



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

Community Outreach Report

February 12, 2013 – March 12, 2013

Media: Flickr post - Program Tour of First Teeth First

Summary of recent Outreach Activities:

Events/Networking meetings/Presentations:

- ✓ Presentations: FTF Welcome address at West Valley Grandfamilies Conference, also FTF materials were distributed to attendees
- ✓ Networking: Pendergast/West Valley Human Services Alliance Collaboration Breakfast; LeTip business networking group; SW Maricopa Grantee Meeting, presented “Personal Networks for Professional Purposes”; Goodyear White Tanks Rotary Club



Grantee partners Benevilla and Duet presented the first West Valley Grandfamilies Conference on Saturday, March 2 to a crowd of grandparents (right).

Darlene Little (above), program director for Tanner Community Development Corporation Early Childhood Development Program spoke on Empowering Grandparents.



- ✓ Events: AZ Girl Scouts Annual Conference; Care1st Avondale FRC Family Fun Day - distributed Parent Resource Guides, magnet boards, dental kits, etc; Celebrate the Young Child Conference – about 700 early childhood education providers attended

Upcoming Outreach Opportunities

Please let us know if you would like to help at the FTF table at the event below.

Litchfield Elementary School District Health and Nutrition Fair –

Wednesday, March 20 at 3 p.m. at Corte Sierra Elementary, 3300 N. Santa Fe Trail, Avondale

Angela Mussi, amussi@azftf.gov
Angel Aguirre, adm-aaguirre@azftf.gov



At the Avondale location of First Teeth First, 3-year-old Jesse receives a dental screening and fluoride varnish.

February 27, 2013 -- Did you know that dental problems are among the leading causes of school absences and that decay can start in the tiny teeth of babies and toddlers?

The Arizona Department of Health Services estimates that 30 percent of Arizona's 2- to 4-year-olds have untreated tooth decay and more than half of 3-year-olds have never seen a dentist.

In recognition of National Children's Dental Health Month, the First Things First Southwest Maricopa Regional Council hosted a tour on February 27 of one of the health programs funded in the region: Maricopa County Office of Oral Health's First Teeth First Program.

Tour guests, including Tolleson Vice Mayor Kathie Farr and local elementary school representatives joined Southwest Maricopa Regional Councilmembers Dora Barrio and Marithe Denys Sandoval and Regional Director Eric Santiago at the Avondale site to learn how the screening, education and varnish program is improving the health and future success of children in our community.

In its first seven months of full operation in fiscal year 2012, over 1,500 children 5 years old and younger in the Southwest Valley received screenings and fluoride varnishes through the program. This year, nearly 3,000 children are expected to be served.



Tour guests observe an oral health screening and fluoride varnish as Kim Richards, First Teeth First program coordinator, explains how dental hygienist Natalie Hoover uses a tooth-y stuffed alligator to show 3-year-old Jesse how to open his mouth wide.

Locations and hours for the First Teeth First program can be found at www.FirstTeethFirst.org