requests**

1. The School Resource Officer at North High School learned of a mother's plight with cancer. She's single and has no health insurance. The mother of 3 went into the SRO's office crying, not knowing how she would pay for her medication. The SRO placed a request and Angels on Patrol paid for 3 months of her life saving medication.
2. A mother of a 2 and 3-year-old, has a long history of domestic violence by her husband. He recently uprooted her and the children from her family in CA. He continued to assault her physically and verbally in AZ. Avondale police were called out in the early morning to find her beaten. Husband is currently at large, so she is not safe to stay in the home. AoP immediately purchased tickets for her and children to return to CA where her mother will provide for them until she is able to get back on her feet. The mother had no money and would have had to turn to a DV shelter for safety. But this would have caused more emotional trauma for herself and her children. AoP tries to limit the trauma and stabilize a family as soon as possible. This example is important to share, as no other nonprofit would have done this for the family.
3. A School Resource Officer formed a bond with a 12 year old girl in a wheelchair. The young lady and her family were involved in a car crash that left her paralyzed from the waist down when she was 6. The family was unable to provide her with physical therapy that may have offered her the opportunity to walk again. One day, the officer noticed that she was too big for her wheelchair and when asked, was told it was the same one she was discharged from the hospital with. That officer placed a request to Angels on Patrol, and in partnership with another organization, we provided her a brand new custom wheelchair! It was even in her favorite color of pink. Another service provided was the yearly supply of catheters. We learned that her mother was reusing the daily catheters by boiling them as they could not afford to purchase new ones.
4. Police were called out on a trespassing call to a motel. Upon arrival, police found a family of 7. A pregnant mom, dad and 5 young children. The officers learned that the father lost his job 2 months ago, got evicted and today ran out of money so couldn't continue to pay for the motel. He has been actively looking for work to no avail. Angels on Patrol placed the family in a motel and helped connect them to the Family Housing HUB to get on the shelter list. We paid for the motel cost until they were placed in a shelter. Within 2 days of placement, the mother who was 5 months pregnant found a job at a fast food restaurant! The family had recently made the difficult decision of placing their unborn baby up for adoption and were considering giving the other children up as well. They hit rock bottom and couldn't find a solution. Thankfully both parents found work and they successfully transitioned into an apartment. And most importantly, the family stayed together!!
5. In 2017, a young family of 5 fled FL during the aftermath of hurricane Irma. They got into their car and drove west, not knowing where they will be each day. They felt could not return to FL as their neighborhood was flooded, their home had no electricity, all their family members were in shelters, they couldn't get into one as all shelters were full. The family did not know when things would go back to "normal" so they left their home. Avondale Police came upon the family while they were found sleeping in their car in a parking lot. AoP assisted family by paying a week and a half in a motel until their final paycheck arrived. We assisted with their job search and the husband found a job within 3 days of AoP's assistance!
6. Officers were patrolling an at-risk trailer park community when they came across a young couple with their baby sitting outside the trailer home at 10:30 pm. When approached, the couple informed they were outside because it was cooler than inside the trailer. Their cooler broke a few days prior and they did not have the means to fix it. AoP housed them in a motel so the baby could cool down and rest; assisted with resources to get their cooler fixed; and provided employment resources for the father.

7. Young mother, age 17, fled an abusive relationship in the middle of the night with her 3-year-old and newborn baby. She lived a life of abuse at the hands of her father and now from her boyfriend. This was normal and part of her family culture. She was told by the females in her family to “be tough”, “you’re weak if you can’t take the hits” “maybe you shouldn’t get him mad, you need to keep him happy”. She decided she’d had enough and the fact that the boyfriend began abusing the 3 year old also led to her coming to the realization that this was not the life she was going to provide for her children. She found an opportunity to leave when her boyfriend went out for the night with his friends. She fled the apartment in the middle of the night with NO plan and only a diaper bag. She was found crying and a good Samaritan called the Glendale Police. AoP provided shelter, clothing, food, hygiene items for a week, and most importantly encouragement and emotional support. It took a week for an opening at a domestic violence shelter to become available. All the local ones remained at capacity, so AoP arranged for her transportation to a domestic violence shelter in Southern AZ. Thankfully this young lady and her children were found and a police officer placed a request into Angels on Patrol. If not, she may well have returned to her life of abuse or ended up living on the dangerous streets.

8. A police detective has worked with a young mother of three for many months who was being sex trafficked by her boyfriend. The detective got involved as the young mother had been arrested for prostitution. The officer knew the young mother wanted out but the young mother didn’t know how to gain her freedom. The detective placed a request into AoP and we assisted by placing her in a motel, provided food, clothing, and hygiene items while we worked on finding a shelter. All local shelters were at capacity, but we found one in Northern AZ. Angels on Patrol paid for their transportation to get to the shelter. Another great thing that came out of this is her teenage son found respect for police officers. She stated that he “hated cops” but now he wants to be one!!

9. A couple in their early twenties, with three small children were pulled over due to vehicle not having a hood, front or side bumpers, damaged windshield, and unrestrained children. The couple explained that their vehicle was previously stolen, and just recovered by Phoenix Police. They can’t afford to fix the vehicle, need it to drive to work, live pay check to paycheck and they did have car seats but those were not in car when police found vehicle. The police officer could have given the family a ticket as the car was not safe to drive and the children were unrestrained. Instead the officer called Angels on Patrol. AoP bought the family two car seats and paid for the parts they needed to make the car drivable. This small act by the officer avoided the family from losing their job and avoided an eviction. The stolen car cost one parent their job as they couldn’t make it to work due to lack of transportation which also caused the family to get behind on rent. Thankfully, the car was recovered in time to avoid the 2<sup>nd</sup> job loss.

10. Grocery store called police as a 20-year-old was caught shoplifting food, while holding her 6-month-old baby. She told the officer that her boyfriend left her and took all their money, so she was unable to feed her 3 young children. The officer called Angels on Patrol and we provided a week’s worth of food and a list of community resources to nearby food banks, as well as information to apply for food assistance through DES.

11. A police officer was working at a methadone clinic when he saw an elderly woman with a baby attached to her walker! He approached her and asked if she needed help. She informed him that the baby is her great niece and she took the baby in as both parents are on drugs, and the baby was born addicted. The police officer placed a request into Angels on Patrol as she had no baby items. AoP bought a stroller, formula, clothing and other miscellaneous items, along with connecting her with DES so she could apply for baby formula and food assistance. The great aunt is disabled and was just getting by on her social security income but said she could not let the baby go into the system.

**Angels on Patrol has hundreds of beautiful stories like the ones mentioned and wish we could share them all!**