

NAVAJO NATION REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

Strategy 8: Companion Piece to the Arizona Parent Kit—To provide a companion piece in addition to the Arizona Parent Kit to provide culturally and linguistically relevant materials and resources to the families of the Navajo Nation.

The Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council recommends providing a companion piece in addition to the Arizona Parent Kit that would include the following materials: 4 board books in Navajo and English, 1 CD of the board books being read in both Navajo and English, and a listing of Navajo Nation resources for families with children birth through five. Salina Bookshelf, Inc. located in Flagstaff, publishes the board books and the CD. FTF staff and members of the Regional Partnership Council will create the resource listing. If funds allow, the Regional Partnership Council also recommends adding a CD of Navajo lullabies along with the above materials.

There are 3 birthing hospitals on the Navajo Nation within Arizona: Ft. Defiance Indian Hospital (which had 482 births in 2008), Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility (551 births in 2008) and Tuba City Regional Health Care (474 births in 2008). Approximately 1500 Arizona Parent Kits could be distributed at these three hospitals in FY 2010 using statewide funds. The companion piece will also be provided to the 1500 families who receive the Arizona Parent Kits.

It is a high priority of the Regional Partnership Council and the Navajo Nation that Navajo children are supported in learning the Navajo language and culture. The Navajo Nation Code mandates that the educational programs provide instruction in the Navajo language and culture in educational settings (Navajo Education Law Code 1995). Head Start Programs on the Navajo Nation are mandated to be immersion programs in Navajo. The Early Literacy Strategy (part of the funding plan approved by the State Board in February) will support Early Literacy programs on the Navajo Nation, building upon the assets that already exist. This new companion piece strategy will be a small but important part of the larger system of early literacy for the Navajo Nation. Families will have ready access to books they can read to their youngest children in Navajo that reflect the Navajo culture and language.

The production, assembly and delivery mechanisms of this companion piece will be developed and coordinated by FTF staff in collaboration with the Arizona Parent Kit consultant and the three hospitals. The goal is to begin delivery by July 1, 2009, so that the families of the Navajo Nation are receiving both the Arizona Parent Kits and this companion piece.

Lead Goal: FTF will increase the availability, quality and diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families.

Goal: 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

1. Percentage of families of children birth through age five who report they maintain language and literacy rich home environments (e.g. children hear language throughout the day, children have opportunities for listening and talking with family members, books and other literacy tools and materials are available and accessible to children)
2. Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children daily in their primary language

Target Population: All families with newborns born in one of the three hospitals on the Navajo Nation (within Arizona).

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
		1500 families with a newborn child	1500 families with a newborn child

Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012:

1. % of families that reported satisfaction with the companion piece
2. % of families that reported satisfaction with the cultural relevance of the companion piece
3. % of families reporting an increase in reading to their young children
4. % of families reporting an increase in reading and speaking to their child in Navajo

- How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists:

This strategy directly builds upon the FTF strategy of disseminating Parent Kits to families with a newborn baby. It also relies on the network of hospitals on the Navajo Nation to help distribute the Parent Kits.

- What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment:

There is an opportunity to collaborate with social service, non-profit and parent education organizations on the Navajo Nation to provide resource information to families.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$ 50,000
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Budget Justification:

1500 X 4 books (per Kit) X \$6.00 (discounted price per book)=\$36,000

1500 X 1CD X \$8.00 (discounted price per CD) =\$12,000

Printing of resource materials = \$2000

Total=\$50,000