



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

AGENDA ITEM: First Things First Study Results

BACKGROUND: This presentation is to inform the Board of status and results of the studies being undertaken to provide data to inform strategic planning and enable progress monitoring. The presentation includes results from:

- Partner Survey
- Children's Budget
- Arizona Health Survey
- Family and Community Case Study

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Research and Evaluation Study and Survey Update



Levels of evaluation



Study Timeline and Regional Studies



- Identification of regional priorities
- Opportunities for collaboration
- Board review in June

Study Findings



- Early Childhood Partner Survey
- Arizona Children's Budget
- Arizona Health Survey
- Family and Community Case Study

Partner Survey



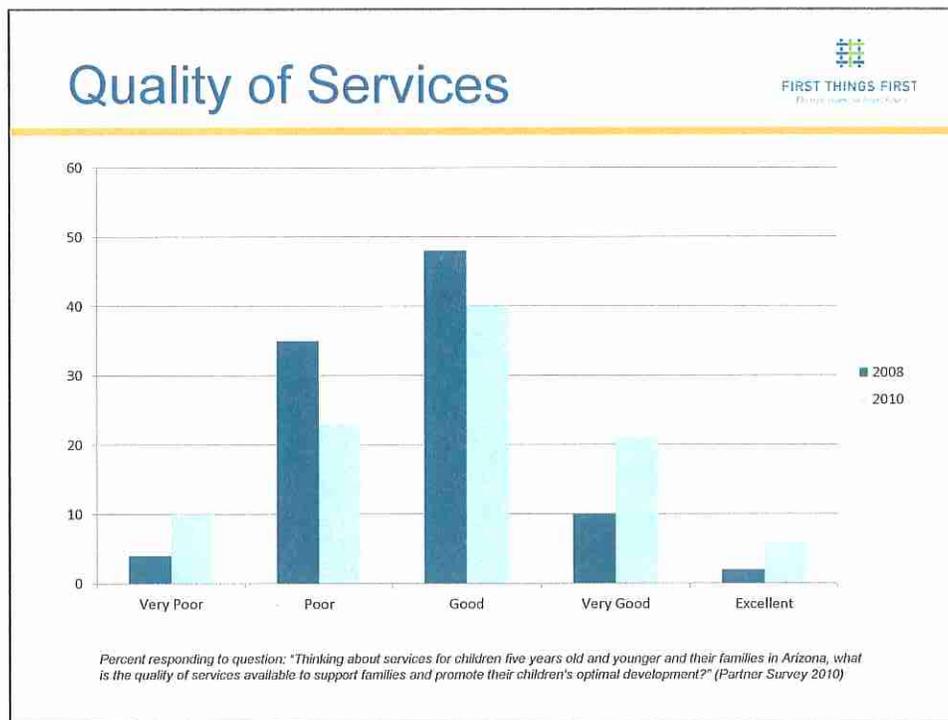
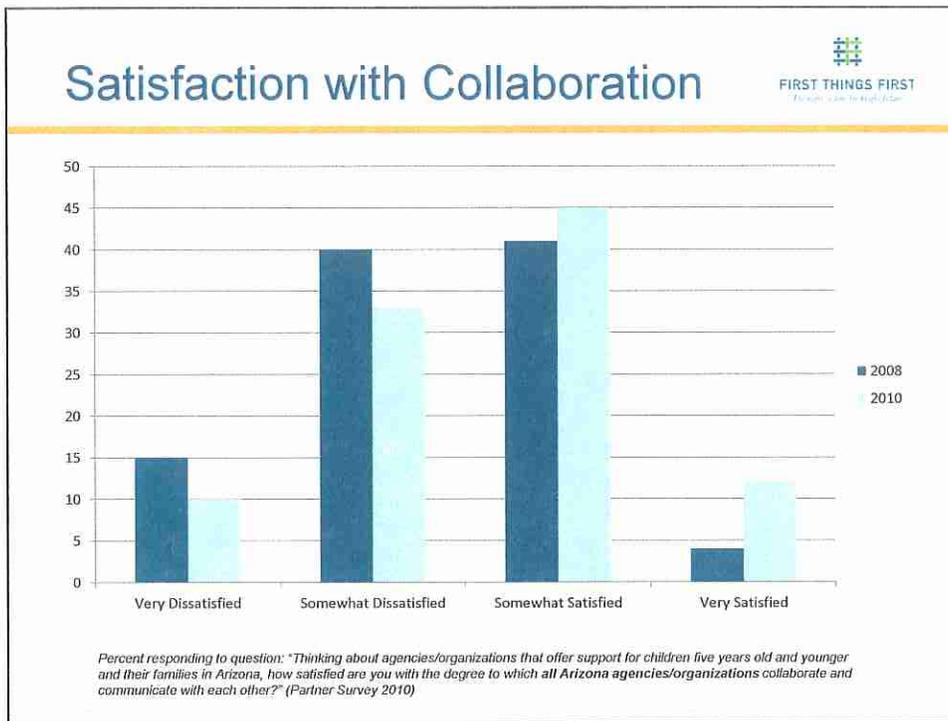
- Assesses the understanding and perceptions of FTF's early childhood partners' about the degree of coordination and communication among agencies and organizations

Partner Survey



FTF's early childhood partners

- Regional Partnership Councils and Board members
- Staff and administrators from state agencies
- Other EC service providers
- Community partners
- Representatives from non-profit organizations
- Educators
- Health service providers
- **FTF service providers**



What is FTF already doing that best promotes a system for children five years old and younger in AZ that will reach desired outcomes and show significant impact?



“Raising the quality of care for children in child care homes and centers, providing literacy programs, health screenings, mental health consultants, and more!”

“FTF is supporting programs that enhance and promote healthy child development of children and is providing education on child development to children’s families and doctors.”

“FTF has created a collaborative process among agencies where there was none. I now work closely with people I had never met before, and the families we serve benefit.”

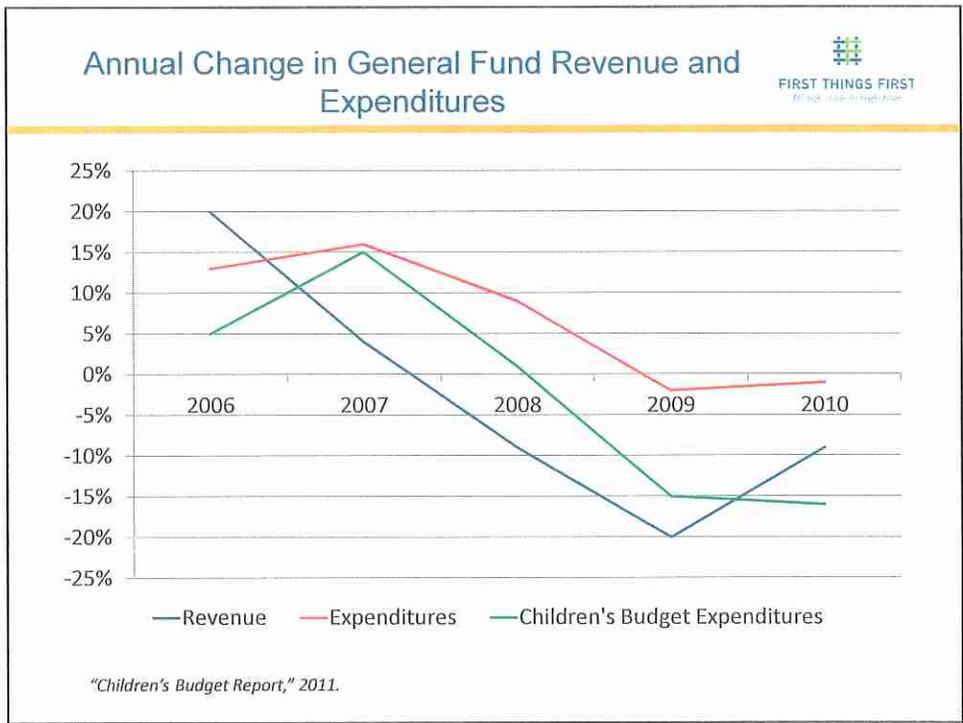
Partner Survey, 2010

Arizona’s Children’s Budget



- Actual expenditures FY 2005 through FY 2010
- Areas of children’s spending
- Fund sources and programs

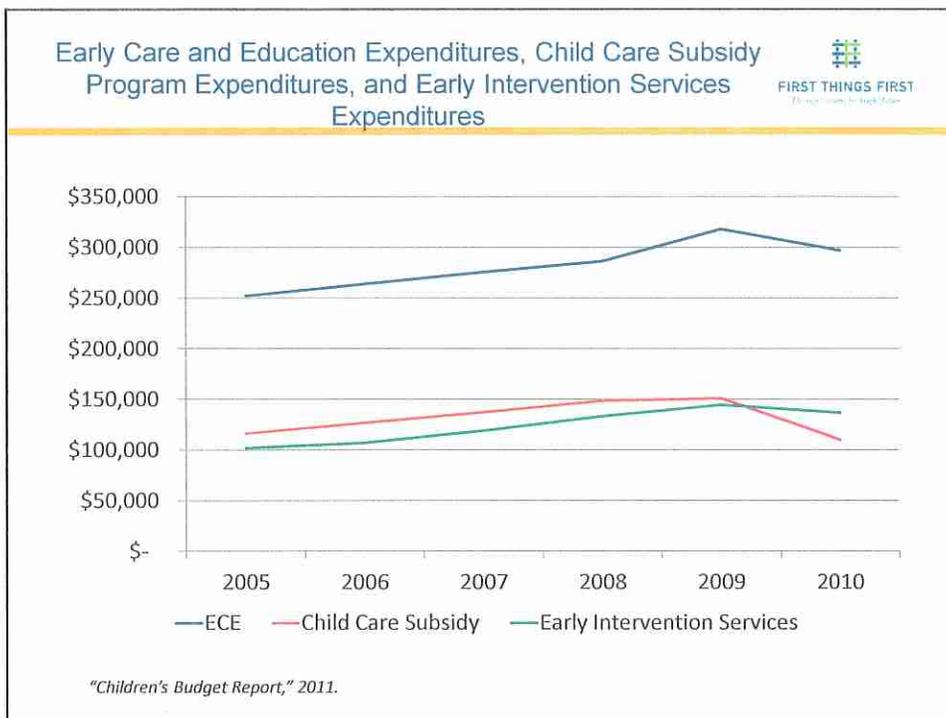
Children’s Budget Report, 2011



Medicaid (AHCCCS) Expenditures, Acute Care Services, in thousands, Ages 0 - 6

2005	\$548,913
2006	\$599,766
2007	\$660,999
2008	\$727,613
2009	\$754,439
2010	\$747,086

"Children's Budget Report," 2011.



Arizona Health Survey

FIRST THINGS FIRST
The first years do matter.

Essential family and social factors related to healthy young child development:

- Use and value of health and other early care services
- Parenting beliefs and perspectives about child development
- Young children's nutrition, exercise and community environments

Arizona Health Survey



Arizona lags behind the nation on:

- Children's reported health and oral health status
- Current and continuous health insurance coverage
- Presence of a medical home

Arizona Health Survey



However, compared to older children,
Arizona's young children are:

- Much more likely to be insured
- Receive preventive care visits
- Have a medical home

Arizona Health Survey



Arizona parents are :

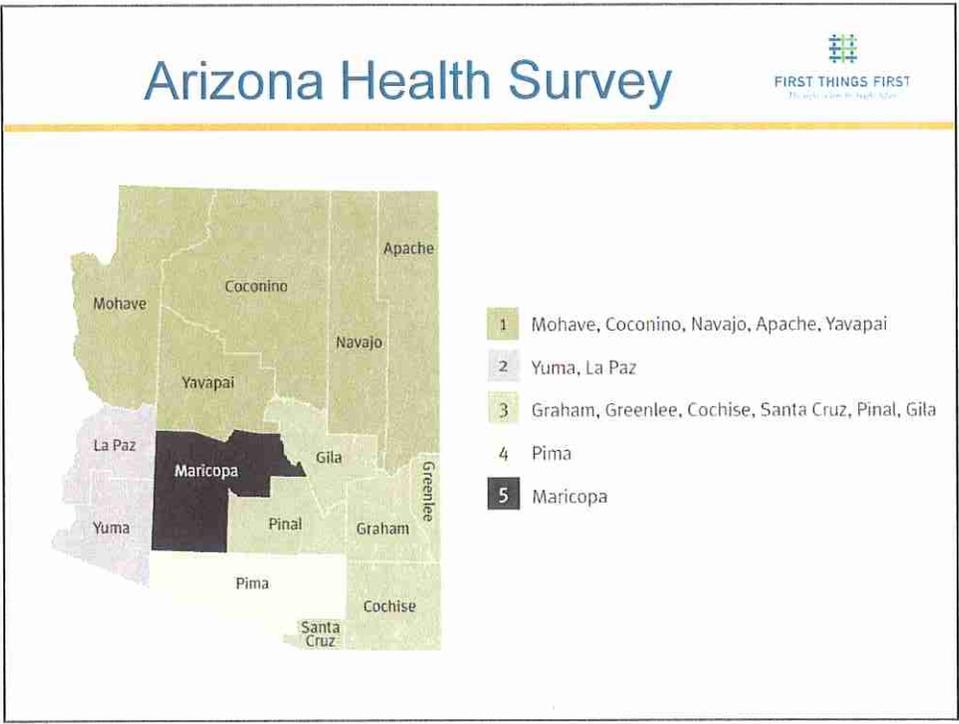
- More likely to breastfeed their infants
- Less likely to have smoking in the home
- Less likely to read, sing or tell stories to their young children

Arizona Health Survey



Arizona parents are :

- More likely to have their young children watch television for extended parts of the day
- Less likely to report living in safe and supportive neighborhoods



Arizona Health Survey

FIRST THINGS FIRST
First things first. Always.

About how long has it been since your child last visited a dentist or dental clinic?

	SW	GSA 1	GSA 2	GSA 3	GSA 4	GSA 5
< 6mo	38.9	42.9	45.7	43.6	40.1	37.1
6mo-1 year	16.6	11.4	8.7	8.6	20.8	17.8
1-2 years	3.7	0.3	4.7	3.6	2.0	4.4
2+ years	1.0	3.0	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.9
Never	39.8	42.4	40.6	43.4	36.4	39.8

Arizona Health Survey



What is the main reason your child has never visited a dentist or not visited in the past year?

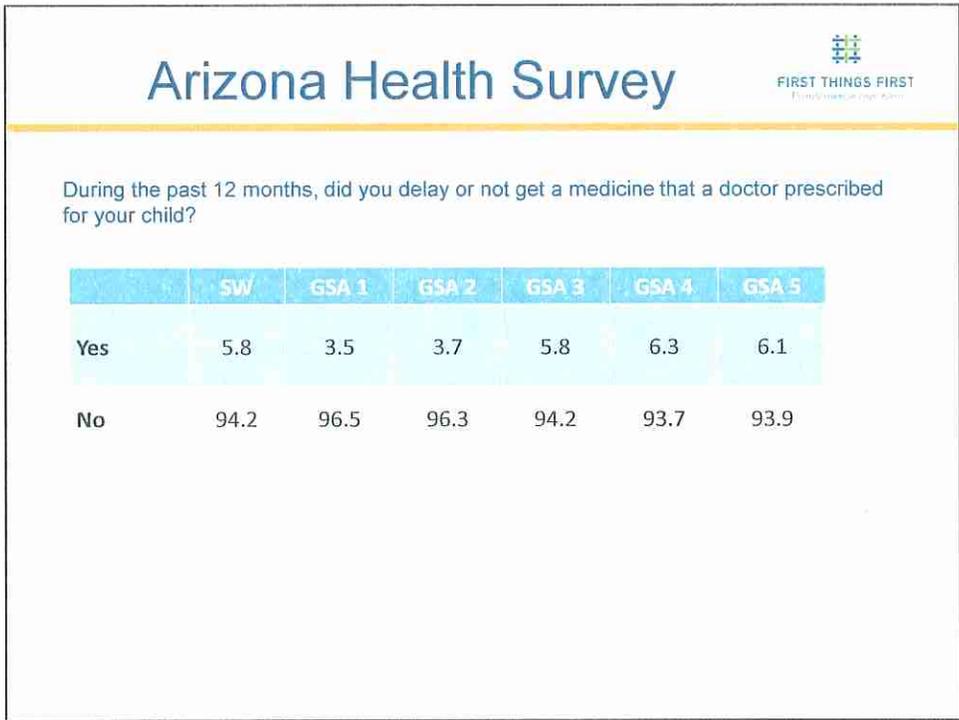
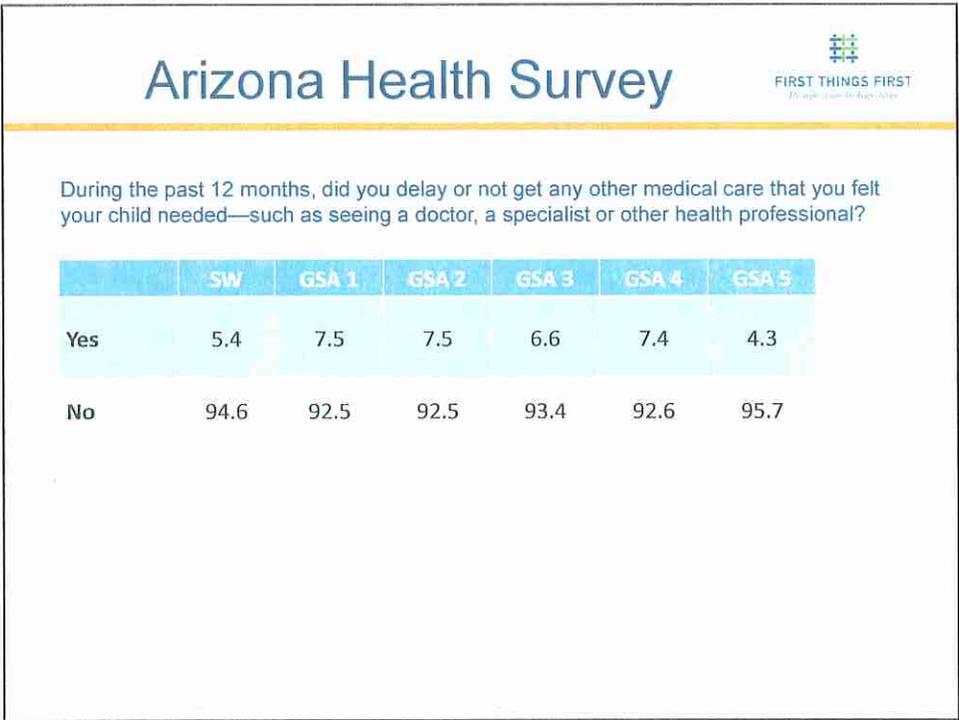
	SW	GSA 1	GSA 2	GSA 3	GSA 4	GSA 5
No reason/no problems	27.6	36.0	24.6	31.1	19.3	27.7
Not old enough	42.9	39.3	40.2	53.8	47.1	41.1
Couldn't afford it	2.5	3.7	4.4	1.6	0.3	2.8
No insurance	6.9	2.1	13.6	2.2	8.6	7.6
Fear/dislikes going	3.4	3.0	3.2	4.7	12.7	1.6
Can't get to the office/clinic	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1
No dentist/no appts avail/don't have/know a dentist	2.9	4.9	2.1	0.9	7.5	2
Other	13.7	11	11.9	5.4	4.3	17.1

Arizona Health Survey



About how long has it been since your child last visited a doctor for a routine checkup or well-child visit?

	SW	GSA 1	GSA 2	GSA 3	GSA 4	GSA 5
1 year or less	94.8	94.6	89.4	92.6	97.6	94.9
Within past 2 years	4.3	5.1	8.1	6.3	2.4	4.1
Within past 5 years or more years ago	0.8	0.1	1.9	0.8	0	1
Never	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0



Arizona Health Survey



Does your child have health insurance?

	SW	GSA 1	GSA 2	GSA 3	GSA 4	GSA 5
Yes	90.3	92.3	86.3	86.4	91.9	90.4
No	9.7	7.7	13.7	13.6	8.1	9.6

Arizona Health Survey



What type of insurance does your child have?

	SW	GSA 1	GSA 2	GSA 3	GSA 4	GSA 5
Employer/ Spouse employer /union	64.2	64	53.5	63.4	56.5	66.6
Professional association, etc.	10.5	8.0	8.8	7.3	5.3	12.7
Direct purchase	11.7	22.3	8.3	11.0	12.9	10.1
Medicare	2.4	1.2	0.9	0.2	5.8	2.3
AHCCCS	33.5	36.9	41.9	40.3	35.4	31.3
KidsCare	1.3	1.8	2.3	0.6	0.8	1.3
Military	5.5	1.8	6.3	4.3	3.7	6.7
ALYCS	1.2	2.1	2.3	1.3	5.3	0.3
Other government plan	11.4	14.3	14.5	9.7	21.4	8.8
Other non-gov't plan	18.7	12.8	10.0	13.6	18.2	20.7

Arizona Health Survey



Thinking about {his/her} current health insurance, did your child have this same insurance for ALL of the past 12 months?

	SW	GSA 1	GSA 2	GSA 3	GSA 4	GSA 5
Yes	90.1	98.1	86.9	87.0	94.6	88.4
No	9.9	1.9	13.1	13.0	5.4	11.6

Next steps for Studies



- Child Care Demand and Capacity
- Family and community 2012
- Regional evaluation study development

Timeline for Studies & Surveys

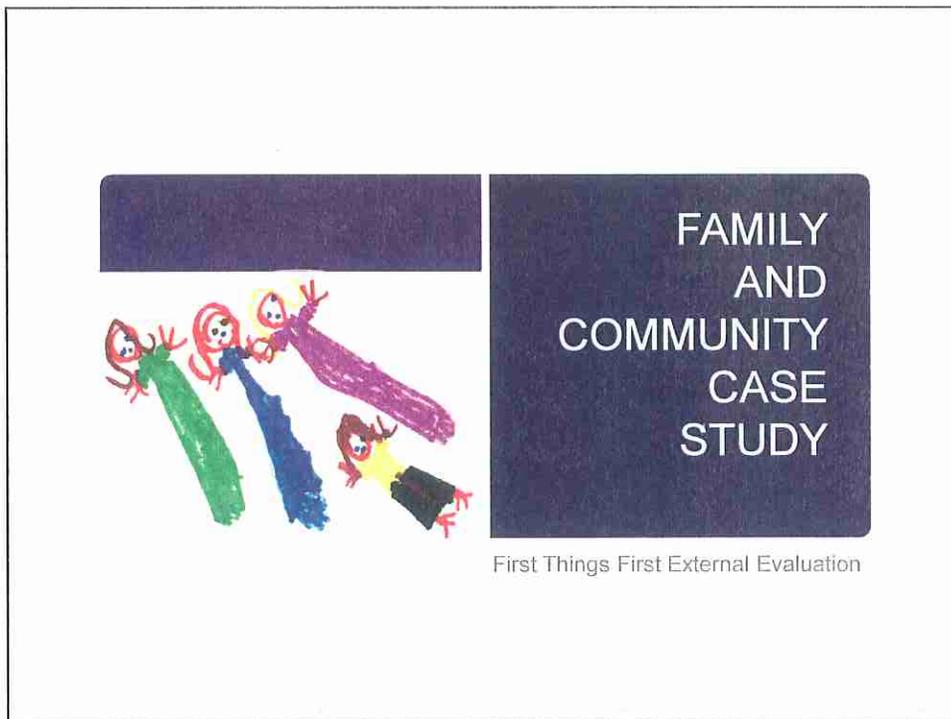
Project Name	Description	Projected Delivery Date
Children's Budget	The study will present current total expenditures in services and support for children zero through five in Arizona; how expenditures have changed; and how expenditures relate to what children need.	2 nd Quarter: Oct – Dec., 2010 conducted every even numbered calendar year budgeted every odd numbered fiscal year
St Luke's Health Initiative	The survey will report on the following for children zero through five: health care availability; percentage of children who have regular medical and dental care; preventative health behaviors; mental health issues in families and the effect on young children; insurance and underinsurance; and additional out-of-pocket expenditures.	2 nd Quarter: Oct. – Dec., 2010 conducted every even numbered calendar year budgeted every odd numbered fiscal year
Child Care Demand and Capacity Study	The study will identify: the estimated number of children zero through five served in regulated and unregulated care; how the current supply of early care and education relates to the demand of families; and the role quality of early care plays in families' decisions.	Demand: 3 rd Quarter: Jan. – March, 2011 Supply: 2 nd Quarter: Oct. – Dec., 2012 conducted every odd numbered year budgeted every odd numbered fiscal year
Partner Survey	The survey will identify FTF's early childhood and communication among early childhood agencies and organizations; the percentage of partners who believe early childhood services for families are good; and the percentage of partners who perceive FTF's mission as important and its methods effective.	2 nd Quarter: Oct. – Dec., 2010 conducted every even numbered year
Family and Community Survey	The survey will report the following for parents of children zero through five: perception and knowledge related to early childhood development; best practice in supporting young children's development; perception of	2 nd Quarter: Oct. – Dec., 2011 conducted in 2008 and then every odd numbered year with the exception of 2009

Timeline for Studies & Surveys

	<p>coordination and quality in early childhood services and communication.</p>	
<p>Parent Kit Study</p>	<p>The Study will answer the following regarding the Arizona parent kit: Do parents find kits helpful? Does parenting practice change after receiving the kit?; Are there certain parents for whom the kit is most effective? How can the Parent Kit and its distribution be improved to better meet family's needs?</p>	<p>2nd Quarter: Oct. – Dec., 2012 (one time)</p>
<p>Early Childhood Workforce Study</p>	<p>This study will assess the current educational level of the Arizona early childhood workforce, identify the overall education and professional development needs, and assess the effectiveness and accessibility of current professional development opportunities.</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Targeted Home Visitation Evaluation</p>	<p>Based on FTF standards of practice in home visitation, specific outcomes such as decreased child maltreatment, increased parent knowledge, and increased family protective factors will be identified. Families served in FTF funded home visitation programs will be assessed on these outcomes and effectiveness will be compared for different program models and service populations.</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Cost of Quality</p>	<p>The study will report on actual programmatic costs and their relationships with a high quality early care.</p>	<p>4th Quarter: April – June, 2011 (one time)</p>
<p>University Consortium External Evaluation</p>	<p>The main focus of the external evaluation is to answer the question: Are children healthy and ready for kindergarten.</p>	
<p>Longitudinal Child Study of Arizona</p>		<p>4th Quarter: April – June, 2011</p>
<p>Family and Community Case</p>		<p>3rd Quarter: Jan. – March, 2011</p>

Timeline for Studies & Surveys

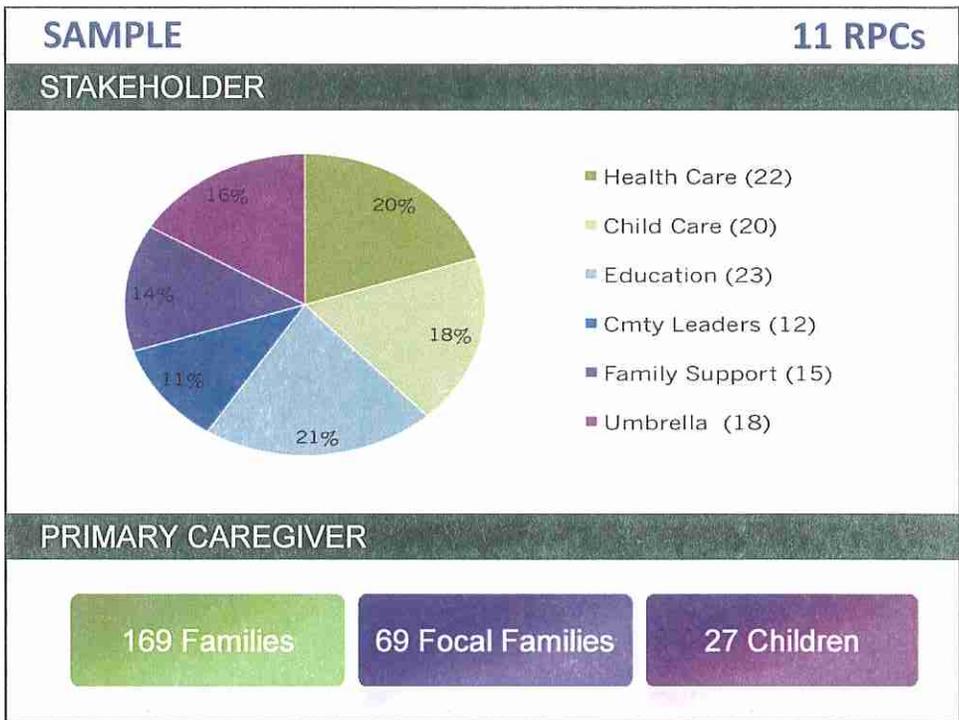
Study
Kindergarten Readiness 1 st Quarter: July – Sept., 2010



DESIGN AND METHODS

- Longitudinal Qualitative Study
- Purposive representative sampling of families/stakeholders statewide
- Multiple and Individualized Interviews (every 6 months)





THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY



“When First Things First started, it was a totally different landscape. We had never invested a lot of money in early childhood, but now services have been cut, and families are struggling a lot more. So, just when families are struggling, the services are being cut underneath them.”

FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILD CARE



FAMILY SUPPORT

- Families' Perspectives on Support
- Sources of Support
- Family Strengths



FAMILY SUPPORT

- Families' exclusion from accessing support
 - Isolated community
 - Outsider within community
 - Lack of
 - Family support
 - Information
 - Transportation
- Impacts on families



SUPPORT SYSTEM – STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

"We know there are gaping holes that didn't used to be there . . . The way we respond this year is going to look completely different . . . Services may not even exist."

- Fragmented system
- Pervasive erosion of resources
- Collaborative efforts
- Isolation and lack of transportation for families



CHILD CARE AS CRITICAL ISSUE

"I'm a single parent. My daughter is two and a half; we have both of my parents in town. I actually have grandmother care for my day care, which is a big plus."



- Reliance on Friends, Family and Neighbor Care.
- Lack of quality care
- Concerns about center-based care

CHILD CARE AS CRITICAL ISSUE



"I do feel a little bit like I had to settle [on child care], and that's not... what people should have to do — with their most precious thing in their lives"

- Barriers to Child Care
 - Affordability
 - Limited options

CHILD CARE - STAKEHOLDER

"Lower income families . . . can either drop out of the workforce or leave their children in less than safe and healthy environments."

- Access and availability
- Investment in quality child care (Quality First)
- Perspectives on TEACH
- Perspectives on Family, Friends and Neighbor Care



IMPLICATIONS

- How can FTF maximize its relevance to meeting family needs?
- Affordable creative solutions
- Family enhancement
- Informal parent networks
- Easier access to information
- Funding application process
- Streamlining strategies
- FTF as catalyst for change

