



Emergency Child Care Scholarships

Presentation to Pinal Regional Partnership Council

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United Ways
of Arizona

United
Way



FIRST THINGS FIRST

What is the Emergency Child Care Scholarship Program?

- Emergency Child Care Scholarships are a statewide temporary program from First Things First to help families with young children (from birth through age 5 who have not yet begun kindergarten) with incomes up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines pay for quality child care.
- During these tough economic times, many families in Arizona are unable to afford the costs of early care and education for their children, forcing parents to make difficult choices such as quitting their jobs or leaving their children in ill-equipped settings.
- The scholarships help promote the continuity of care, one of the most important factors in the healthy development of young children.

United Way's Role

- Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW) is working with First Things First by serving as the Administrative Home for the Emergency Child Care Scholarship program.
- There is a total of \$23 million available for Emergency Scholarships statewide. Each region is allocated a portion of the total funds available.
- [Name of local United Way] is working with VSUW to promote the scholarship program in our local community to ensure that child care centers in our region receive all of the funding that has been allocated to them.
 - Raising community awareness about the program
 - Encouraging child care providers to apply
 - Collecting success stories from families and child care providers

The Application Process

- We would like to encourage all center- and home-based providers to apply for the Scholarship program.
 1. Applications are received
 - Providers must fill out an application to enroll in the program.
 2. Applications are processed for approval
 - Providers that qualify for scholarships are sent an Approved Provider Packet.
 - Provider must sign and return key documentation listed in the Packet in order to become Contracted.
 3. Providers are Contracted
 - Those providers who were Approved and sent back the required documentation become Contracted. These providers are awarded scholarships.

Metrics for our Region

As Reported at the end of April 2009

Region	Contracted Providers	Children Served	Dollars Awarded
Pinal	9	56	\$61,950

Call to Action

- We would like to ask all child care providers to apply for the Emergency Child Care Scholarships!
- It is important to ensure that your region is fairly represented in the distribution of funding across the state. There are dollars allocated to your community, and we want to ensure that all children have an equal opportunity to receive quality child care
- What you can do:
 - Submit an application
 - Inform your families about this opportunity
 - Encourage other child care providers to apply
 - Share your success stories with us! We want to hear about how this program is helping you and/or your families

To Apply and For More Information

- The dedicated website has more information including eligibility qualifications, frequently asked questions, downloadable applications, and a list of contracted scholarship providers.
 - Website: www.emergencyscholarships.org
 - Email: emergencyscholarships@vsuw.org
 - Phone: 602.240.6324
 - Toll Free: 866.973.0012
 - Fax: 602.240.6325
- All information is available in English and Spanish.

Thank you