



## **Ace Hardware Donates 100 Bikes for Phoenix Children's Hospital Obesity Prevention Program**

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PHOENIX, Ariz. – On Thursday, Feb. 28th, thirty Ace Hardware employees grabbed their toolbox and headed to the Phoenix Children's Hospital Playground to assemble 100 kids bikes. The bikes were collected at Christmas time from store owners, generous employees, and customers. In just 3 hours, twenty volunteers assembled over 100 kid's bikes, piece by piece. "This large donation to Kids Rock Stars adds a new dimension to the program," says Susan Bookspan, Community Relations Representative at the hospital. Kids Rock Stars (KRS) is a year round program that is a fun, safe way for elementary students to include exercise into their daily activities. Phoenix Children's Hospital reaches out to children in the community to combat childhood obesity through Kids Rock Stars. The program motivates children to make healthy choices through physical activity and eating nutritional meals. Kids Rock Stars specifically reaches out to Title 1 schools where 95% of the students are from under served Hispanic families. The newly assembled bikes will be donated to four different schools as PE classroom sets for grades K-2. Kids will have the opportunity to use the bikes during their PE class for various bike related activities and exercises. "Giving schools these bikes will also give teachers the opportunity to teach bike safety education," says Bookspan. All bike donations partnered Phoenix Children's include a helmet and bike safety education. Bookspan admits, "The majority of students do not have bikes at home, many of them will learn how to ride a bike during PE at school for the first time." Low income elementary schools receiving the bikes include Excelencia, Machan, Squaw Peak, and Creighton. About Phoenix Children's Hospital Phoenix Children's Hospital is Arizona's leader in pediatric care and is one of the 10 largest free-standing children's hospitals in the nation. The most comprehensive array of pediatric specialists in the State practice at this one organization. The outstanding clinical expertise, as well as high patient volume, and an unwavering commitment to caring only for children, all contribute to Phoenix Children's leadership position. For information about Phoenix Children's, visit the Hospital's website at [www.phoenixchildrens.com](http://www.phoenixchildrens.com).