Strategy 12: Expand home visiting program network

While there are a great many programs available for children who qualify for the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), Early Head Start, Even Start, and other funded home visiting programs, these opportunities are typically only available to a specific population of children usually defined as being developmentally delayed, or low-income, or involved with the Child Protective Services or the court system in some way. These programs are by and large not available to families who do not meet these requirements. Families of all descriptions could benefit from a home-visiting model, provided that they request the support.

The Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council would like to support the First Things First statewide initiative to provide the Arizona Parent's Kit to all parents of newborns within the state of Arizona. Within the Navajo/Apache Region, the birth cohort is typically 1,200 babies annually. Summit Regional Healthcare is the birthing hospital located within the region and the majority of babies born to mothers who live in this region are born at this hospital, with the rest typically delivered in Phoenix. The Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council would like to augment the provision of the Arizona Parent's Kit with the addition of a home visiting component to support new parents as they become more accustomed to parenting their infants. The home visitor would use the Arizona Parent's Kit as a starting place for the visit and would support the parent's utilization and internalization of the information contained in the Kit.

Home visitation programs may:

- Augment the Arizona Parent Kit.
- Provide coping skills to new parents or grandparents as a method of preventing child abuse.
- Provide information related to home safety, car seat use/installation/provision (provision of appropriate car seat if needed, and family does not qualify for a car seat from the Health Department).
- Provide breastfeeding support (if desired) and ongoing parental follow-up and support post delivery.
- Provide a family advocate to assist the family in navigating the system of supports available within the region.
- Provide child development information, materials, coaching and modeling as appropriate for the family, child, and/or caregiver.

Evidence:

- Proven Practice[i]
- Increased school readiness.
- Child abuse prevention.
- Positive parenting and increased parental involvement.
- Improvement in child and maternal health outcomes.

Format:

- A person trained in child development (professional or paraprofessional) makes regularly scheduled visits to homes—or other natural environments such as the library or other public community centers—with infants or young children, to answer questions, provide information and resources, assist parents in their parenting or provide early detection of any developmental problems in the children.
- Home visiting is voluntary, with no fee for service to families. Family-centered approach,

which considers child's present level of development, parent/families knowledge and understanding of child development, current parenting practices, daily routines and interactions, etc.

- This position would require a Bachelor's Degree in early childhood development or a related field.
- Provide parents, families, and other primary caregivers with coaching and other direct service techniques to inform and educate on the topics of child development and emergent language and literacy development.
- Home visitation schedules will be developed and determined by the grantee.

The Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council is interested in seeing the approaches that will be proposed by potential grantees; within that framework, each potential grantee will be required to submit evidenced-based, research-proven approaches to meet the scope of this strategy. Priority will be given to potential grantees that have the existing organizational and personnel capacity to serve a large population of children.

The Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council will place priority on grantee applications that are based on collaborative relationships between existing regional agencies and organizations.

Lead Goal: FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.

Key Measures:

1. Percentage of families with children birth through age five, who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well being

Target Population:

Children birth through age five living in the region, who ***do not*** meet eligibility requirements for another home-visiting program.

	SFY2010 **July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010**	**SFY2011** **July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011**	**SFY2012** **July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012**
Proposed Service Numbers	400 Families	100 Families *note: target number has decreased.	125 Families

Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012

- Number and percent of families receiving home visiting services/proposed service number
- Percent of families that reported satisfaction with provided home visiting support/strategic target
- Percent of families showing increased parenting knowledge and skill after receiving home visiting support/ strategic target
- Percent of families that reported increased confidence related to parenting/strategic target
- Percent of families that reported increased knowledge related to parenting/strategic target
- Percent of families that reported satisfaction with the Parent Kit /strategic target
- Percent of families showing increases in parenting knowledge and skill after using the parent kit/strategic target

How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists:

- Summit Regional Health Care currently offers OB services with limited out-patient follow up after delivery. The hospital would like to enhance this ability.
- The Neonatal Intensive Care Program currently serves infants who are returning home to the region following premature delivery or infants with significant medical follow-up needs.
- Northland Therapy Services provides Early Intervention Program services in Southern Navajo County.
- Hummingbird Early Intervention provides earl y intervention services in Southern Apache County.
- Home-based Early Head Start is available to qualifying families in the region to those living within a 30-mile radius of the Head Start Centers in Holbrook, Snowflake, Show Low, and Springerville, and St. Johns.

What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment:

- Apache Public Health Department currently offers some home visiting services that may compliment this strategy.
- Summit Regional Medical Center is interested in expanding their service delivery to families of newborns and young children.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy (How much of the total allocation will go to this strategy)

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	$139,788 *note: FY2011 funding level is $195,000.00

Budget Justification:

$ 50,000 = salary and ERE
$ 10,000 = travel reimbursement
$ 62,080 = $10.00 per child X regional population of 6208 for program related materials each year
$ 5,000 = outreach and public relations
$ 12,708 = (10%) administrative costs

*note – this is for planning purposes only – does NOT need to correlate in any way to any proposed budget.

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[i] **RESEARCH NOTES:**

Bouhebent, Edith Anne (2008) **"Providing the Best for Families Developmentally Appropriate Home Visitation Services"** *Young Children March 2008* National Association for the Education of Young Children

(2008) **"Evidence-Based Early Childhood Home Visitation Programs"** *www.homevisitingcoalition.org*

(2008) **"Children's Trust Evidence Based Home Visiting Programs and Criteria for Inclusion"** *www.wcpcan.wa.gov*

Richardson, Darcy (2008) **"Linking Practice and Research on Home Visitation"** *Building Bridges Spring 2008* LeCroy & Milligan Associates, Inc

(2007) **"Home Visiting Programs: A Brief Overview of Selected Models"** *Friends Fact Sheet #15* National Resource Center for CBCAP

Hegland, Susan and Hughes, Kere (2006) "**Ten Evidence-Based Practices for Home Visiting Programs"** *www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood*

(2006) **Fact Sheet: Home Visiting as an Intervention in Infant Mental Health** Florida State University Center for Prevention and Early Intervention Policy: Harris Institute for Infant Mental Health Training

Boulatoff, Catherine and Jump, Vonda K. (2005) **"Cost Analysis of a Home Visiting Program to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect"** Early Intervention Research Institute at Utah State University

(1999) **"Home Visiting: Recent Program Evaluations"** *The Future of Children Volume 9 number 1 Spring/ Summer 1999*