

First Things First  
La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council

**Coordinator Report**  
August 2009

**Community Outreach**

Outreach to recruit Stakeholders and expand public awareness of our efforts is ongoing. There are currently 475 Stakeholders in the La Paz Mohave Regional Partnership Council database and 13 contracts are in place with the following community partners:

- Arizona's Children Association (Bright Start)
- Association for Supportive Child Care (T.E.A.C.H.)
- Child and Family Resources (Healthy Families)
- Interagency Council (Healthy Families, Emergency Food, Fatherhood and Special Needs)
- Kingman Area Food Bank (Emergency Food)
- Learning Center for Families (Early Head Start)
- Mohave County Department of Public Health (First Steps)
- Salvation Army Kingman Corps (Emergency Food)
- United Way of Northern Arizona (Emergency Child Care Scholarships)
- Yuma Community Food Bank (Emergency Food)

The following is a list of meetings, presentations, and information sessions hosted by or attended by the Regional Coordinator from May 2008 to present.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
5/20/2008	Kingman	RPC Meeting
6/24/2008	Bullhead	RPC Meeting
6/28/2008	Bullhead	FTF Overview at Association for Supportive Child Care Conference
7/24/2008	Parker	RPC Meeting
8/12/2008	Kingman	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
8/18/2008	Bullhead	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
8/19/2008	Littlefield	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
8/21/2008	Parker	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
8/22//2008	Quartzsite	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
8/24/2008	Lake Havasu	RPC Meeting
8/25/2008	Lake Havasu	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
9/4/2008	Mohave Valley	Stakeholder Strategic Planning
9/25/2008	Mohave Valley	RPC Meeting
10/15/2008	Mohave Valley	Promote FTF at Early Reading First Family Literacy Night
10/23/2008	Littlefield	RPC Meeting
10/30/2008	Lake Havasu	FTF Overview at Sunrise Rotary
11/25/2008	Lake Havasu	FTF Overview at Toastmasters
12/2/2008	Phoenix	FTF State Board Meeting – Present Funding Plan
12/4/2008	Kingman	RPC Meeting

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12/8/2008	Kingman	RFGA Information Meeting
12/9/2008	Peach Springs	RFGA Information Meeting
12/10/2008	Parker	RFGA Information Meeting
1/12/2009	Bullhead	RFGA Information Meeting
1/12/2009	Mohave Valley	RFGA Information Meeting
1/13/2009	Quartzsite	RFGA Information Meeting
1/14/2009	Lake Havasu	RFGA Information Meeting
1/15/2009	Littlefield	RFGA Information Meeting
1/16/2009	Colorado City	RFGA Information Meeting
1/22/2009	Bullhead	RPC Meeting
1/26/2009	Salome	RFGA Information Meeting
1/26/2009	Parker	RFGA Information Meeting
1/27/2009	Kingman	RFGA Information Meeting
2/12/2009	Lake Havasu	Promote FTF at Mothers of Preschoolers
2/18/2009	Lake Havasu	Promote FTF at Parents of Awesome Children
2/20/2009	Kingman	Promote FTF (Big Check Presentation)
2/24/2009	Phoenix	FTF State Board Meeting
2/26/2009	Parker	RPC Meeting
3/6/2009	Bullhead	RPC Meeting
3/10/2009	Parker	Promote FTF (Big Check Presentation)
3/10/2009	Lake Havasu	Family Support RFGA Pre-Application Conference
3/24/2009	Phoenix	FTF State Board Meeting
4/2/2009	Lake Havasu	RPC Meeting
4/23/2009	Lake Havasu	RPC Meeting
4/28/2009	Phoenix	FTF State Board Meeting
4/30/2009	Kingman	Access/PD RFGA Pre-Application Conference
5/21/2009	Mohave Valley	RPC Meeting
6/3/2009	Bullhead	RPC Meeting
6/25/2009	Kingman	RPC Meeting
7/8/2009	Bullhead	Health RFGA Pre-Application Conference
7/13/2009	Kingman	Promote FTF at Mohave County Children's Action Team
7/19/2009	Parker	Promote FTF at CRIT DHS Community Awareness Night
7/18/2009	Bullhead	Promote TEACH
7/23/2009	Bullhead	RPC Meeting
7/28/2009	Parker	CRIT RPC Meeting
7/29/2009	Lake Havasu	Promote FTF at LHUSD Back to School Rally
7/29/2009	Lake Havasu	Promote TEACH (webinar)
8/4/2009	Lake Havasu	Promote FTF at La Paz/Mohave County Meet and Greet
8/4/2009	Kingman	Represent FTF in WACOG Focus Group
8/19/2009	Lake Havasu	Promote TEACH (webinar)
8/27/2009	Parker	RPC Meeting

Please inform the Regional Coordinator of opportunities and contacts for further outreach.

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**SFY 2010 Regional Funding Plan Update**

**Population-Based Allocation** –\$ 2,695,430

**Frontier Adjustment** - \$782,514

**Emergency Scholarship Allocation** – \$675,133

**Emergency Food Allocation** - \$16,392

**Total Funding to Date** - \$4,169,469

Strategy	Description	Allocation	Status
1a. 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 on 6/2/2009 Approved by Council on 6/25/2009 Recommendation to Board on 8/25/2009 Program starts 9/1/2009
<del>1b. Cross-regional pilot study</del>	<del>Conduct a cross-regional pilot study of cost reduction and support strategies.</del>	\$300,000	<del>Cancelled due to other regions reallocating funds to emergency child care scholarships. These funds have not been re-allocated.</del>
1c. Quality First!	Fund additional Quality First slots by enrolling programs who receive planning, access and quality grants.	\$150,000	Pending selection of centers/homes to receive planning, start-up and quality grants through Strategy 1a.
2a. 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 Recommendations to Board 9/22/2009 Programs start 10/1/2009
2b. Infant/Toddler Mental Health	Strengthen the Mohave County Court Team and provide specialized training and technical assistance in infant and toddler mental health to court teams, child-serving organizations and mental health service providers in La Paz and Mohave Counties.	\$400,000	Approved by Council 7/23/2009 Recommendations to Board 8/25/2009 Develop Scope of Work by 9/4/2009 Contract for services by 9/30/2009 Programs start 10/1/2009
3. 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. (40 X \$3180 = \$127,200 plus \$17,200 in additional incentives)	\$144,400	Association for Supportive Child Care distributed brochures and applications. Applications available on ASCC website. Information meetings: Bullhead - 7/18/2009 Lake Havasu - 7/29/2009 (webinar) Lake Havasu - 8/19/2009 (webinar)

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4. 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 on 6/2/2009 Approved by Council on 6/25/2009 Recommendation to Board on 8/25/2009 Programs start 9/1/2009
5. 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home-Based Early Head Start</li> <li>• Healthy Families</li> <li>• Fatherhood Now Group</li> <li>• Parenting Children w/Special Needs</li> </ul>	\$701,896	RFGA release 3/4/2009 Pre-Application Conference 3/10/2009 RFGA close 4/16/2009 Review Committee Training 4/21/2009 Review on 5/11/2009 Recommendations to Council 5/21/2009 Approved by Council 6/3/2009 Approved by Board 6/9/2009 Programs start 7/1/2009
6. 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 (7) held in August '08 in Kingman, Bullhead, Mohave Valley, Littlefield, Lake Havasu, Parker and Quartzsite. Stakeholder RFGA Workshops (11) held in January '09 in Kingman (2), Bullhead, Littlefield, Lake Havasu, Parker, Quartzsite, Mohave Valley, Colorado City, and Wenden. Grantee Orientation – 8/10/2009. Cross-regional coordination meetings TBD.
7. 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
8. Needs and assets	Regional needs and assets assessment.	\$30,000	HOLD
9. Emergency Child Care Scholarships	Provide temporary child care scholarships for families at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.	\$675,133	United Way Northern of Northern Arizona has awarded 241 scholarships through 23 providers as of 7/23/2009. Outreach will not continue as funds are expected to spend out in September.
10. Emergency food assistance	Provide emergency food boxes for families with children birth to five. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kingman Area Food Bank</li> <li>• Interagency Council</li> <li>• Yuma Community Food Bank</li> <li>• Salvation Army Kingman Corps</li> </ul>	\$102,000	Awarded under competitive bid-waiver 4/2/2009. Programs started 4/15/2009

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11. 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bright Start</li> <li>• First Steps</li> <li>• Healthy Families</li> </ul>	\$484,000	Awarded under competitive bid-waiver 4/2/2009. Programs started 4/15/2009.
<b>Total Regional Allocations</b>		<b>\$4,156,563</b>	
<b>Balance (Carry Forward)</b>		<b>\$12,906</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,169,469</b>	

### Statewide Strategy Update

**T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® ARIZONA**, in collaboration with First Things First, is excited to announce the roll-out of the regionally-funded T.E.A.C.H. scholarships for early care and education professionals to pursue the CDA and/or an Associate’s Degree. These scholarships will provide a significant amount of financial support for college tuition, books, travel, paid release time, and bonuses. Two regional information meetings were held for Quality First participants in July. The next information meeting is open to all child care providers in the region and will be at the First Things First Lake Havasu Regional Office on **Wednesday, August 19, 2009 from 6:30 pm—8:30pm**. The address is 1979 McCulloch Blvd, Ste 106, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403. To RSVP, please contact Della Gray at [dgray@azftf.gov](mailto:dgray@azftf.gov) or (928)854-8732. T.E.A.C.H. scholarship applications are now available online. Please direct providers to the Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) website at [www.asccaz.org/teach.html](http://www.asccaz.org/teach.html) to obtain copies of the five (5) types of T.E.A.C.H. applications (available on-line in both English and Spanish) as well as the T.E.A.C.H. brochure (English only).