



**FIRST THINGS FIRST**

*The right system for bright futures*

**Board Report**  
**Statewide and Multi-Regional Initiatives Update**  
**SFY 2010, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**  
**August 2010**

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Quality First!  
 GRANTEE NAMES: United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona (Coaching)  
 Valley of the Sun United Way (Coaching)  
 Southwest Human Development (Assessment)  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Ena Binns, 602-771-5085 or Ginger Sandweg, 602-771-5032

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
Quality First Budget	\$ 6,030,000 (State) \$ 9,894,765 (Regional) \$15,924,765 (Total)	\$4,575,839 (State) \$2,487,087 (Regional) \$7,062,926 (Total)*	76% 25% 44%	100%**
Total Participants Enrolled	651	606	93%	100%
Statewide Participants Enrolled	306 204 Centers 102 Homes	288 198 Centers 90 Homes	94%	100%
Regional Participants Enrolled	345 243 Centers 102 Homes	318 241 Centers 87 Homes	92%	100%

\* Total expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\*Represents 12 months of service.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- Final selection campaigns were completed to fill remaining FY10 vacancies. 57 programs were selected to include 16 state funded slots and 41 regionally funded slots.
- Contract renewals for Quality First coaching and assessment service delivery are completed.
- 19 Regional Partnership Councils have allocated additional funding for FY11 Quality First expansion. Hiring and training of coaches and assessors have begun in preparation for expansion.
- The Quality First application was revised and made available to the public in June 2010. The new application, available in English and Spanish, includes additional programmatic information and an option for rating pilot participation. Notifications were mailed out to all FY10 waitlisted programs. To date, 261 applications have been received for FY11 expansion.
- Memorandum of Agreement was finalized with DES that permits viewing access of DES child care provider database. This access will enable FTF staff to monitor regulatory status for Quality First eligibility. Quality First Staff have completed the required DES training to obtain database access.
- Coordination is ongoing for the Rating Pilot that is scheduled to begin September 2010. Provider focus groups to review revisions on rating documents were conducted in Phoenix on 7/13/10 and in Tucson on 8/12/10.
- The first Quality First Newsletter was completed and disseminated to all enrolled Quality First providers, coaches, assessors, grantees and internal FTF staff in late August 2010. In addition, the Quality First brochure was completed and distributed to Regional staff and grantees.
- 22 programs have been selected for the rating pilot scheduled for September through December 2010.

**Barriers and Challenges**

- Staff has identified the need to evaluate the current process of awarding vacant slots during the second year of program implementation. The funding commitment for Quality First improvement is three years. Awarding vacancies during the second year will impact funding and evaluation activities.
- Two enrolled programs closed after receiving equipment and materials purchased with Quality First incentive funds.

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- FTF staff will assess the total number of FY10 vacant slots and evaluate according to the allocated funding to determine the best plan of action for filling vacancies.
- FTF staff and Legal Counsel are reviewing the legalities regarding retrieval of equipment and materials purchased with Quality First incentives from closed programs. A policy and contractual language for grantee contract amendments will be developed.

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®ARIZONA  
 GRANTEE NAME: Association for Supportive Child Care  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Dr. Alicia Smith, 602-771-5008

Data	Targeted	Actual	% to Date	% Yr Completed
Budget	\$1,450,000 (State)	\$373,432 (State)	26%	100%*
	\$5,766,824 (Regional)	\$673,891 (Regional)	12%	
	\$7,216,824 (Total)	\$1,047,323 (Total)**	15%	
Total Scholarships Awarded	2149	689	32%	100%
• QF Statewide #	450	243	54%	100%
• QF Regional #	475	182	38%	100%
• Regional TEACH #	1224	264	26%	100%

\*Represents 12 months of service.

\*\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

#### Accomplishments to Date

- Spring Semester Enrollment:  
 Students Enrolled: 299  
 Number of Credits Taken: 1583  
 Number of Colleges Attended: 15  
 Number of Children Impacted: Approximately 2392
- Summer Semester Update:  
 Students Enrolled: 171  
 Number of Credits Taken: 678  
 Number of Colleges Attended: 14  
 Number of Children Impacted: Approximately 1368
- 63 recipients completed their contract and earned their bonus or raise from TEACH and their program sponsor.

#### Barriers and Challenges

- The financial obligations of program participation continue to challenge recruitment and enrollment of individuals. DES Child Care Subsidy waiting list and the bleak economic situation continue to hamper program enrollment; it is estimated that 15 early care and education programs are closing each month. For this reason program sponsor costs that are part of the TEACH model have precluded some from participating.
- The participation of Tribal program/populations in TEACH continues to lag, due to the need for specific agreements with some Tribes or administrative rules limiting the payment of the TEACH bonus by the program upon successful completion of a TEACH contract.

#### Plans to Address Barriers and Challenges

- FTF continues to orchestrate dialogue between TEACH, Regional Staff and Policy Staff regarding the Hardship Waiver/ other vehicles for addressing financial barriers. These waivers of specific components of the TEACH model, such as paid release time for the scholar or the bonus at successful completion of a contract, are being discussed with the grantee and FTF regional staff.
- The grantee, through their regional specialists, are working with FTF Coordinator to address ways of better communicating and marketing the program to Tribes and addressing individual and collective issues to facilitate participation.

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: *First Things First Professional REWARD\$*  
 GRANTEE NAME: *Valley of the Sun United Way*  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: *Dr. Alicia Smith, 602-771-5008*

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
<b>Budget</b>	\$212,54 (State) \$1,614,441 (Regional) \$1,826,984 (Total)	\$74,491 Unavailable*	35% Unavailable	100%**
<b>Total # Incentives Awarded</b>	800	415	52%	100%

\*Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\* The grant was approved January 26, 2010; this figure represents 4 of 5 months, or 83% of the funding period.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- *Successful development of an on-line application process; excellent feedback from participants on its ease of use.*
- *676 applications were received during the May enrollment period; of these 428 were eligible to receive the FTF Professional REWARD\$ incentive, 415 early care and education professionals actually received the incentives. Those who did not missed the final deadline for receipt of W2 or other forms related to distribution of checks/payments. Breakdown of the 415 successful participants:*
  - Central Maricopa-28*
  - Central Phoenix-53*
  - Central Pima-108*
  - Coconino-15*
  - Navajo Nation-14*
  - North Phoenix-36*
  - North Pima-26*
  - Pinal-18*
  - San Carlos Apache Tribe-15*
  - South Pima-49*
  - Southeast Maricopa-53*

**Barriers and Challenges**

- *The ability to reach and enroll participants in rural areas with no internet access.*
- *Time to conduct additional outreach activities to inform potential participants.*

**Plans to Address Barriers and Challenges**

- *In anticipation of the next release of REWARD\$, VSUW convened community colleges and United Ways to provide feedback and reflection on the application and outreach activities and to problem solve strategies for increasing the number of applications and awards.*
- *A paper intake is being developed for the next release and will be distributed to QF coaches and Regional Coordinators.*
- *Valley of the Sun United Way and Vendors will conduct community meetings and will invite directors, owners and staff to learn more about the FTF Professional REWARD\$ program.*

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Child Care Health Consultation  
 CONTRACTED WITH: Pima County Health Department and 23 County Health Departments or Other Governmental Organizations  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Kelley Murphy, 602-771-5087

<b>Data</b>	<b>Targeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% to Date</b>	<b>% Yr Completed</b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$1,015,700 (State)	\$433,560 (State)	43%	100%
	\$3,759,968 (Regional)	\$1,328,120 (Regional)	35%	
	\$4,775,668 (Total)	\$1,761,680 (Total)**	37%	
<b>Total CCHC FTEs</b>	46 Consultants	37 Consultants	80%	100%
<b>Total # Signed Contracts with CCHC Grantees</b>	31 Contracts	28 Contracts*	90%	100%

\* One contract is with Pima County Health Department to administer and provide training and technical assistance to 10 contractors, which includes 46 FTEs for 2010 and 52.3 FTEs for 2011.

\*Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- 29.75 Child Care Health Consultants have completed the 60 hour NTI training class.
- 477 Centers and Homes have been assigned a child care health consultant.
- 398 Centers and Homes have had an initial visit by a child care health consultant.
- All child care health consultants are now entering visits into the Carefacts System

**Barriers and Challenges**

- Challenges for contractors to hire qualified consultants in some geographical areas.
- In some regions, it has been difficult to find providers with the capacity to deliver the service.

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- Technical assistance has been provided to contractors in hiring, and other contractors are assisting in posting of positions.
- FTF staff will continue to work with regional coordinators and other community members to identify qualified candidates in the two regions still unserved (San Carlos and Graham/Greenlee).
- With the assistance of Finance, technical assistance in the contract/budgeting process will be provided.

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation – *Smart Support*  
 GRANTEE NAME: Southwest Human Development  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Dr. Judy Walruff, 602-771-5010

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
<b>Budget</b>	\$290,000 (State) \$1,402,339 (Regions) \$1,692,339 (Total)	\$179,895 (State) \$502,511 (Regions) \$682,406 (Total)**	62%* 36% 40%	100%
<b>Enrollment / Service #</b>	Centers - 160 Homes - 64	Centers - 48 Homes - 0	30%	100%
<b>Consultants</b>	32	23	72%	100%

\*Implementation began December 2009. Expenditures reflect seven months since award of contract.

\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter started with 13 Consultants and 5 Supervisors in 9 regions. The quarter ended with 23 consultants hired.
- Extensive outreach was conducted to early care and education home-based providers including letters and brochures to 300 regulated home care providers in funded regions.
- Consultants and Supervisors have met with Quality First coaches, Inclusion Coaches, and Healthcare Consultants to establish a process for engaging child care providers who are already working with another quality improvement program. SWHD program staff formulated a collaborative approach for referring centers, contacting the provider, and setting up the initial meeting.
- In the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter consultants continued to build caseloads. Additional activities for consultants include participating in outreach efforts and developing trainings. They visited their clients more than once a week when that was deemed useful, thereby offering a more intensive level of service and potentially helping to create positive outcomes in shorter amounts of time.
- An orientation to Smart Support was conducted by “live-meeting” for FTF Regional Coordinators and other FTF staff.

**Barriers and Challenges**

- In some Regions, many child care providers have limited English language. This presents many challenges to consultation process and service provision.
- Recruitment to achieve full staffing in some Regions remains a challenge.
- Child care home providers have not request mental health consultation services.

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- In addition to ongoing efforts to hire qualified bilingual mental health consultants, SWHD is contemplating adding a contracted translator who can be utilized for trainings, translating paperwork, and parent meetings.
- Southwest Human Development is intensifying outreach and recruitment activities in Regions that have unfilled staffing positions
- Outreach activities have been developed and implemented to inform, encourage, and welcome early care home providers to Smart Support.

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Access to Oral Health  
 GRANTEE NAME: Arizona Department of Health Services  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Kelley Murphy, 602-771-5087

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
Budget	\$50,000	\$50,000	100%	100%
Pilot Site in Operation	1 Pilot Site in Navajo/Apache Region	See below		

***Accomplishments to Date***

- *Purchase orders for equipment have been completed*
- *A regional oral health coordinator has been identified for the pilot site*
- *A regional oral health coalition is being formed with participation of the RPC*
- *Recruitment of the service delivery team is underway*

***Barriers and Challenges***

- *Contract signature process was slow*
- *Recruiting oral health providers is time consuming*

***Plans to Address Barriers***

- *Grantee will continue to report progress on the pilot site and those served for the next 12 months*

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Physician Outreach and Training  
 GRANTEE NAME: Arizona Academy of Pediatrics  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Kelley Murphy, 602-771-5087

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
<b>Budget</b>	\$269,999 (State) \$200,000 (Regional) \$469,999(Total)	\$124,327 (State)* Unavailable***	46%	100%**
<b>Participation / Service #</b>	60 practices	30 practices	50%	100%

\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\*Represents 12 months of service.

\*\*\*Not available yet through the FTF database (PGMS).

***Accomplishments to Date***

- *Assistant Director and Administrative Assistant were hired.*
- *Two coaches were hired.*
- *The waiver has been received for IRB approval of the Promoting Healthy Development Survey.*
- *Outreach has begun; 50 practices were contacted in the month of July.*
- *Two pilot sites have been identified to do a pilot run of the assessment survey.*

***Barriers and Challenges***

- *Hiring staff has taken longer than anticipated.*
- *Lining up appropriate approvals for the survey and data management has been challenging and time consuming.*

***Plans to Address Barriers***

- *Waiver for IRB approval was received at the end of July, 2010.*
- *Staff are trained and recruitment of physician practices has begun.*
- *The pilot run of assessment will be completed by September 2010.*

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Building Workforce Capacity for Speech Language Pathologists  
 GRANTEE NAME: Arizona State University  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Allison Landy, 602-771-5031

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
Budget	\$275,000	\$275,000*	100%	100%**
Enrollment # in Coursework	At least 7 enrolled	13 students enrolled in FY2010 school year		

\*Contract stipulated an upfront payment rather than a cost reimbursement.

\*\*Represents 12 months of service.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- 13 students are currently enrolled in the EI program.
- 7 of the 13 are continuing students from the 09-10 school year, 3 students with awards in 09-10 declined second year scholarships because they did not wish to incur the additional service obligation.
- 6 students (of 8 offered) accepted scholarships and are in their first year of the program. The grantee hopes to enroll 2 additional students into the program.
- 3 students graduated at the end of the 09-10 school year, 1 with a 1 year total service commitment and 2 with a 2 year total service commitment
- All three graduates are currently employed working with children birth-five, and one of them works specifically in early intervention with children birth-three.
- A pediatric certificate program is under development. The certificate application will be submitted to ASU for approval in February 2011.

**Barriers and Challenges**

- There have been some concerns regarding employment of graduated students in settings serving infants/toddlers and preschoolers exclusively. Many of our students accept positions with agencies that serve a broader age span of clients. It is estimated that for students who remain in Arizona, contract agencies are the number one employer if a student is not interested in an acute care or rehabilitation hospital.

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- As a result of the above, two students accepted employment with contract agencies and the positions were not going to be limited to serving young children. However, after a conversation with their prospective employers, during which the grantee explained the conditions of the service obligations, both agencies agreed to create a position that would comply with the service obligation requirements.

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Arizona Parent Kit  
 GRANTEE NAME: Consultant – Susan Fry  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: K. Vilay, 602-771-5033

<b>Data</b>	<b>Targeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% to Date</b>	<b>% Yr Completed</b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$889,715	\$871,953*	98%	100%**
<b>Recruitment #s</b>	<u>Recruitment:</u> 100% (55) of Birthing Centers/Hospitals	<u>Recruitment:</u> 55 Birthing Centers/Hospitals	100%	100%
<b># Kits Distributed</b>				
<b>Monitoring/TA Provided</b>	<u>Distribution</u> 80% of total births annually	<u>Distribution:</u> Not Currently Tracked		
	<u>Outreach, Monitoring &amp; TA:</u> All sites via phone once monthly. 10% of all sites receive on-site visits monthly	<u>Outreach, Monitoring &amp; TA:</u> All sites contacted by phone Two sites were visited in July	100%	100%

\*Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\*Represents 12 months of service.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- 4,744 kits delivered to sites statewide in July: 4,060 English and 684 Spanish.
- Based upon preliminary concerns from librarians about unreturned or lost items from the kit during check out, the consultant will be piloting check out of the FTF parent kit for six months in Pima County beginning September 2010. Depending upon pilot findings, staff and the consultant will devise plans for future availability of the kit for check out in all Arizona libraries.

**Barriers and Challenges**

- Lack of community/ family awareness in some locations about kit availability.
- Inconsistent distribution

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- In partnership with Piper Trust, consultant and policy staff, communications has developed a plan with activities to bring awareness to the kit.
- Consultant continues to work with sites and provide technical assistance to ensure distribution to all families of newborns. In addition, the consultant continues coordinating efforts and implementing strategies with policy and regional division staff to problem solve with particular sites or regional areas.

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Birth to Five Helpline  
 GRANTEE NAME: Southwest Human Development  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: K. Vilay, 602-771-5033

<b>Data</b>	<b>Targeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% to Date</b>	<b>% Yr Completed</b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$70,685	\$70,685*	100%	100%**
<b>Outreach</b>	Public awareness campaign for all Arizona families with children birth through five to ensure that families are aware of this program and call, as needed, from all regions of the state.	For third quarter of FY 2010: 16 outreach events completed with representation/ audiences from all 15 counties  21,775 Cards distributed  31,783 Magnets distributed (20,000 for the Arizona Parent Kit)	100%	

\*Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\* Represents 12 months of service.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- For the fourth quarter of SFY 2010, the Helpline responded to 977 calls, 113 were related to infant fussiness (fussy baby). In addition to infant fussiness/unsootheable crying, call topics for children 12 months of age and younger include: feeding questions, health questions, sleep problems, infant development, and transition to parenthood issues. Calls regarding children over 12 months of age tended to revolve around the following topics: health and safety, child development, and feeding concerns. The breakdown of all calls was as follows: Behavioral – 146, Development – 380, Divorce – 40, Feeding – 166, Caregiver Mental Health – 143, Parenting Partnership – 75, Sleep – 184, Infant Fussiness – 113, Other – 107
- Helpline now serves nearly 1000 callers each quarter. Additionally, the complexity of the calls has increased substantially, with many families reporting increased stress in their lives and decreased access to providers and services as a consequence of the economic downturn.
- Ongoing collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics AZ Foundation: information about the Helpline was included in the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Arizona June newsletter reaching over 900 OB/GYNs statewide, staff attendance at the American Academy of Pediatrics Conference in Sedona to outreach to pediatricians and other health care professionals and outreach efforts to families served by the Maricopa Reach Out and Read (ROR) programs.

**Barriers and Challenges**

- None identified

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- Not Applicable

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Reach Out and Read Arizona  
 GRANTEE NAME: Arizona Academy of Pediatrics  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: K. Vilay, 602-771-5033

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
<b>Budget</b>	\$496,908	\$392,050*	79%	100%**
<b># Regional Coalition FTEs</b>	Establish RORAZ regional coalitions in underserved areas by hiring four new staff.	Open position: Executive Director  All other vacancies filled	75%	100%
<b># RORAZ Practices</b>	Yuma 3 Graham/ Greenlee 3 Northern Arizona 4 Maricopa County 6 Southern Arizona 3	Yuma 1 Graham/Greenlee 0 Northern Arizona 1 Maricopa County 9 Southern Arizona 1	33% 0% 25% 150% 33%	100%

\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\*Represents 12 months of service.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- *Added the first military base Reach Out and Read program at Luke Air Force Base.*
- *RORAZ Quality Committee has implemented the first Arizona Reach Out and Read Parent Survey. The survey is currently underway with plans to report the information in the fall of 2010. The committee will use the results to implement quality improvement projects.*
- *The RORAZ Advisory Board held a strategic planning day in May. The planning and priorities set will assist the Coalition with goals and successes in the coming year.*
- *The RORAZ 2009 Annual Report was distributed to over 750 supporters.*
- *A new Program Director has been hired and will be starting the first of August.*
- *A new RORNA coordinator to work the northwestern part of the region started in May.*
- *RORAZ all staff meeting took place in June.*

**Barriers and Challenges**

- *The overall challenges continue to be timing and funding: securing the right time to start and the funding necessary to support the programs long term.*
- *Many clinics have reported a decline in visits.*

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- *RORAZ staff will continue to work with FTF coordinators in the regions to assist programs with both of these issues and to work toward success.*

STATEWIDE STRATEGY: Kith and Kin / Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Care  
 GRANTEE NAME: Association for Supportive Child Care  
 STAFF CONTACT NAME: Dr. Alicia Smith, 602-771-5008

<i>Data</i>	<i>Targeted</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>% to Date</i>	<i>% Yr Completed</i>
<b>Budget</b>	\$616,917	\$525,707*	85%	100%**
<b># FFN Providers</b>	75 Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Care Providers	103 Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Care Providers	137%	100%

\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\* Represents 12 months of service.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- *The Yuma Kith and Kin Health and Safety Conference was held on Saturday May 22, 2010. Fifty nine project participants attended. Training topics included child passenger safety, crib/safe sleep safety, brain development, and home/environmental safety. Upon completion of the conference, participants received safety items including fire extinguishers, outlet covers, smoke alarms, and information on how to receive a new free safe crib and car seats for children in their care.*
- *The Coconino County Health and Safety Conference was held on Saturday, June 5, 2010. Eighteen project participants attended. Training topics included oral health, nutrition, crib/safe sleep safety, brain development and home/environment safety. Participants received fire extinguishers, outlet covers, smoke alarms, toothbrushes and information necessary to receive a free new safe crib.*

**Barriers and Challenges**

- *Based on the Arizona Kith and Kin Project’s experience in Yuma and Coconino Counties, the home visiting model may not be as viable as was initially assumed. While it was expected that participants in the more rural areas of the state would be more interested in the home visiting model, as the project moved forward with implementation, it became clear from the communities that the traditional model is a better fit in certain areas.*

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- *The program has addressed this barrier by implementing a blend of both traditional 14 week training-support and home visits based on the needs and requests of the communities, partners and FFN providers in the areas. While this trend is expected to continue, the program is prepared to continue to offer services based upon the needs of each individual community where services are provided.*

**MULTI-REGIONAL STRATEGY: Pre-Kindergarten Expansion – FY2010 (Regionally Funded)**  
**CONTRACTED WITH: Arizona Department of Education**  
**STAFF CONTACT NAME: Dr. Jillynn Stevens, 602-771-5071**

<i>Data</i>	<b>Targeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% to Date</b>	<b>% Yr Completed</b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$1,497,300  (Regional)	\$1,175,379*  (Regional)	78%	100%
<b>Number of Increased Slots for Participating Children (Schools)</b>	296	181	61%	100%
<b>Number of Increased Slots for Participating Children (Community Based)</b>	N/A**	0	0%	100%
<b>Number of Center-Based Providers Receiving Support</b>	N/A	0	0%	100%

\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\*This strategy was implemented during the latter half of FY2010, and data are not yet available through PGMS.

**Accomplishments to Date**

- Three Regional Partnership Councils (Northeast Maricopa, South Phoenix, Yuma) implemented pre-k strategies in the latter half of FY2010.
- Programs received positive feedback from parents about the high quality of the programs, progress of children and the continuation of programs in FY2011. Parents report that children benefited from exposure to the classroom setting in preparation for kindergarten, exhibited improved social, vocabulary and language skills.
- Teachers in South Phoenix report a sense of pride about students' accomplishments and are excited by the level of parental involvement in the program.

**Barriers and Challenges**

- Recruiting children for a partial year program was difficult.
- Establishing relationships with community based partners proved particularly difficult for programs starting up mid-year and working out all of their own implementation issues.
- Attracting and retaining highly qualified staff was difficult in some cases.

**Plans to Address Barriers**

- The grantee, Arizona Department of Education (ADE), hired program mentors to ensure full implementation of the mixed service delivery model in FY2011.
- ADE hosted information meetings for each participating region to ensure program implementation and partnerships with community-based partners are developed for FY2011.
- ADE will work with each district and community based partner that do not meet staff qualifications to attain full compliance by the statute due date of July 2012.

**MULTI-REGIONAL STRATEGY:** Child Care Scholarships – FY2010 (Regionally Funded)

**CONTRACTED WITH:** Valley of the Sun United Way

**STAFF CONTACT NAME:** Dr. Jillynn Stevens, 602-771-5071

<b>Data</b>	<b>Targeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>% to Date</b>	<b>% Yr Completed</b>
<b>Budget</b>	\$31,000,000 (Regional)	\$28,000,000 (Regional)*	97%	100%
<b>Total Number of Children Supported by a Scholarship</b>	N/A**	Emergency Scholarships: 10,176  Regional Scholarships: 1,645	N/A	100%

Note: This strategy was implemented primarily in the latter half of FY2010. Partnerships with community based providers did not proceed due to starting the program mid-year or later but will be implemented in FY2011.

\* Actual expenditures for SFY 2010 will not be available until grantee completes accounts reconciliation in September.

\*\*Under the bid waiver, no target service numbers were set. They will be available for FY2011. The actual number of unduplicated children supported by a scholarship is not available at this time but is well over 10,000.

#### **Accomplishments to Date**

- Fifteen Regional Partnership Councils provided Child Care Scholarships during the final quarter of FY2010.
- Sixteen Regional Partnership Councils will provide Child Care Scholarships in FY2011. During the final quarter of FY2011, the majority of providers and families were transitioned off of or onto Child Care Scholarship or signed new contracts for the upcoming year.
- All parents at CRIT's only participating provider wrote thank you letters to the Regional Council for the scholarships. A collaboration with the Yuma United Way helped facilitate the Child Care Scholarships as they transitioned to fewer providers and families in FY2011.

#### **Barriers and Challenges**

- Transitioning from FY2010 to FY2011 proved more challenging than anticipated given the volume of providers and families to notify for program closures/transitions/and new funding opportunities.
- A new data portal was developed for provider data submissions, requiring providers to learn new submission processes.
- Very short-term programs like those using unspent Emergency Child Care funds at the end of the year to fund three month programs appeared to cause more upheaval for families and providers than help. Families were largely unable to continue their children in child care.
- With the transition from FY2010 to FY2011, funding was annualized and regions only covered part of FY2010. The result was generally a decrease in the number of scholarships and/or numbers of providers able to be funded. Regions took various approaches on how to distribute limited funding with various responses. The transitions in South Phoenix, North Phoenix and NW Maricopa were the most challenging and disruptive to the concept of continuity of care for children.

#### **Plans to Address Barriers**

- VSUW hired an additional part-time employee to handle the increased workload with the transition from FY2010 to FY2011.
- VSUW provided in-person training and written materials for providers to help transition them to a new web portal program. Yavapai providers reported being happy with the new system while it proved more challenging for some rural areas of the state.

