



AGENDA ITEM: Discussion on Vacancies in Quality First for SFY 2014

BACKGROUND: The SFY 2014 La Paz/Mohave Regional Funding Plan includes 21 slots in Quality First. Of these, 20 are center slots and one is a home slot.

The region currently has three vacancies in Quality First and seven sites on the waitlist. The vacancies were caused by turn-over. Two child care centers and one home previously enrolled in Quality First are now closed.

The Regional Council has typically prioritized communities with limited access to regulated early learning programs for Quality First and Pre-Kindergarten Expansion in order to expand access to early childhood education in under-served areas and ensure equitable geographic distribution of early learning programs through-out the region.

At the July 2013 Regional Partnership Council meeting, the council requested information to assist in prioritizing communities to fill the current vacancies in Quality First. Information requested included the number of children served, the number of children on waiting lists, the ages of the children served, and the level of poverty in the communities served by the programs on the region’s waitlist.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director has provided the requested information and recommends prioritizing the following zip codes for the upcoming SFY 2014 Quality First selection cycle:

	Zip Codes
Center Slot Vacancies (2)	
	86441 (Dolan Springs) *
	86442-6089 (Bullhead City)
Home Slot Vacancy (1)	
	86442-6962 (Bullhead City) **

*The preschool in Dolan Springs is the only regulated program in the community.

**There is only one home in the La Paz/Mohave Region on the Quality First waitlist.

Geographic Distribution of Quality First Sites in the La Paz/Mohave Region



Location	Number of Sites
MOHAVE COUNTY (14)	
Lake Havasu City	5
Kingman	3
Bullhead City	2
Mohave Valley	1
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	1
Topock	1
Beaver Dam	1
LA PAZ COUNTY (4)	
Bouse	1
Wenden	1
Salome (SFY 2014 Expansion)	1
Quartzsite (SFY 2014 Expansion)	1
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Child Care Centers on the Waitlist for Quality First in the La Paz/Mohave Region

Program	Zip Code	Community	Children in Poverty	Children Served	Children on the Waitlist	Infants/Toddlers
Tiny T-Birds	86442-6089	Bullhead City	47%	41	12	23
Stepping Stones	86429-5886	Bullhead City	47%	237	0	137
Little Scooters	86442-7700	Bullhead City	47%	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Little Explorers	86441-7543	Dolan Springs*	39%	28	10	0
Havasus Christian	86403-7434	Lake Havasu City	25%	67	33	32
New Day School	86426-9249	Fort Mohave	20%	82	0	20

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