

Statewide and Signature Strategies Report – March 2012

Early Learning							
Strategy	Funding Source	Expenditures as of March 6, 2012			FY2012 Contracted Service #	FY 2012 Actual Service # (10/1/11 – 12/31/11)	Comments
		FY2012 Allotted Amount	FY2012 Awarded Amount	FY2012 Expended Amount			
Quality First! (Signature Strategy)	FTF State	\$ 6,656,300	\$ 6,105,900	\$ 2,727,600	Statewide: 256 Centers: 186 Homes: 70	Statewide: 239* Centers, 177 Homes, 62	Quality First is a comprehensive initiative that provides support, funding and education to qualified centers and homes to improve the quality of early care and education for children younger than five years. The Quality First model includes assessment, coaching, T.E.A.C.H., Child Care Health Consultation and financial incentives for quality improvement. The rating component of Quality First is being implemented in FY12. <i>Quality First Expenditures are currently less than expected through almost three quarters of the FY; however, the amount is reflective of the timing of invoices and payments. The majority of QF incentive payments tend to be made toward the end of the FY.</i>
	FTF Regions	\$ 13,426,200	\$ 14,123,600	\$ 6,076,700	Regional: 472 Centers: 326 Homes: 146	Regional: 456 Centers, 350 Homes, 106	
	Total	\$ 20,082,500	\$20,299,500	\$8,804,300	Total: 728 Centers: 512 Homes: 216	Total: 695 Centers, 527 Homes, 168	
Scholarships T.E.A.C.H. (Signature Strategy)	FTF State	\$ 908,300	\$ 813,600	\$ 191,900	Statewide: 413 participating scholars	Statewide:132 participating scholars	T.E.A.C.H. ARIZONA is a comprehensive scholarship program that provides early care and education professionals with access to college coursework leading to a degree or certificate in early childhood education. T.E.A.C.H. provides financial support for books, tuition, travel stipends and time off from work to attend class and complete assignments, and a financial bonus upon completion of college coursework. <i>TEACH participation continues to be less than 30% of contracted, and is especially low in QF participating providers, with more than 50% of providers with no participating TEACH scholars. FTF is gathering data through a QF provider survey to determine the reasons for non-participation.</i>
	FTF Regions	\$ 4,181,600	\$ 4,218,400	\$ 554,700	Regional: 1078 participating scholars	Regional: 494 participating scholars	
	Total	\$5,089,900	\$5,032,000	\$746,600	Total: 2121 participating scholars	Total: 626 participating scholars	

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FTF Professional REWARD\$ (Signature Strategy)	FTF Regions	\$ 2,573,800	\$ 2,573,800	\$ 1,432,100	Regional: 1078 incentive awards distributed	Regional: 1007 incentive awards distributed	FTF Professional REWARD\$ helps retain good teachers to promote continuity of teachers and caregivers working with young children. REWARD\$ offers financial awards to early childhood teachers based on educational achievement, wages earned and hours worked per week and requires a commitment from participants to remain in their current employment.
Quality First Child Care Scholarships (Signature Strategy)	FTF Regions	\$ 22,176,400	\$ 21,787,300	\$ 15,835,600	Regional: 2875 children	Regional: 4822 children	Quality First Scholarships help low-income families who are working, looking for work or improving their work skills through training or education afford high quality learning programs for their young children. These scholarships are available to early care and education providers enrolled in Quality First (or on the waiting list) and support providers in maintaining a quality program. <i>Actual number of children serviced is higher due to part-time status of some children, and child turnover.</i>
Pre-Kindergarten Scholarships (Signature Strategy)	FTF Regions	\$ 10,564,600	\$ 10,200,100	\$ 8,775,500	Regional: Public school-district Pre-K sites: 67 Private/public community partner Pre-K sites: 37 Total FTF funded Pre-K students: 2125	Regional: Public school-district Pre-K sites: 68 Private/public community partner Pre-K sites: 41 Total FTF funded Pre-K students: 2443	Pre-Kindergarten Scholarships help low-income families access high quality center and classroom-based programs for their children during the two years prior to kindergarten entry. These scholarships are available to public school and community-based early care and education providers and this strategy includes mentoring to facilitate systemic partnerships between public schools and community-based providers <i>Actual number of pre-K students is higher due to part-time status of some students.</i>

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Family Support and Literacy							
Strategy	Funding Source	Expenditures as of March 6, 2012			FY2012 Contracted Service #	FY 2012 Actual Service # (10/1/11 – 12/31/11)	Comments
		FY2012 Allotted Amount	FY2012 Awarded Amount	FY2012 Expended Amount			
Arizona Parent Kit (Signature Strategy)	FTF State	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 675,300	Statewide: 65,000 kits distributed	Statewide: 31,644 kits distributed	Arizona Parent Kits are given statewide to all families with newborns as they leave the birthing hospital or center. The kits include an 80-page Arizona Parents Guide, six DVDs on early childhood development and health topics and a new book for parents to read with their baby. <i>The awarded and expenditure amounts will increase throughout FY12 as FTF continues to procure the items that go into the Parent Kits, and rebuild the stock of kits.</i>
Birth to Five Helpline	FTF State	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 35,800	Statewide: 3,300 calls received	Statewide: 1818 calls received	The Birth to Five Helpline free service using a toll-free number (1-877-705-KIDS) with experts to answer any family's questions or address concerns on early childhood development for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Questions can also be submitted online at www.swhd.org/get-help/birth-to-five-helpline .
Reach Out and Read	FTF State*	\$ 195,000	\$ 190,600	\$ 94,500	Statewide: 30 participating practices Total: 30 participating practices	Statewide: 25 participating practices Total: 25 participating practices	Reach Out and Read is delivered through medical practices, by training doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud. It also provides books to children at pediatric check-ups from six months to five years of age, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty. The books are used to promote age-appropriate literacy skills and as a tool to discuss developmental issues with parents and families during the medical visit. <i>*Statewide funding supports strategy administration plus 30 participating medical provider office/clinics. Several Councils provide supplemental regional funding for the statewide component of this strategy.</i>
	FTF Regions*	\$ 271,300	\$ 270,600	\$ 175,300			
	Total	\$466,300	\$461,200	\$269,800			

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Health							
Strategy	Funding Source	Expenditures as of March 6, 2012			FY2012 Contracted Service #	FY 2012 Actual Service # (10/1/11 – 12/31/11)	Comments
		FY2012 Allotted Amount	FY2012 Awarded Amount	FY2012 Expended Amount			
Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) (Signature Strategy)	FTF State	\$ 1,044,000	\$ 978,000	\$ 318,900	Statewide QF: 238	Statewide QF: 261	<p>Child Care Health Consultants are nurses and child health experts who work with early care and education settings to provide teachers and staff with information and guidance to assure the health and safety of children in the program. This strategy provides onsite, email and phone consultation, staff training and referrals to community health resources.</p> <p><i>Expenditures and non-QF use of CCHC continue to be low; the CCHC model and amount of funding for this strategy is adjusted in FY13 in response to this trend over the past 3 years.</i></p>
	FTF Regions	\$ 5,312,000	\$ 5,209,900	\$ 1,733,200	Regional QF and non-QF: 1675	Regional QF and non QF: 732	
	Total	\$ 6,356,000	\$6,187,900	\$2,052,100	Total: 1913 centers and homes	Total: 993 centers and homes	
Mental Health Consultation (MHC) (Signature Strategy)	FTF Regions	\$ 5,278,100	\$ 5,262,000	\$ 2,234,600	Regional: 287 Centers: 215 Homes: 72	Regional: 223 Centers: 211 Homes: 12	<p>Mental Health Consultants are highly skilled early childhood mental health professionals with specialized training in young children’s social-emotional development and how to support early care and education professionals. This strategy provides onsite training and guidance to staff and families to promote children engaged in learning, effective communication skills with children and families, and effective management of children’s challenging behaviors.</p> <p><i>Child care homes continue to have low utilization of mental health consultation</i></p>

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Physician Education and Outreach	FTF State	\$ 390,000	\$ 390,000	\$ 228,600	Statewide: 50 participating practices	Statewide: 18 participating practices	<p>Physician Education and Outreach improves the quality of health care for young children by providing technical assistance and support to medical practices and clinics, including using a medical home model, best practices, developmental screening, referral to early intervention services and identifying community resources that support child development.</p> <p><i>The current low expenditures in regional funding is because the grantee has not yet delivered all of the practice incentive funds to the practices participating in the program.</i></p> <p><i>The strategy process is to enroll groups of participants, thus the actual service numbers on any given cycle might look low. The expectation would be that a larger number would be reported in the third quarter.</i></p>
	FTF Regions	\$ 509,000	\$ 374,500	\$ 113,300	Regional: 24 participating practices	Regional: 19 participating practices	
	Total	\$ 899,000	\$ 764,500	\$341,900	Total: 74 participating practices	Total: 37 participating practices	
Workforce Capacity – Therapist Scholarships	FTF State	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 175,000	Statewide: 12 students receiving financial support	Statewide: 13 students receiving financial support	<p>Therapist Scholarships are used to increase the number of speech language therapists with specialized knowledge and skills to work with young children. Scholars are provided tuition to complete a Master’s level program with specialized coursework, and upon graduation, must commit to two years of service with birth to five populations in Arizona.</p>