

# Maricopa Village Christian School (MVCS)

## A Mission In Our Backyard

By Al Chatman

**M**aricopa Village SDA Church strongly believes the history and culture of the Pima-Maricopa people should be preserved, celebrated and enriched. They promote this through a well-rounded Christian education for the children of the Pima-Maricopa natives. This would

ultimately lead them and their families to a more prosperous life and a deeper, more meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.

With this mission in mind, the Maricopa SDA Church was built on a 10-acre property in the Gila River Indian Community in Laveen, Arizona (Southwest Phoenix) in the early 1930s. The mission school began in 1943, and has experienced many challenges, closings and openings over seven decades. Today, MVCS is open, fully accredited and serving K-8 Native American students.

Despite its idyllic setting in the shadows of the Estrella Mountains and seclusion from the surrounding metropolis, this community is ravaged by society's most menacing ills. MVCS provides a haven where young, vulnerable, and impressionable children can experience education the way it should be—free from guns, violence, drugs, profanity, graffiti, bullying and stereotypical labels. It provides its students a safe, stable, caring, and nurturing environment in an atmosphere of excellence. MVCS serves as an incubator for students' dreams and a connection to God who is able to make them come true.



As the students matriculate, cultural and biblical instruction are woven seamlessly into their daily activities. Inclusion of the families in the many school field trips gives the students and families exposure to a world they know little about. The interaction builds relationships, strengthens families and the community.

While MVCS has an enduring and compelling history, its mission is ongoing and far from complete. Given the daunting and overwhelming challenges of poverty, apathy, diseases, disparities and lack of progress, resources, knowledge, the Gospel and hope, many think the mission is futile and impossible. At MVCS, we believe what Jesus said in Matthew 19:26, "*With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.*"

Our aim is for MVCS to thrive, prosper and fulfill its mission until Jesus returns. Knowing faith without works

is dead, MVCS has developed a long-term strategy for sustainability. We need your compassion, conviction, prayers, time, talent and treasure to fulfill this mission. Come, join, and support us on this mission to this unique school and God's unique people in our own backyard.

### MVCS Provides

- accredited K-8 grade instruction
- safe healthy environment
- 100% subsidized tuition
- biblical & native culture instruction
- transportation & meals
- high academic and behavioral standards
- active learning - physical, mental, spiritual

### Your Donations Help

- \$10** Feed one child daily
- \$50** Feed one child weekly
- \$100** Transport students weekly
- \$250** Power campus one month
- \$500** Sponsor one child one month
- \$1,000** Sponsor field trips for one year
- \$2,500** Support teacher's aide salary one month
- \$5,000** Sponsor one child one year

Send Tax Deductible Contributions:  
Maricopa Village Christian School  
P.O. Box 171  
Laveen, AZ 85339

For more information about MVCS and how you can support the mission, contact us at: **520-430-6827**  
[maricopavillagechristianschool@gmail.com](mailto:maricopavillagechristianschool@gmail.com)  
[www.maricopavillagechristianschool.org](http://www.maricopavillagechristianschool.org)