

WE ARE PHX

2016 COMMUNITY REPORT

119 | ARIZONA NON-PROFITS GRANTED IN 2015–2016

937 | TOTAL TALENT APPEARANCES IN THE COMMUNITY

199
PLAYER APPEARANCES

377 | GORILLA APPEARANCES

361
ALUMNI COMMUNITY APPEARANCES

781,206
TOTAL IMPACTED BY PLAYER & GORILLA COMMUNITY APPEARANCES

16,000
YOUTH STAYING FIT WITH JR. SUNS BASKETBALL PROGRAM

3,100+
HOLIDAY CARDS SENT TO TROOPS OVERSEAS

$1,000,000+ | IN PHOENIX SUNS CHARITIES GRANTS GIVEN

1,500+ | DONATIONS TO ARIZONA CHARITIES

$300,000+
IN DONATION ITEMS

$100,000+
WORTH OF SUNS TICKETS DONATED BY OUR PLAYERS



THE PHOENIX SUNS MISSION TO PROVIDE THE FINEST IN SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP IS A PHILOSOPHY THAT WE HOLD IN THE HIGHEST REGARD. As we reflect on our 48th season, it is evident that we have a strong bond within our community as our mission extends beyond our product on the court.

THIS SEASON, OUR ORGANIZATION ADOPTED THE BRAND *WE ARE PHX*, EXEMPLIFYING OUR COMPANY MISSION. Not only are we Arizona's first professional sport team, located in the heart of downtown Phoenix, but we are a product of this great city. Being a part of Phoenix means creating a positive impact within our community each and every day.

AS OUR ORGANIZATION HAS GROWN OVER THE LAST 48 SEASONS, SO HAS OUR COMMUNITY FOOTPRINT. Meeting a Phoenix Suns player can be a significant experience in the life of a child. Suns players, coaches, alumni and our lovable mascot, The Gorilla, make appearances year-round, allowing the Suns to show support to hundreds of community organizations in a unique way. This past 2015–16 NBA season, our players, alumni and The Gorilla made nearly 950 community appearances. Through these efforts, nearly one million people enjoyed the opportunity to interact with our talent and receive aid from the Phoenix Suns organization.

THROUGHOUT THE SEASON, THE PHOENIX SUNS PLACE AN EMPHASIS ON MANY COMMUNITY-BASED INITIATIVES, INCLUDING PROVIDING MORE THAN 550 VOLUNTEER HOURS DURING OUR ANNUAL WEEK OF SERVICE, BROUGHT TO YOU BY IASIS HEALTHCARE. Additionally, our *We Are PHX Season of Giving* campaign provided goodwill to over 1,715 people in need during the holidays. Furthering our commitment to the community, our *Jr. Suns Basketball Program* encourages over 16,000 youth to remain active in our Jr. Suns basketball leagues and camps throughout the year.

ALONG WITH SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, ANOTHER INITIATIVE THAT CONTINUES TO BE CLOSE TO THE ORGANIZATION'S CORE IDEALS IS OUR STRONG COMMITMENT TO OUR NATION'S MILITARY. This season, our annual *Holiday Cards for Troops* campaign, which tipped off during our Military Appreciation Night, allowed us to send more than 3,100 cards overseas to active duty personnel. Our commitment to the *Hoops for Troops* program was expanded when we visited Luke Air Force Base to host an open practice featuring our 2015–16 Phoenix Suns team and allowing military personnel to interact with our players and coaches.

BEYOND THE HOURS WE SPENT IN THE COMMUNITY, PHOENIX SUNS CHARITIES PROVIDED OVER $1,000,000 TO 119 LOCAL NON-PROFITS THAT SERVE THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN ARIZONA. Additionally, Phoenix Suns Charities handed out $60,000 in scholarships that provided funding for students to continue their education.

TO PROVIDE FURTHER SUPPORT TO OUR LOCAL CHARITIES, THE PHOENIX SUNS HAVE DONATED OVER 1,500 AUTOGRAPHED ITEMS TO ARIZONA CHARITIES, EQUIVALENT TO OVER $300,000 IN-KIND VALUE TO PHOENIX-AREA NON-PROFITS. Additionally, our players donated over $100,000 of their own money back to the community in the form of tickets so that children and families in need can attend a game; for many, this is their first professional sporting event.

WE ARE PHX IS MORE THAN A BRAND, IT'S A MANTRA THAT IS WOVEN INTO THE FABRIC OF OUR ORGANIZATION AND HELD TOGETHER BY OUR COMPANY'S MISSION STATEMENT TO PROVIDE THE FINEST IN SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP. I sincerely hope you enjoy the following pages which tell the story of our 2015–16 season within the community. We hope that you enjoy reading the highlights of our most memorable moments from this past season; all of which would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our fans and our partners, whose dedication to our team has helped us support our community.



JASON ROWLEY
PHOENIX SUNS & PHOENIX MERCURY PRESIDENT

jr.suns

The Phoenix Suns are proud to be a part of the Jr. NBA. Our Jr. Suns/Jr. Mercury Youth Basketball Leagues teach youth the fundamentals of basketball and use the sport to instill core character values. Special visits by Suns and Mercury players, coaches and alumni provide added motivation, showing kids that a winning attitude goes a long way. Jr. Suns/Jr. Mercury provide boys and girls a chance to learn important life lessons, the value of a good education, good sportsmanship and the importance of giving back to the community.



"IT'S ALL ABOUT THE KIDS. I REMEMBER BEING ONE OF THOSE KIDS LOOKING UP TO AN NBA PLAYER. SO GIVING BACK TO THEM IS UNBELIEVABLE."

— DEVIN BOOKER, SUNS' GUARD



Suns' center Alex Len signed autographs and took pictures with fans who happily donated backpacks filled with school supplies at the **FIFTH ANNUAL SUNS BACKPACK DRIVE.**



Phoenix Suns guard Eric Bledsoe celebrated **JR. NBA WEEK** by hosting Jr. Suns Skills Academies, where **MORE THAN 200 LOCAL YOUTH** learned fundamental basketball skills.



> "GROWING UP FOR ME AND MY FAMILY WASN'T ALWAYS EASY, SO TAKING PART AND VOLUNTEERING IN COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS HELPS ME TO REMEMBER WHERE I CAME FROM TO WHERE I AM TODAY."
>
> — ALEX LEN, SUNS' CENTER



Phoenix Suns guard Sonny Weems teamed up with **MAKE-A-WISH ARIZONA** to help make Mark's wish, to "play all the time" come true.



Suns' alumnus Steven Hunter helps a little one try on shoes during the Boys & Girls Club **BACK TO SCHOOL SHOPPING EVENT.**

WE ARE PHX Week of Service

brought to you by IASIS HEALTHCARE

The Phoenix Suns held their annual Week of Service, brought to you by IASIS Healthcare, where players, alumni, front office executives and staff took part in volunteer events to give back to the community. **550 VOLUNTEER HOURS** were provided to local nonprofits such as Special Olympics Arizona, St. Mary's Food Bank, Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum beautification project, Playworks Arizona and Valley of the Sun United Way.

1,650 | TOTAL IMPACTED BY WEEK OF SERVICE

550 | VOLUNTEER HOURS



Suns' Archie Goodwin and Alex Len teamed up with **APS FOR THE REBOUND PROJECT,** an initiative that positively impacts local youth through building improved basketball courts in Arizona.



Phoenix Suns honor our nation's military during **MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT.**



The Phoenix Suns saluted our nation's military and those serving in Arizona by hosting a full team practice at Luke Air Force Base on Thursday, November 5th. The practice was attended by airmen and women serving on the base. Families from the national non-profit, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, were introduced with the Suns players as the team took the court. Additionally, military personnel also shared a meet and greet with the team post-practice during an autograph session and half court contest.

The Suns continued to pay tribute to military veterans and active duty personnel during Military Appreciation Night, brought to you by Carl's Jr., on Thursday, November 12th during the Suns vs. Los Angeles Clippers matchup. Five Wounded Warriors were introduced alongside the Suns starting line-up. Throughout the game, veterans and active duty personnel were featured in a number of in-game tributes, activities and contests.



Suns' guard Ronnie Price thanks a member of our nation's military during our team practice at **LUKE AIR FORCE BASE.**



> “THERE’S A LOT OF TALK THESE DAYS ABOUT SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, AND TO ME, WHAT OUR ARMED SERVICES DO IS THE GREATEST EXAMPLE OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. I’M JUST VERY PROUD THAT WE, AS AN ORGANIZATION, ARE ABLE TO COME OUT HERE AND TAKE PART IN THIS AND DO OUR SMALL PART TO GIVE BACK TO THEM.”
>
> — JASON ROWLEY, SUNS & MERCURY PRESIDENT



The Suns’ Gorilla shows his support for our nation’s armed forces during **MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT.**



Staff Sergeant Samantha Renner, who is currently stationed at Luke Air Force Base, performed the National Anthem to tip off **PHOENIX SUNS MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT.**



Suns annual **HOLIDAY CARDS FOR TROOPS** campaign collected **OVER 3,100 CARDS** wishing troops overseas Happy Holidays.

NBA Cares Season of Giving

The Phoenix Suns tipped-off the holiday season with a special "We Are PHX Season of Giving" campaign comprised of community events and philanthropic initiatives. As part of the campaign, Suns players, coaches, alumni and staff spread holiday cheer while serving the community and offering support to children, families and those in need. The initiative featured events throughout the holiday season and benefited a number of non-profit organizations across the Valley.

1,715 | **PEOPLE SERVED DURING SUNS SEASON OF GIVING**



Suns' guard Devin Booker spread holiday cheer at St. Vincent de Paul by **SERVING THANKSGIVING DINNER** to families in need.



Phoenix Suns center Alex Len delivered **50 BICYCLES & HELMETS** for underserved youth through his **LEN-D A HAND FOUNDATION.**



Suns' guard Brandon Knight hosted **25 BOYS & GIRLS CLUB KIDS** to a holiday shopping spree during **SHOP WITH A JOCK.**



"TO PUT A SMILE ON THESE KIDS' FACES, THEY'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT. IT SAYS A LOT ABOUT OUR TEAM AND THE PEOPLE WE ARE."

— ERIC BLEDSOE, SUNS' GUARD



Patients being treated at **PHOENIX CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL** received a special holiday treat when the Suns team stopped by for a visit.



> **“BASKETBALL IS FUN, BUT THIS IS LIFE. TO BE ABLE TO COME DOWN HERE AND SHARE THIS MOMENT WITH THESE KIDS MEANS THE WORLD.”**
>
> — TYSON CHANDLER, SUNS' CENTER



Suns' alumnus Steven Hunter and The Gorilla make year-round appearances to **PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES.**

NBA FIT
BE ACTIVE • EAT HEALTHY • PLAY TOGETHER

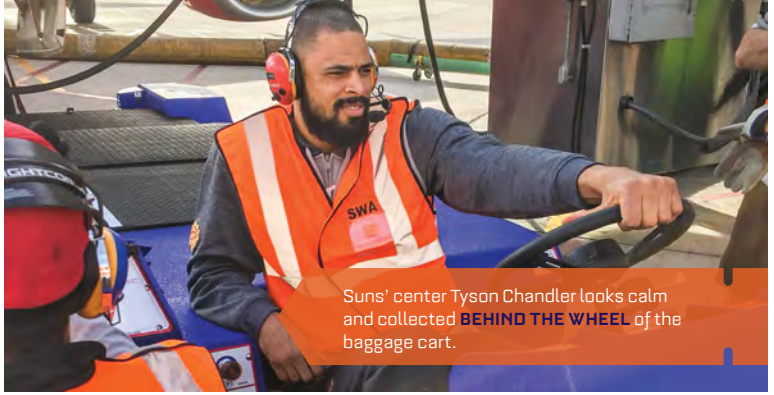
Phoenix Suns center Tyson Chandler and The Gorilla provide local elementary schools with the opportunity to “Get Fit” with the Suns in support of NBA Fit. The league’s comprehensive health and wellness program encourages physical activity and healthy living for children and families.

The Suns feature NBA Fit as a year-round initiative also featuring Suns Community Relations Ambassador Steven Hunter who speaks to students about the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle, teamwork and respect.

Southwest®

TRADING PLACES

Phoenix Suns players traded a day on the court for the runway. Suns players, alumni and The Gorilla took on the roles of Southwest Airlines employees at Sky Harbor International Airport. The team surprised airline customers as they made announcements in the terminal, took boarding passes, marshalled in planes and transported baggage to the aircraft.



Suns' center Tyson Chandler looks calm and collected **BEHIND THE WHEEL** of the baggage cart.



Phoenix Suns guard Archie Goodwin asks everyone to **BUCKLE THEIR SEAT BELTS,** as passengers are in for the time of their lives.



Suns' center Alex Len stops in the terminal to **TAKE A SELFIE** with an excited fan.



"MY FAVORITE PART IS CALLING OUT THE FLIGHTS. YOU HAVE IN YOUR HEAD WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY BUT BASED ON [PASSENGER REACTION] YOU CAN SWITCH UP."

— P.J. TUCKER, SUNS' FORWARD

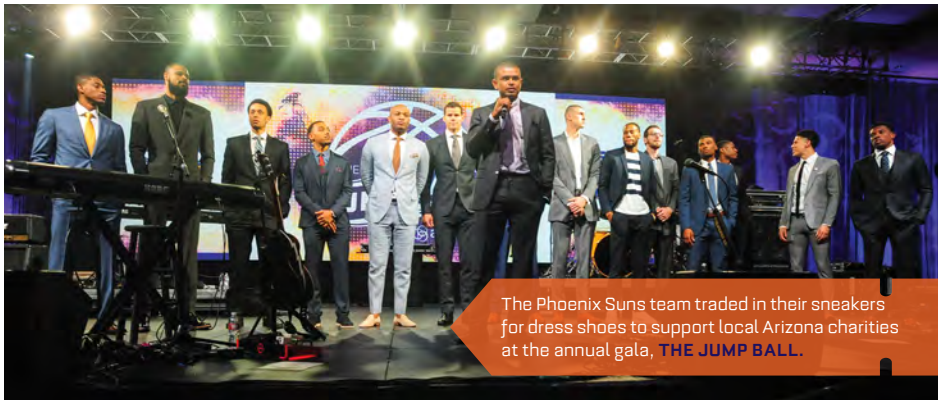


"WE JUST TRY TO DO OUR BEST EVERY DAY TO PUT A SMILE ON SOME OF THESE KIDS' FACES AND GIVE THOSE LESS FORTUNATE MORE HOPE AND MAKE LIFE A LITTLE BETTER FOR THEM"

— ROBERT SARVER, SUNS' MANAGING PARTNER

THE JUMP BALL 2016 PRESENTED BY annexus

The Phoenix Suns team traded in their sneakers and jerseys for dress shoes and a tie during Phoenix Suns Charities annual gala, **THE JUMP BALL,** presented by Annexus. Guests in attendance mingled with Suns players, coaches, training staff and other team personnel while they enjoyed dinner, live entertainment. The Suns team not only had fun dancing the night away with fans, but assisted in live auctions in order to raise funds for Phoenix Suns Charities, who distributes more than one million dollars annually to local charities.



The Phoenix Suns team traded in their sneakers for dress shoes to support local Arizona charities at the annual gala, **THE JUMP BALL.**

AUTISM SPEAKS®

In honor of April's Autism Awareness Month, the Phoenix Suns, Joey Travolta's Inclusion Films and the NBA teamed up with Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center to fulfill the broadcasting dream of 27-year-old Chris Louttit, who is a lifelong Suns fan and was diagnosed with autism as a young boy. Following the experience, where Louttit was featured on the Fox Sports Pregame Show with idol, Suns legend Tom Chambers, the Suns aired a short film highlighting the experience in order to inspire others.

Inclusion Films Practical Film Workshop is a vocational program designed to provide adults with developmental disabilities an entry-level working knowledge of film and video production.



"IF YOU HAVE AUTISM, KEEP YOUR HEAD UP HIGH, DO WHAT YOU DO BEST, DO WHAT YOU CAN AND MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE. MY DREAM DID COME TRUE."

— CHRIS LOUTTIT, SUNS FAN & ASPIRING BROADCASTER

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

ALSAC • Danny Thomas, Founder

Finding cures. Saving children.

Phoenix Suns players made a special stop at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital during their March road trip. The team decorated cookies, signed autographs, sang karaoke and posed for photos. The Suns make this an annual appearance during their road trip to Memphis, Tennessee in order to put smiles on the kids' faces.



"AS AN ATHLETE, YOU HAVE A PLATFORM TO REACH OUT TO PEOPLE. [YOU TAKE] ANY CHANCE YOU CAN TO DO THAT. I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO HELP ANYONE I COULD IN THE COMMUNITY."

— JON LEUER, SUNS' FORWARD



Suns' center Alex Len gets a **BIG REACTION** to his cookie decorating choices.



Suns players Ronnie Price and Brandon Knight pose for a picture after signing autographs at **ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL.**



Phoenix Suns center Tyson Chandler visits with patients and their families at **ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL.**



Phoenix Suns guard Ronnie Price signs autographs at **ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL.**



Phoenix Suns forward P.J. Tucker and **ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL** patient hold up their creations to show that she's a **TOUGH COOKIE.**





Suns' forward Mirza Teletovic gets the **THUMBS UP** on a great day.



Suns' guard Archie Goodwin takes a break from the excitement to **POSE FOR A PHOTO.**



> **"GIVING BACK TO CHARITY AND THE YOUTH OF THIS CITY, IS WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT. BEING THANKFUL FOR WHERE WE ARE, WHAT WE COME FROM AND BE THAT EXAMPLE TO THE FANS WHO REALLY BELIEVE IN US; THAT'S MORE POWERFUL THAN ANYTHING."**
>
> — EARL WATSON, SUNS' HEAD COACH



Phoenix Suns guard Brandon Knight teaches the **FUNDAMENTALS OF THE GAME.**



Suns' center Tyson Chandler huddles up **SUNS FANTASY CAMP** members.



Suns players Jon Leuer and Alex Len along with Player Development Coach Jason Fraser bring **SUNS FANTASY CAMP** attendees together for a group huddle.

WE ARE 6

Phoenix Suns SixthMan Members were treated to a Suns Fantasy Camp at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in South Phoenix. Members went through a clinic-style workout with six different interactive stations as instructed by Suns coaching staff and players. The event culminated with Suns Head Coach Earl Watson discussing game planning and upcoming match-ups as well as a selfie with SixthMan members, coaching staff and the team. Following the camp, players signed autographs for those in attendance.



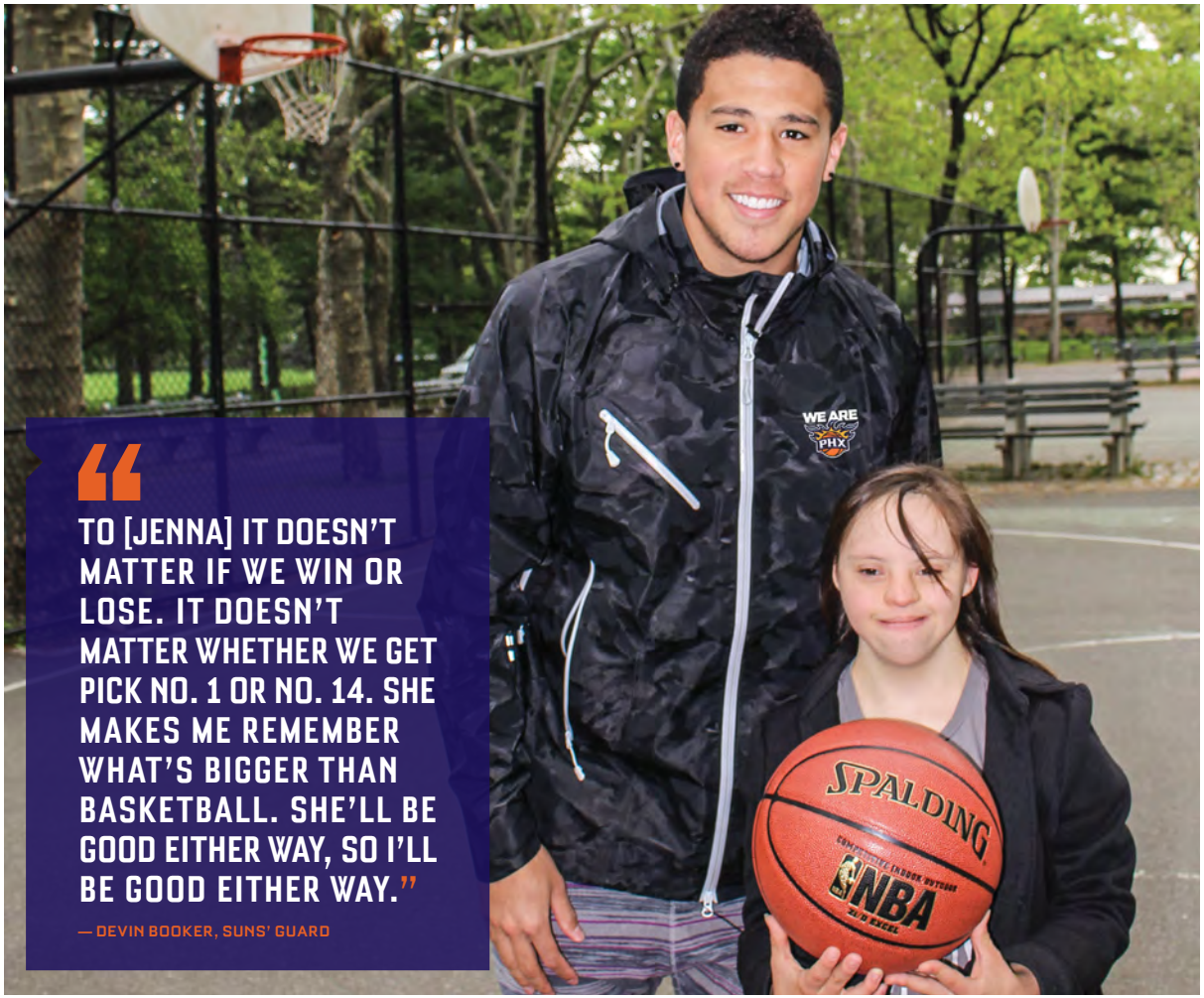
Suns' guard Ronnie Price cheers on **SUNS FANTASY CAMP** members.

DRAFT LOTTERY

When Phoenix Suns rookie Devin Booker was asked who he'd like to accompany him on his trip to the 2016 NBA Draft Lottery in New York City, the 2016 USA Men's Select Team member didn't say a well-known name—instead, he said he wanted to bring Jenna Warren, a 16-year-old with Down Syndrome who is by far his biggest fan. Jenna was treated to a trip to the Big Apple with her family, a game of one-on-one with Booker in Central Park, lunch at her favorite spot and a shopping spree at the NBA Store. Jenna and her family also attend the Draft Lottery as Booker's guest, where the Suns secured the fourth and 13th overall picks. When asked what Jenna thought about the trip and Booker, she held up the sign for "love," to which Booker reciprocates.



Booker, Warren and her family along with Suns staff, hold up Jenna's favorite sign, "love," during the **NBA DRAFT LOTTERY.**



"TO [JENNA] IT DOESN'T MATTER IF WE WIN OR LOSE. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER WE GET PICK NO. 1 OR NO. 14. SHE MAKES ME REMEMBER WHAT'S BIGGER THAN BASKETBALL. SHE'LL BE GOOD EITHER WAY, SO I'LL BE GOOD EITHER WAY."

— DEVIN BOOKER, SUNS' GUARD



The Phoenix Suns guard played Warren in a game of one-on-one basketball in **NEW YORK CITY.**



Suns' guard Devin Booker poses for a picture in **CENTRAL PARK** with Jenna and her family.



Phoenix Suns alumni Tom Chambers and Steven Hunter, Suns broadcaster Tom Leander and The Gorilla pose with Boys & Girls Club kids for the first time in their new space which was renovated as part of the Phoenix Suns and Southwest Airlines **WE LOVE IT HERE PROGRAM.**

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