

First Things First
La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council

Coordinator Report
July 2009

Key Upcoming Dates

- SFY2011 Regional Allocation Approved by Board – **August 25th**
- First Reading of Draft SFY2011 Regional Funding Plan – **September 24th**
- Regional Council Approves SFY2011 Regional Funding Plan – **October 22nd**
- SFY2011 Regional Funding Plan due to Board – **November 8th**

SFY 2010 Regional Funding Plan Update

| Strategy | Description | Allocation | Status |
|--|---|----------------------|--|
| Access to early care and education planning, access and quality grants | Expand access to quality child care region-wide by providing planning, start-up and quality-improvement grants to allow new child care centers to open and existing centers and homes to expand enrollment in regulated and quality settings. | \$251,896 | RFGA release 4/8/2009 Pre-Application Conference 4/30/2009 RFGA close 5/20/2009 Review Committee Training 5/28/2009 Review 6/9/2009 and 6/19/2009 Approved by Council 6/25/2009 Recommendations to Board 8/25/2009 |
| Cross-regional pilot study | Conduct a cross-regional pilot study of cost reduction and support strategies. | \$300,000 | Cancelled due to reallocating funds to emergency child care scholarships |
| Quality First! | Fund additional Quality First slots in by enrolling programs who receive planning, access and quality grants. | \$150,000 | Pending selection of planning, start-up and quality grants recipients. |
| Expand access to preventive health services. | Expand or establish new programs to increase access to preventive health services including prenatal care, well-child checks, developmental screenings, and oral health care. | \$501,896 | RFGA release 7/1/2009 Pre-Application Conference 7/8/2009 RFGA close 8/12/2009 Review Committee Training 8/13/2009 Review on 8/19/2009 Recommendations to Council 8/27/2009 |
| Infant/Toddler Mental Health | Expand or establish new programs to improve infant/toddler mental health. | \$200,000 | Workgroup met 7/13/2009 Strategy Worksheet to Council 7/23/2009 |
| T.E.A.C.H. | Expand access to the statewide strategy Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (T.E.A.C.H.) by funding an additional 40 scholarships in the region. | \$144,400 | Administrative home is the Association for Supportive Child Care. Logo and marketing materials are developed. Contracts with colleges in place. |
| Expand or establish new programs that improve access to professional development opportunities in early childhood education. | Provide high-quality, best-practice, and community-based professional development opportunities to enhance the skills of those working with children age birth to five. | \$388,686 | RFGA release 4/8/2009 Pre-Application Conference 4/30/2009 RFGA close 5/20/2009 Review Committee Training 5/28/2009 Review 6/9/2009 and 6/19/2009 Approved by Council 6/25/2009 Recommendations to Board 8/25/2009 |

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| Expand or establish new programs that support parents and caregivers in their ability to promote their children's optimal development and health. | Expand or establish new programs that provide parents and caregivers access to information, resources and high quality social support. Funded programs include: Home-Based Early Head Start Healthy Families Fatherhood Now Group Parenting Children with Special Needs | \$701,896 | RFGA release 3/4/09 Pre-Application Conference 3/10/09 RFGA close 4/16/09 Review Committee Training 4/21/09 Review on 5/11/09 Recommendations to Council 5/21/09 Approved by Council 6/3/2009 Approved by Board 6/9/2009 Programs start 7/1/2009 Grantee Orientation 8/10/2009 |
| Improve coordination, integration and communication of programs, services, and resources for young children and families. | 1) Establish mechanisms throughout the region to align and coordinate the service delivery network. 2) Educate and inform parents, caregivers and the community about services and supports in the region. | \$0 | Stakeholder Strategic Planning Sessions (6) held in August '08. Stakeholder RFGA Workshops (10) held in January '09. Grantee Orientation in August & Cross-Regional Coordination Meetings TBD. |
| Cross-regional advocacy campaign | Collaborate with the State Board on a cross-regional advocacy campaign to expand public awareness of and financial and political support for early childhood development and health. | \$26,656 | HOLD |
| Needs and assets | Regional needs and assets assessment. | \$30,000 | HOLD |
| Emergency Child Care Scholarships | Provide temporary child care scholarships for families at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. | \$675,133 | Administrative Home – United Way of Northern Arizona. Contracted 20 local providers as of 7/1/2009. Outreach to recruit providers has ended. Funds are expected to spend out in the next couple months. |
| Emergency food assistance | Expand provision of emergency food boxes for families with children ages birth to five. | \$102,000 | Awarded 4/2/2009 to start 4/15/2009 Grant agreements in place with Yuma Community Food Bank, Interagency Council, Kingman Area Food Bank and the Kingman Salvation Army. |
| Home visitation to prevent child abuse and neglect | Support, enhance and implement home visitation programs that provide parents and caregivers access to information, resources and high-quality social support. | \$484,000 | Awarded 4/2/2009 to start 4/15/2009 Grant agreements in place with Child and Family Resources, Interagency Council, Mohave County Department of Public Health and Arizona's Children Association. |
| Total Regional Allocations | | \$3,656,563 | |
| Balance (Carry Forward) | | \$512,906 | |
| TOTAL | | \$4,169,469 | |

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Statewide Strategy Update

1. **Quality First-** The first round of participants have been selected. Coaches have been making contact with centers and completing the enrollment paperwork. Assessment grantees have been completing the ECERS, ITERS and FCERS assessments with participants enrolled in the program. There are 8 providers in the La Paz/Mohave Region: 3 in Kingman, 4 in Bullhead City and 1 in Mohave Valley (see provider list below). There are also 2 Quality First providers in the Colorado River Indian Tribe (CRIT) region in Parker and 1 provider in the Hualapai region in Peach Springs.
2. **Child Care Health Consultation-** Child care health consultants are nurses, or other trained public health professionals, who assist child care facilities to address health and safety issues common in their setting. Child health consultation is an incentive built in to the Quality First model. Negotiations are underway with the Mohave County Health Departments to provide a .25 FTE to serve La Paz and Mohave County Quality First participants. This consultant will serve the 11 providers participating in Quality First in the La Paz/Mohave, CRIT and Hualapai regions.
3. **TEACH scholarships-** First Things First and the Association for Supportive Child Care, The TEACH administrative home, have created procedures to assist Quality First coaches as they conduct the initial orientations and explain the availability of the scholarships to staff. TEACH scholarships are an incentive offered to Quality First participants. A TEACH information session for Quality First participants in our region took place Saturday, July 18th in Bullhead City. The first scholarship applications for Quality First enrolled program staff are currently being completed and the T.E.A.C.H. contract with the Association for Supportive Child Care is being amended to add include our 40 regionally funded TEACH scholarships.
4. **Mental Health Consultation-** The scope of work is being completed for this statewide initiative. This strategy was designed to set up an administrative home as an infrastructure for delivery of infant toddler mental health consultation services. The administrative home will assist healthcare professionals in getting the appropriate credentials to provide mental health consultation to children 0-5 years of age via tuition reimbursements. There are additional components to provide continuing education opportunities and assist regions in offering financial incentives to recruit qualified professionals to specific communities. Currently, this document has been sent out for vetting to other First Things First staff, including regional team members, for comments and is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

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La Paz/Mohave Emergency Child Care Scholarship Providers

| | Provider | Address | City | Zip | Phone |
|----|--|-----------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| 1 | Tender Loving Care Quality Day Care Center | 3416 Highway 68 | Bullhead City | 86429 | 928-754-5155 |
| 2 | Zubrick Montessori Inc/Montessori School House | 945 Thumb Butte | Bullhead City | 86429 | 928-754-2333 |
| 3 | Bright Beginnings Academy - Bullhead City | 1895 Lakeside Dr. | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-758-5005 |
| 4 | Kyd's Towne Childcare Center | 3040 Hwy 95 | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-234-1385 |
| 5 | Little Prints Preschool | 527 Marina Blvd. | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-704-4335 |
| 6 | New Day School - 1380 Riverview Drive | 1380 Riverview Drive | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-763-1115 |
| 7 | Precious Pearls Childcare | 1116 Zircon Ave. | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-763-4581 |
| 8 | Shel's Playpen | 2612 Calle De Mercado | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-758-1609 |
| 9 | Stay N Play Child Care | 1373 Baseline Rd. | Bullhead City | 86442 | 928-763-7529 |
| 10 | Gingerbread House, The (Kingman AZ) | 4145 N. Bank | Kingman | 86409 | 928-757-7977 |
| 11 | Grace Neal Preschool | 1730 Kino Ave | Kingman | 86409 | 928-692-8830 |
| 12 | Little Eagle Preschool | 1475 Gordon Drive | Kingman | 86409 | 928-757-7888 |
| 13 | Guiding Light Christian Educational Center | 220 Mescal Lane | Lake Havasu | 86403 | 928-855-3291 |
| 14 | Little Lambs Preschool and Daycare | 113 N. Acoma Drive | Lake Havasu | 86403 | 928-505-5262 |
| 15 | New Day School - 2200 Sotol Lane | 2200 Sotol Lane | Lake Havasu | 86403 | 928-855-9660 |
| 16 | New Day School - 2915 Havasupai Blvd. | 2915 Havasupai Blvd. | Lake Havasu | 86403 | 928-855-2227 |
| 17 | Nelly's Nursery and Day Care LLC | 256 Cypress | Lake Havasu | 86406 | 928-453-5438 |
| 18 | New Day School - 3438 Oro Grande Blvd. | 3438 Oro Grande Blvd | Lake Havasu | 86406 | 928-680-1002 |
| 19 | Havasus Christian Preschool | 341 Mulberry Ave. | Lake Havasu | 86403 | 928-855-2590 |
| 20 | Bright Beginnings Academy - Mohave Valley | 8815 Desoto Dr. | Mohave Valley | 86440 | 928-768-2218 |

La Paz/Mohave Quality First Providers

Bright Beginnings Academy
1895 Lakeside Drive, Bullhead City, AZ, 86442
Center Child Care Provider

Bright Beginnings Academy
8815 Desoto, Mohave Valley, AZ, 86440
Center Child Care Provider

KHS Little School Child Development Center, K.U.S.D.#20
4182 North Bank Street, Kingman, AZ, 86409
Center Child Care Provider

Kyd's Towne Childcare & Learning Center
3040 Highway 95, Bullhead City, AZ, 86442
Center Child Care Provider

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Little Prints Preschool
527 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, AZ, 86442
Center Child Care Provider

Nikki Knees Child Care, Nicole McClure
3546 East Martin Lane, Kingman, AZ, 86409
Family/Home-Based Child Care Provider

Precious Pearls Child Care
1116 Zircon Avenue
Bullhead City, AZ, 86442
Family/Home-Based Child Care Provider

The Gingerbread House
4145 Bank Street, Kingman, AZ, 86409
Center Child Care Provider