



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

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## NORTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL 2011 FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation 2011: \$ 10,137,299

Carry Forward from 2010: \$ 2,562,484

Funding Available for Allocation in 2011: \$ 12,699,783

Prioritized Needs	Goal Area	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Limited access to quality early care and education	Quality, Access & Affordability	Quality First	\$1,537,940	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to quality early care and education	Health	Child Care Health Consultants	\$960,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to quality early care and education	Health	Mental Health Consultants	\$960,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to quality early care and education	Professional Development	Professional REWARD\$	\$200,000	Approved 12 8 09
More training and professional development opportunities for early childhood care providers	Professional Development	T.E.A.C.H. scholarships	\$495,340	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to parent education, information, and support	Quality, Access & Affordability	Family, Friend & Neighbor	\$250,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to parent education, information, and support	Family Support	Home Visiting	\$1,500,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to parent education, information, and support	Family Support	Family Literacy	\$1,000,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to parent education, information, and support	Family Support	Crisis Prevention	\$400,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to and utilization of preventive health care	Health	Oral, Vision and Hearing Screening	\$740,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to and utilization of preventive health care	Health	Health-E Applications	\$440,000	Approved 12 8 09

Limited understanding and information about the importance of early childhood development and health and limited support by the community around early childhood development and health efforts	Communication	Communications Campaign	\$500,000	Recommend HOLD
More training and professional development opportunities for early childhood care providers	Professional Development	Community Based Training for Early Education Professionals	\$200,000	Approved 12 8 09
Limited access to parent education, information, and support	Family Support	Supplemental Family Support	\$500,000	Not being submitted for board approval
Limited access to parent education, information, and support	Family Support	Teen Parent Care Coordination	\$1,200,000	Recommend Approval
		Regional Needs & Assets	\$100,000	Not being submitted for board approval
		<b>Subtotal of Expenditures</b>	\$10,983,280	
		<b>Fund Balance</b>	\$1,716,503	
		<b>Grand Total</b>	\$12,699,783	

### North Phoenix Summary Financial Chart SFY 2010-2012

	SFY 2010	SFY 2011	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
<b>Revenue</b>				
FTF Total Allocation for the SFY	\$9,950,096	\$10,137,299	\$10,137,299	\$30,224,694
Fund Balance (carry forward from previous SFY)	N/A	\$1,992,484	\$1,169,503	
<b>Total Available Funds</b>	<b>\$9,950,096</b>	<b>\$12,129,783</b>	<b>\$11,306,802</b>	
<b>Strategies</b>				
	SFY 2010 OBLIGATED	SFY 2011 PROPOSED	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
1 Quality First	\$746,225	\$1,514,940	\$2,263,655	\$4,524,820
2a Child Care Health Consultants	\$870,000	\$960,000	\$720,000	\$2,550,000
2b Mental Health Consultants	\$480,000	\$960,000	\$960,000	\$2,400,000
3 Professional REWARD\$	\$180,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$580,000
4 T.E.A.C.H.	\$477,500	\$495,340	\$514,580	\$1,487,420
5 FFN Professional Development	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$750,000
6a Home Visitation - Nurse Family Partnership	Removed	\$0	\$0	\$0
6b Home Visitation - EXPEDITED	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$4,000,000
7a Family Literacy - In Home	Removed	\$0	\$0	\$0
7b Family Literacy - Community Based	\$400,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,400,000
8 Crisis Prevention	\$90,000	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$890,000
9 Child Care Affordability Study	Removed	\$0	\$0	\$0
10a Oral Health Screen, Referral & Flouride Varnish				
10b Vision and Hearing Screen & Referral	\$0	\$740,000	\$740,000	\$1,480,000
11 Health-E Application	\$220,000	\$440,000	\$440,000	\$1,100,000
12 Communications	\$235,000	\$500,000	\$365,000	\$1,100,000
13 Community Based Training for Early Education Professionals	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000
14 Supplementary Family Support	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
15 Teen Parent Care Coordination	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	\$2,400,000
Emergency Food Boxes	\$33,288	\$0	\$0	\$33,288
Emergency Scholarships	\$2,885,599	\$0	\$0	\$2,885,599
Needs and Assets	\$90,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$240,000
<b>Subtotal Expenditures</b>	<b>\$7,957,612</b>	<b>\$10,960,280</b>	<b>\$11,303,235</b>	<b>\$30,221,127</b>
Fund Balance (carry forward)	\$1,992,484	\$1,169,503	\$3,567	\$3,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,950,096</b>	<b>\$12,129,783</b>	<b>\$11,306,802</b>	



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

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TO: Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board

FROM: North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

DATE: February 11, 2010

RE: New Strategy for North Phoenix 2011 Funding Plan

Strategy #15, Scholarships for Children of Teen Parents with Coordination of Family Support Services

In the development of the funding plan for the SFY 2011, the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council stated as a priority need the need to provide child care tuition scholarship assistance for the young children of the region's teen parent population. With careful deliberation, the Regional Council also determined that they did not want this assistance to "be in isolation" and so began the development of a more comprehensive and coordinated strategy. As you will recall, the Regional Council put this strategy on "self-hold" while the rest of the North Phoenix funding plan was presented to the Board in December for approval. The North Phoenix Partnership Council is now ready to present this completed strategy worksheet to the Board for consideration and approval.

This new strategy will address goal areas of Family Support and Quality, Access & Affordability. This strategy includes a focus on providing coordination between quality child care providers in the region, family support and education services (such as FTF supported home visiting, parent education, and family literacy services) high school/educational or vocational training settings, and the teen parents of young children. Knowledge of and referral to other community services such as health care providers and early intervention services to assure early screening, assessment, and services will be a critical component of this comprehensive strategy. Additionally, the Regional Council believes that assistance with transportation costs may also be critical to the successful implementation of this strategy as many teen parents do not drive and/or do not have consistent access to reliable transportation.

To implement this strategy, the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council would seek proposals from existing organizations that serve teen parents in the North Phoenix Region. Applicants would be expected to propose efforts that demonstrate coordination of services, appropriate recruitment of applicants, usage of scholarships in early education and care facilities that currently demonstrate quality and/or have a commitment to quality improvement, and appropriate understanding of both youth development and child development.

The North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council feels that providing additional support to teen families with young children, will not only help the teen parent to stay in school until they have completed a diploma/certificate, but will also allow for continuity of care for the young children in these families. This coordination of services will ultimately allow for greater social, developmental and health benefits to the young children that will help them to prepare for later success in school and life, along with allowing the teen parent to become better prepared to compete in today's economy.

The North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council would respectfully request an approval of this new strategy to allow the staff and council to quickly move forward in publishing an RFGA.

Brenda Tomlin, Coordinator for the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, will be available for the February Board meeting to present further information on this strategy and answer any questions from Board members.



Bill Adams, Chairperson  
North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

**Strategy 15****Strategy Name: Scholarships for Children of Teen Parents with Coordination of Family Support Services.****Strategy Description:**

**Vision:** To assist teen parents in the region (who have dropped out of high school or are at risk of not completing a high school education) who have children aged 0 through 5 to have their child(ren) in a consistent, quality care setting while they are attending classes/course work to obtain a high school diploma, a G.E.D. certificate and/or a job skills certificate. Utilization of, and coordination with additional regional and FTF family support services (i.e., home visitation, parenting education, parent support groups, early literacy learning opportunities, etc.) will also assure their ability to have a positive, active role in parenting their children.

**Background:**

In the North Phoenix community, most health care providers, social service agencies, child care providers and school districts/charter high schools operate in relative isolation. Establishing and maintaining a network of providers that support teen parents and their children is critical to achieving positive outcomes for young families. Service providers must recognize that adolescent parents are not simply younger versions of adult clients. Teen parents are involved in their own adolescent development, which is complicated by their adult responsibilities as parents. Providers that are successful in serving young parents and their children understand the developmental dynamics of both young parents and their children. Families have the primary responsibility for their children's development. Many teen parents will need to be taught the following skills: child age-appropriate parenting skills, with an emphasis on understanding a child's physical, emotional and mental development; ways to acquire important information about nutrition; age-appropriate play and learning, and discipline methods; and information about regular health check-ups and immunizations.

A teenage mother today has a decreased likelihood of competing successfully in the job market. The "cost" of teenage childbearing may be even higher today than it was thirty to forty years ago as a post-secondary education is increasingly more necessary for finding a good paying job. Nationally, only 2 percent of teen moms have a college degree by age thirty (Hewlett Foundation, *Putting Teenage Mothers On the Road to Success*, May 2007). Arizona has a high school dropout rate of nearly 7 percent, many of those pregnant/parenting teens. Young people who drop out of high school are unlikely to have the minimum skills necessary to function in today's increasingly complex society and technology-filled workplace. Services that help these young parents stay in school until completion of a diploma or certificate will put them on the road toward future economic self-sufficiency.

Access to quality early care and education programs can result in social, developmental and health benefits to young children that help to prepare them for later success in school and in life. Quality early care experiences in stable out-of-home settings help young children develop strong attachments not only to parents but also to caregivers and teachers. These attachments set the stage for future relationships throughout a child's life. Scholarships support continuity of care to children so that previously formed supportive relationships with caregivers can remain in place. Research shows that children thrive in the care of familiar caregivers who play a significant role in their lives and on whom they count for consistency, feelings of security, belonging and love. Continuity of care is particularly important for infants and toddlers as they are in the developmental stages of building basic trust and a sense of self.<sup>1</sup>

Disruptions in care, particularly those that are abrupt, that result from changes in child care settings can be minimized with the use of scholarships.

In addition to promoting continuity of care, scholarships can help families to access high quality early care and education with learning environments that meet the developmental needs of young children. Preliminary findings from First Things First parent surveys and individual interviews with families receiving scholarships reveal that even short exposures to quality care result in developmental benefits such as improved language and social skills, and increased recognition of numbers, letters and shapes.

Renowned Professor of Economics, James J. Heckman, advocates strongly for quality early care and education programs that target disadvantaged children. Living in families that are struggling to survive, children in low-income families are particularly vulnerable to insecurity in food, housing and other basic need areas. This lack of supports in turn can impact a young child's development. Without access to stable settings, children from impoverished families often do not receive the cognitive and social supports they need that have been shown to be the determinants of future socioeconomic success. In several reports, Heckman demonstrates that enriching early environments can help to overcome the challenges of being born into a disadvantaged family.<sup>11</sup>

Research from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) from their "Lessons from Early Childhood Longitudinal Study – Birth Cohort (ECLS-B) June 2009 found several key implications for early childhood initiatives:

- **Start Early** – Meaningful differences are being detected as early as 9 and 24 months; interventions should be high-quality, comprehensive and continuous for children ages 0 to 3.
- **Target Low-income Children** – As income is the most prevalent risk factor at 9 and 24 months, children in low-income households should be the main targets of early interventions aimed at improving children's health and well-being.
- **Engage and Support Parents** – Given that maternal education is also noted as a prevalent risk factor, early childhood interventions should include a parental education component. A promising avenue is to promote the education of parents of infants and toddlers about issues related to early childhood development. In addition, interventions that support parents in their own educational attainment and/or income self-sufficiency are also pertinent.
- **Improve the Quality of Early Care Settings** – It is important to ensure a safe, supportive and stimulating environment for young children to achieve optimum development.

#### **Regional Data:**

School districts in the North Phoenix region that have secondary education programs include Glendale Union High School District, Paradise Valley Unified School District, and Deer Valley Unified High School District. Within these districts, there are eighteen (18) high schools located in nearly every zip code area that is assigned to the North Phoenix Region. Each high school within these districts may have their own independent protocol for addressing the needs of teen parents within their school. In addition, there are several charter schools/alternative high schools located within the North Phoenix Region with varying populations of pregnant/parenting teens in attendance.

From the 2008 Needs & Assets report completed for the North Phoenix Region, it was identified that in the North Phoenix Region, there are several zip code areas (i.e., 85020, 85021, 85023, 85029 and 85032) that had rates of teen birth that were higher than the Arizona rate of 15%. With teen birth rates in the

Sunnyslope area reported to be nearly twice as high as compared to the state or county rates.<sup>1</sup>

The North Phoenix Region has over 30 accredited child care centers, and over forty (40) child care centers currently involved in the Quality First! program. Centers involved in the Quality First! program are also located in nearly every zip code of the region, and offer care to children ages 0 through 5.

Children of teenage parents are more likely to be in poor health, experience less stimulating and supportive home environments, be abused or neglected, have difficulty in school, become teen parents themselves, and be incarcerated during young adulthood, when compared with children of older parents. (Rebecca M. Maynard, *Kids Having Kids*. New York: The Robin Hood Foundation, 1996.)

Therefore, there is a critical need for implementing a model that coordinates efforts among support services, education, youth development and child development in order to achieve positive outcomes for young families.

**Implementation Considerations:**

Funding for this strategy is intended to provide comprehensive services that demonstrates coordination between quality child care providers in the region, family support and education services (such as FTF supported home visiting, parent education, and family literacy services) high school/educational or vocational training settings, and the teen parents of young children. Knowledge of and referral to other community services such as health care providers and early intervention services to assure early screening, assessment, and services will be critical. Assistance with transportation costs may also be a critical component of implementation as many teen parents do not drive and/or do not have consistent access to reliable transportation.

Implementation of this strategy in the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council area will provide:

- **Scholarships** for infant/toddlers of participating teen parents, attending accredited centers, and/or those centers demonstrating a commitment to quality through their involvement in the Quality First program or the Quality First Ratings (when available).
- **Outreach and recruitment of teen parent participants** – targeting those at risk of dropping out of high school/technical school/GED program and those who have already dropped out but want to return
- **Coordination of services** between the early care and education facilities that will provide services to the children, educational settings for the teen parents, and community resources (i.e., other FTF family support program grantees, health care providers, early intervention services, etc.)
- **Information and referral services** – minimum of linkage of parents to existing parenting education resources and other life skill-building activities.
- Assistance with **transportation costs** for parents/children from the school to the child care setting and back.
- **Parenting education/other family support services** to be brought on site at the school as appropriate, or offered by the grantee in a community setting.

Grantees will be expected to adhere to the First Things First Standards of Practice for “Scholarships” and “Community-Based Training, Parent Education.”

<sup>1</sup> Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health Services, Office of Health Systems Development Statistical Profile 2008 – Data as of October 2006

**Lead Goals:**

- FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.
- FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings.
- FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.

**Key Measures:**

- Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well-being.
- Percentage of families who report they are satisfied with the level of coordination and communication among agencies serving their children.
- Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system.
- Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four.

**Target Population:**

Teen Parents living in the North Phoenix Region aged 19 and under.

Priority focus on infant/toddlers (birth to age 3) for scholarship receipt, with all children aged 5 and younger of teen parents having eligibility.

Parent (s) must be attending/willing to attend high school/GED classes/vocational training

Child(ren) must attend an early care and education facility that demonstrates quality/commitment to quality by it's accreditation status, involvement in the FTF Quality First! program, and or involvement in the FTF Quality Rating (when available).

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY 2011 July 1, 2010 –June 30, 2011	SFY 2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012	SFY 2013 July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013
		115 scholarships 90 families	115 scholarships 90 families

**SFY 2011 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy**

Allocation for proposed strategy | \$ 1,200,000

**Budget Justification:**Scholarship Costs –

Average cost of \$34/day for infant care x 21 days/month = \$714/month

714 x 12 = 8,568      8,568 x 115 = \$985,320

Transportation costs -

Weekly bus pass = \$17.50 (local full fare)	Monthly bus pass = \$55.00 (local full fare)
\$8.75 (local reduced fare)*	\$27.50 (local reduced fare)*

\*Local reduced fares are available to youth (ages 6 through 18), Children 5 and under are not charged a fare for local or express/RAPID bus service or light rail when accompanied by a responsible, fare-paying adult.

Van/taxi costs = varies based on distance and usage

Other acceptable program costs could include (but are not limited to):

Staff to complete outreach/enrollment of schools, community service providers, teen parents, etc.

Staff to complete coordination services with participating parents.

Outreach Materials

Parenting Education Instruction – curriculum, staff, incentives, space

Administrative Costs/Indirect Costs

<sup>1</sup> Lally, J. R. & Signer, S. M. Introduction to Continuity. Available at:

[http://www.pitc.org/cs/pitc/lib/download/pitc\\_res/360/Introduction%20to%20Continuity.pdf?x-r=pcfile\\_d](http://www.pitc.org/cs/pitc/lib/download/pitc_res/360/Introduction%20to%20Continuity.pdf?x-r=pcfile_d)

<sup>11</sup> Heckman, J.J. 2008. The Case for Investing in Disadvantaged Young Children. In: Big Ideas for Children: Investing in Our Nation's Future. Available at: <http://www.firstfocus.net/Download/BigIdeas.pdf>