



Southern Arizona
**MILITARY/VETERAN
COMMUNITY SUMMIT**
*BUILDING THE COMMUNITY NETWORK
TO SUPPORT SERVICE MEMBERS,
VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES*



DECEMBER 5, 2014 - 8:30 - 4:30

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA - STUDENT UNION - NORTH BALLROOM

1303 E. University Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85719

(Directions and parking instructions will be emailed to registered participants.)

Representatives of public and private sector organizations are invited to attend a one-day community summit. The focus will be developing the **Military/Veteran Community Network for Southern Arizona** by engaging the people and organizations that are providing care, support and assistance to the 185,000 service members, veterans and their families who live throughout the six southern Arizona counties (Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yuma).

Who should attend? Organizations should send 1-2 representatives. Representatives should be individuals who have an organizational role focused on outreach, community engagement and collaboration and who can complete the process for the organization to become a partner on the Community Network. Invitees include representatives of:

Military installations & entities • Federal & state government agencies • Tribal nations
Counties, cities & towns • Business & employers • Nonprofit organizations
Schools • Health care, behavioral health & other service providers • Faith-based communities

Agenda: The agenda will consist of general sessions and facilitated breakout sessions focused on the interests and needs of organizations by sector. Technical assistance will be provided to organizations on how to join and actively participate in the Community Network.

REGISTER ONLINE: <http://ACMFSouthernAZ.eventbrite.com>

Lunch will be provided. There is no cost for this event but registration by 11/26 is required.

Questions? Please contact us at events@arizonacoalition.org or 602-753-8802.

NETWORK & SUMMIT PARTNERS



City of Tucson Veterans Court • Community Partnership of Southern Arizona • Davis-Monthan Air Force Base DM50 • Southern AZ VA Health Care System • Tucson Chamber of Commerce

The Arizona Coalition for Military Families is a public/private partnership focused on building Arizona's statewide capacity to care for and support all service members, veterans, their families and communities. Learn more at: www.ArizonaCoalition.org

to assist child care providers

First Things First invests in area's Kith and Kin Project

BY SARAH WOMER
@YSSARAHWOMER

According to the Association for Supportive Child Care, unregulated home-based care is the most common type of child care provided for young children with working parents nationwide.

That's why First Things First has invested dollars in ASCC's Arizona Kith and Kin Project to ensure that there is an opportunity for those providers - immediate or extended family members, friends and neighbors - to be supported in their child care efforts.

ASCC collaborates with community organizations to provide a 14-week training-support group where participants meet once a week to discuss topics of nutrition, brain development, guidance and discipline, arranging the environment, language and literacy, parent/caregiver relationship, and business practices as well as pediatric first aid, CPR and AED certification, home and environment safety, crib

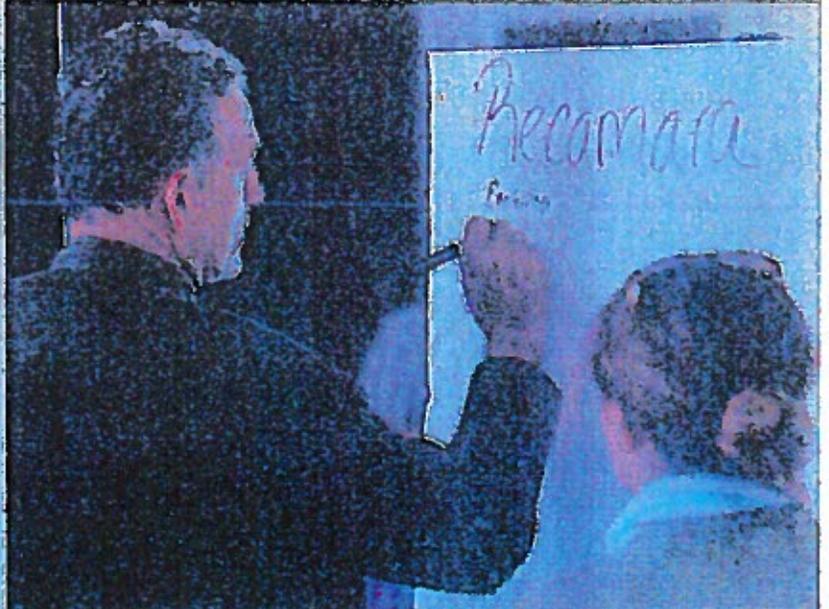
SEE PROGRAM/AS



Buy these photos at YumaSun.com

PHOTO BY RANDY HOEFT/YUMA

CAREGIVER MARIANN GARCIA COMFORTS an infant in the Kith & Kin program Monday morning at the City of Yuma Housing Authority community room.



ADULTS PARTICIPATE IN AN EXERCISE (ABOVE) in the Kith & Kin program Monday morning at the City of Yuma Housing Authority community room. A 3-year-old boy plays with toy tractors and trailers (left) in the Kith & Kin program Monday.



Buy this photo at YumaSun.com

PHOTO BY RANDY HCEFT/YUMA SUN

ROSY TAYLOR, PROGRAM SPECIALIST for Kith & Kin, leads a group of adults through an exercise Monday morning at the City of Yuma Housing Authority community room.

PROGRAM

FROM PAGE A1

safety, and child passenger safety.

The program delivers professional development services to the "forgotten population" of child care providers.

"This is a population that very often gets ignored. They're kind of invisible because we don't think of them as childcare providers. Although they are grandmas, and aunts, and neighbors - they're not less important than those preschool teachers that are in Head Start or formal childcare environments... They didn't wake up and decide to start a child care business, but somehow they have ended up in that role," said Arizona Kith and Kin Project program coordinator Sarah Ocampo-Schlesinger.

"We want to make sure that (the children they care for) have the education and the tools that kids in Head Start or preschool programs are getting, so they're not missing out."

Ocampo-Schlesinger said that as it is required that students in Arizona are reading by third-grade to progress on to the next grade level, if a child is in an in-home care environment without any exposure to learning, the ramifications could potentially be detrimental for their academic years.



IRENE GARZA



DARREN HAWKINS



SARA OCAMPO-SCHLESINGER



RUDY ORTIZ

"If they're arriving to kindergarten and they haven't even seen letters or numbers yet, we're going to have issues right off the start," she said.

On Monday, the First Things First Yuma Regional Partnership Council and other members of the community had an opportunity to see one of the sessions first-hand. A group of kith and kin providers were in the middle of a conversation about recommendations for home safety when four participants observed the session. The visitors also had an opportunity to observe the child care services that are offered for the young kids that the providers care for, as a way to eliminate any barriers of attending the meetings.

This particular training-support group was held in the Housing Authority of the City of Yuma's community room. Michael Morrissey, HACY executive director, shared that having the program offered on its site has made a significant impact for those it serves. HACY has over 1,400 affordable housing units in Yuma that serve about 3,000 chil-

dren under the age of 18. About 600 of those children are age 5 and under.

Yuma Regional Partnership Council vice chair Irene Garza noted that the responsibility of its council is to evaluate the community and see where educational gaps exist.

"I'm sure that all of us in one time or another in our lives were taken care of by a grandparent, an aunt, an uncle, a neighbor - and this program is something that's wonderful because it helps to educate and enrich the lives of those people that provide care for our children."

She shared that her own mother-in-law participated in the program and was surprised by the amount of knowledge that she gained. After raising children and helping to care for grandchildren, Garza said that her mother-in-law wasn't sure that "a program like this could teach her anything new." After going through the sessions, however, she said that she admitted that she learned things she "had no clue about" and wishes she that she would have learned

about when she herself was a parent.

First Things First has invested its dollars in a number of programs to ensure that young students are prepared and have access to quality care in their early years. Through the over \$5 million they receive annually from tobacco tax dollars, First Things First currently provides \$150,000 to support is the Arizona Kith and Kin Project.

While the Kith and Kin program has existed since 1999 in Arizona, it has only been offered in Yuma for the last three years. Ocampo-Schlesinger said that it aims to serve 90 people per year through its six session offerings, but it often exceed that number in Yuma County due to the demand for its services.

People can sign up for one of six sessions offered per year at locations throughout Yuma County by contacting Arizona Kith and Kin program specialist Rosy Taylor at rtaylor@asccaz.org or at 276-4083. There is no minimum income requirement to participate in the program. People can also visit www.asccas.org for additional information about the Kith and Kin Project.

Sarah Womer can be reached at swomer@yumasun.com or 539-6858. Find her on Facebook at [Facebook.com/YSSarahWomer](https://www.facebook.com/YSSarahWomer) or on Twitter at @YSSarahWomer.

Allocations and Funding Sources	2016-2018
FY Allocation	\$4,945,570

QF Investment

FY16
QF Coaching \$393,726
Scholarships \$1,967,960
279 slots
FY 16 Total Unallotted:
\$23,869

FY17
QF Coaching \$406,023
FY 16 Total Unallotted:
\$11,572

FY18
QF Coaching \$411,901
FY 16 Total Unallotted:
\$5,694

Strategies	Proposed Allotment	Target Service Units
Quality First Scholarships	\$1,967,960	279 slots for children 0-5
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$150,000	90 home based providers served
Quality First	-	
Quality First Coaching & Incentives	\$393,726	14 centers/20 homes/7 rating only centers
Quality First Academy	\$38,540	-
Quality First Specialized Technical Assistance	\$18,700	-
Child Care Health Consultation	\$83,980	14 centers/20 homes
Community Based Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals	\$125,000	300 participating professionals
Home Visitation	\$850,000	245 number of families served
Family Support – Children with Special Needs	\$240,000	70 number of families served
Inclusion of Children with Special Needs	\$200,000	14 number center based providers served/12 numbers of home based providers served/ 26 number of participating children with special needs
Parenting Education	\$100,000	50 adults completing a series
Parent Outreach and Awareness (including Reach Out and Read \$85,000)	\$101,000	120,000 number of resource guides distributed ROR: 17 participating practices/9,444 number of books distributed
Oral Health	\$220,000	3625 of fluoride varnishes applied/ 180 number of participating adults/ 35 number of participating professionals/ 3625 number of children receiving oral health screenings
College Scholarships for Early Childhood Professionals	\$33,000	15 number of full-time scholarships for CDA/AA 0 number of full-time scholarships for BA
Community Outreach	\$80,000	-
Community Awareness	\$15,000	-
Food Security	\$20,000	3,333 food back packs
Media	\$20,000	-
Statewide Evaluation	\$264,795	-
Total	\$4,921,701	
Total Unallotted	\$23,869	