

**Statewide Initiatives Update
October 2009**

Statewide Strategy	Target / Expected	Actual	Update / Accomplishments	Barriers /Challenges	Plans to Address Barriers
<p>Quality First!</p>	<p>Total Funded: 621 Statewide: 300 Regional: 321</p>	<p>Total Awarded: 608 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide: 294 • Regional: 314 <p>Total Enrolled: 463</p> <p>Remaining 145 programs are completing the QF Orientation</p> <p>Selected Participants Declining: 65*</p> </p>	<p>*Programs decline enrollment in Quality First for a variety of factors to include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program closure due to economic stressors • Decrease in program enrollment • Staff turnover • Applied only to receive scholarship funding • Continued participation in Arizona Self Study Project • Not the best time to participate in a program of this magnitude • (Family Providers only) Personal family health reasons <p>Selection campaigns to fill vacant slots are held continuously.</p> <p>Nearly 200 assessment visits have been completed.</p> <p>In spite of the unpredicted challenges, assessors have been earnestly working to complete and finalize program assessment as soon as possible.</p> <p>Quality Rating Scale indicators were revised and public input gathered during public meetings October 21 and 26. Additional outreach meetings are scheduled during November throughout the state.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical difficulties with the Quality First System/Extranet have delayed timely and successful data entry of assessments, creating delays in the development of Quality Improvement Plans (QIP) and incentive distribution. • Timeline for entering, proofreading and finalizing assessments has taken longer than expected. • Simultaneous enrollment of 600+ programs within the same period, creating a burden on assessment and coaching grantees • Staff turnover and unfilled positions in coaching and assessment contracts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTF PBS and Policy Divisions have developed a plan to resolve database difficulties by 10/30/09. • FTF and assessment grantee are using grantee data to reduce caseloads, add assessors and reduce time from initial assessment visit to final assessment approval. • FTF will mail a letter by October 19th to all enrolled programs updating them on the delay in the assessment process. • Grantees are responsible for providing FTF with action plans for filling positions and reducing staff turnover.

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T.E.A.C.H. ARIZONA	<p>Statewide Quality First:</p> <p>Scholarships awarded: 200 by 12/31/09 450 by 6/30/10</p> <p>Regional Quality First:</p> <p>Scholarships awarded: 100 by 12/31/09 475 by 6/30/10</p> <p>Regional TEACH only:</p> <p>Scholarships awarded: 433 by 12/31/09 1,224 by 6/30/10</p>	<p>Statewide Quality First: 74 awarded CDA applications-11 CDA awards-0 AA applications-216 AA awards-74</p> <p>Regional Quality First: 6 awarded CDA applications-0 CDA awards-0 AA applications-25 AA awards-6</p> <p>Regional TEACH only: 14 awarded CDA applications-5 CDA awards-1 AA applications-72 AA awards-13</p>	<p>Standing bi-weekly meetings between FTF /TEACH to discuss issues around award of scholarships in the three funding areas.</p> <p>TEACH Advisory Committee held regular monthly meeting in October. Marla Chamberlain, Regional Manager, Central East, is the new FTF designee to Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Advisory Committee voted to retain the eligibility criterion requiring that applicants be actively engaged with children for not less than 30 hours each week—all questions from public and community entities to be directed to TEACH®ARIZONA.</p> <p>32 statewide community Informational sessions, 6 presentations to colleges and 3 Live Meetings with participants hosted at 15 regional offices have been held to date.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misunderstandings among some ECE providers, professionals and colleges about application process and requirements for scholarships. • Time required for verifying and processing applications greater than anticipated. • Simultaneous enrollment of 600+ programs into Quality First within the same period, creating a burden for identifying scholarship recipients and processing applications. • Overwhelming number of scholarships funded by regional councils created capacity challenge for grantee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two (2) more Live Meetings scheduled by grantee for end of October, plus 9 more information sessions during Oct/Nov; two monthly sessions (one in English and one in Spanish) planned monthly through spring 2010. • TEACH grantee provided training during October to Quality First coaches so they can assist individuals in QF sites with the TEACH application process. • Intensive recruitment effort resulted in hiring of 5 new staff in October, bringing total 8 staff; 6 more staff to be hired by early November. • New staff are being assigned to cover specific RPC areas and to provide assistance to complete applications and liaison with colleges for additional support to TEACH scholars.

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Child Care Health Consultation	31 regions with a signed contracts with county health departments and other agencies to employ CCHCs	19 regions* with signed contracts 3 waiting for signature 9 with no identified provider (6 tribal regions) *These 19 regions represent 41 of the 45 total FTE's to be hired.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First contractor orientation and training completed 09/23/2009. • CCHC page in Extranet is now completed and ready for use by contractors. • CCHC software database is ready for use. • CCHC have begun visiting Quality First participants in Tucson and southern Arizona. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges in finalizing contracts with Local Health Departments due to state budget cuts and H1N1 virus. • Extended time required to transfer the CCHC software to the FTF database. • Identification of health agencies to employ CCHC a challenge in tribal regions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy staff continues personal outreach to entities in 9 regions without a contract, as well as work through regional coordinators and councils. • Policy staff attempting to gain permission for County Contractors to provide service in tribal regions.
Arizona Parent Kits Hospital Recruitment Distribution Hospital Ongoing Outreach, Monitoring and Technical Assistance	Outreach by September 2009 to Navajo Nation hospitals in Ft. Defiance and Chinle 80% of total births annually All sites via phone once monthly. 10% of all sites receive on-site visits monthly	Outreach visits on 9/10/09 1 st qtr. data report available and analyzed by 12/09 100% monthly phone calls 10% completed in September and again in October	Kits are now voluntarily distributed in ALL Arizona birthing hospitals and centers. In process of replenishing inventory to carry through FY10 Decreased unit costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boxes from \$2.00 unit to \$1.78 unit • DVDs from \$8.25 unit to \$8.00 unit Monitoring/TA provided to 7 rural birthing hospitals, including 2 tribal sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation varies from site to site – all operate on a voluntary basis and some sites are more consistent than others. • Lack of storage capacity at some sites. • Turnover of staff at some sites who stock and distribute kits. • Lack of community/ family awareness in some locations about kit availability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant contacts all sites monthly via phone to review # kits , # births and provide TA. • Consultant is prioritizing site visits based upon phone contacts and regular feedback from region. • Awareness plan will be initiated by FTF Communications Division no later than 1/31/10.

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Physician Outreach and Training	Release of RFGA by mid-September 2009	RFGA released 9/14/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFGA released September 14, 2009 • Pre-Application meeting held 9/22/09 • Closing date 10/30/09 • Award is expected in early December 	N/A	N/A
Workforce Development – Speech Language Pathologists (SLP)	7 students	11 students enrolled for FY10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 students enrolled in enhanced SLP program at ASU • FTF is partnering to sponsor a conference for families with children who have feeding concerns • Coordination meetings scheduled to link this ASU contract with the stipend/ recruitment strategy implemented by ADHS and funded by regional councils. 	N/A	N/A
Mental Health Consultation and Training	Release of RFGA by mid-September 2009	Released 9/11/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Application meeting held on 9/22/09 • Closing date 10/27/09 • Award is expected in early December 	N/A	N/A
Oral Health Study Project	FTF is coordinating oral health planning and development activities that involve FTF regions. Completion by July 2010 of state plan to strengthen oral health care for young children	First meeting on 10/23/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State plan will integrate with recent ADHS federal award to plan for oral health services for underserved communities in AZ. 	N/A	N/A

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Health Insurance Outreach	Interagency agreement to expand utilization of Health E Application in targeted FTF Regions to be completed by November 2009		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTF , DES, AHCCCS will establish interagency agreement for utilization of the Health E App for regional strategies involving health insurance outreach • Agreements will result in increased Federal match to Arizona agencies 	N/A	N/A
FTF Professional REWARD\$	Release of RFGA on 10/7/09 Pre-Application Conference on 10/15/09	10/8/09 release 10/15/09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFGA released and information available on the FTF website at http://www.azftf.gov/WhatWeDo/Funding/Pages/RFGADetail.aspx?RFGAID=FTF-STATE-10-0235-00 • Reconvening the previous Application Review Committee— initial contact made 10/9/09 • Closing date 11/20/09 	N/A	N/A
Coordination: Home Visiting Taskforce	FTF is leading collaboration efforts on a statewide plan for home visiting. The task force has been convened to prepare a state plan by 3/1/10. This plan will include recommendations for a coordinated home visiting approach to be used by all agencies & stakeholders in the state.	First meeting is October 31, 2009	<p>The State Plan will address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interagency agreements (MOU's- ISA's) that provide for coordination of effort of each funding agency (FTF, ADHS, DES, ADE and Head Start) • staff training • program monitoring and quality assurance • national certification and accreditation of programs and staff • mechanisms for sharing data and determining gaps and needs • uniform standards of practice • evaluation guidelines <p>Taskforce members have been selected and include representatives from home visiting agencies and state agencies in AZ.</p>	N/A	N/A

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<p>Competitive Statewide Grants:</p> <p>The Arizona Kith and Kin Project</p> <p>Arizona Reach Out and Read (ROR)</p> <p>Birth to Five Helpline</p>	<p>First Quarterly Report Due October 20, 2009</p>		<p>Policy and Evaluation staff will review quarterly data and narrative reports after submission 10/20/09.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>