



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

### **Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council Unspent Funding and Planning for Next Fiscal Year Brief**

**Strategy Name: Conference Scholarships (\$16,000 in SFY13/ \$10,000 in SFY14)**

**Background:** The Regional Council has previously released Conference Scholarship funding to the Gila River Indian Community in years 2010, 2011 and 2012 with successful awards but with some unspent funding in each of those years. During the last funding plan cycle the Regional Council reaffirmed their commitment to this strategy because of the continuous training needs of professionals working with young children within the Community and the knowledge that many programs have limited budgets when it comes to receiving professional development and training.

**Research:** Research shows that professionals who receive high quality evidence based professional development and training are able to provide high quality services to clients. Research also supports models of training which are ongoing as being the most beneficial for professionals as opposed to one-time trainings with little or no follow-up implementation support.

**The Challenge:** The challenge of Conference Scholarship implementation and spending is twofold. (1) Currently Conference Scholarships are set up as one time staff trainings which do not support best practice for professional development. (2) The strategy is FTF directed and is scripted in a way which does not allow for unspent funding to be easily used in other areas if by chance programs don't apply for conferences which have been written into the original budget.

**Recommendations:** Based on recent feedback during FTF's joint planning with the Gila River Indian Community Council and supported by the FTF Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Councils Needs and Assets Report the conference scholarship strategy funding would likely benefit a far greater population of professionals and impact a substantially larger group of children 0-5 if further development of a professional development strategy occurred. The target population discussed in particular by the Tribal Council of the Gila River Indian Community and supported by the Needs and Assets report would be those professionals working with children and families in crisis. This population of professionals would include Tribal Social Service workers, Children's Court Judges, CASAS and Baby CASA's, and Behavioral Health Professionals. Currently, there is a strong baby/children's court model being implemented by the Community and adding a small amount of funding to this model for ongoing training needs of professionals would likely be highly impactful for professionals and children of the Community.

**Training Overview and Estimated Costs for Best for Babies Training:**

<b>Training Title</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Judicial orientation to Best for Babies model/unique needs of young maltreated children/challenges and opportunities in providing judicial oversight to improve outcomes	2-3 hours	\$500
Community Introductory meeting for Best for Babies – role of all child welfare system partners/judicial leadership for change/unique needs of maltreated young children/getting to outcomes	half day to full day	\$500- \$1,000
CPS training on best practices/community resources/essential services for 0-5 maltreated children and their caregivers –	1-3 hours	\$500
Baby CASA training – for trained CASAs interested in baby cases -	5 hours/full day	\$500- \$1,000
Attorney training – for attorneys or GAL representing dependent children and/or bio parents	1-3 hours	\$500
Foster parent training – for licensed foster parents and/or relatives caring for dependent young children	5 hours/full day	\$500-\$1000
<b>Total Cost of Training:</b>		\$3,000- \$4,500
<b>Total Funding Available within the conference Scholarship Strategy SFY14</b>		\$10,000

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Allocations and Funding Sources		2013		2014
<b>FY Allocation</b>		<b>\$964,266</b>		
Population Based Allocation		\$602,937		
Discretionary Allocation		\$225,068		
Other (FTF Fund balance addition)		\$136,261		
<b>Carry Forward From Previous Year</b>		<b>\$455,265</b>		
<b>Total Regional Council Funds Available</b>		<b>\$1,419,531</b>		
Strategies	2013 Allotted	Strategy Moving	2014 Allotted	
Home Visitation	\$150,000	Yes	\$150,000	
Parent Education Community-Based Training	\$100,650	Yes	\$100,650	
Native Language Enrichment	\$62,539	Yes	\$62,539	
Summer Transition to Kindergarten	\$115,652	Yes	Eliminated	
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$50,000	Yes	\$50,000	
Pre-Kindergarten Scholarships	\$100,000	Yes	Moved to QF Scholarships line	
Quality First ( <i>statewide</i> )	\$36,112	Yes	\$36,112	
Child Care Health Consultation ( <i>statewide</i> )	\$5,040	Yes	\$5,040	
Quality First Child Care Scholarships ( <i>statewide</i> )	\$151,441	Yes	\$351,441	
Scholarships TEACH ( <i>statewide</i> )	\$13,200	Yes	\$12,800	
<b>Conference Scholarships (FTF Directed)</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	
Community Awareness ( <i>FTF Directed</i> )	\$2,100	Yes	Not Funded Due To Budget Constraints	
Media ( <i>statewide</i> )	\$3,900	Yes	Not Funded Due To Budget Constraints	
Statewide Evaluation ( <i>statewide</i> )	\$30,119	Yes	\$32,805	
<b>Proposed Allotment Total:</b>	<b>\$1,014,769</b>			
<b>Total Unallotted:</b>	<b>\$404,762</b>			