



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 1

## Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board Cochise Regional Partnership Council

### Meeting Minutes May 16, 2013

#### Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Cochise Regional Partnership Council was held on Thursday, May 16, 2013, at the Sierra Vista Police Station, 911 North Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona, 85635.

#### Council Members Present:

Shawn Buckhanan (Via Phone), Marge Dailey, Dr. Stephen Poling, Melanie Rottweiler, Pastor Tommy Simpson (Via Phone), Jane Strain, and Kathleen Vedock

Council Members Absent: Chuck Hoyack, Michael Vetter, and Nancy-Jean Welker

#### Others Present:

Melissa Avant, Sarah Furnas, Cindi Alva, Joyce Flieger, Charlotte Taylor, Ken James, Alesia Ash, and Rod Creathbaum

Chair Rottweiler welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at approximately 2:10 p.m. Chair Rottweiler led the Regional Council Members and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Call to the Public

Chair Rottweiler made a Call to the Public. There was one response to the Call to Public.

Ken James, City of Sierra Vista, presented the First Things First Regional Council with a Certificate of Appreciation Plaque for their sponsorship of the Eggstravaganza Event.

#### Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Chair Rottweiler explained to the Regional Council Members that they could declare their Conflicts of Interests at this time or wait until the specified agenda item. No Regional Council Members declared a Conflict of Interest at this time. A brief discussion on how to determine if you have a conflict took place between the Regional Council Members, Melissa Avant, Regional Director and Cindi Alva, Senior Director.

#### Discussion and Possible Approval of Minutes

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the March 21, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Member Dailey to approve the March 21, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes; Member Strain seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (7-0-0).

**Discussion and Possible Approval of the Governance Policy (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director, who gave a brief explanation of changes and updates needed to be made to the governance policy in Cochise section 1-108. Member Strain suggested another change be made to section 1-103 regarding attendance. Ms. Avant facilitated a brief discussion regarding excused and unexcused absences.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval to approve the Governance Policy as discussed for SFY2014.

A motion was made by Member Strain to approve the Governance Policy as discussed with the following addendums, the first paragraph of 1-103 will be crossed out and the word fiscal will be changed to calendar in 1-108; Member Poling seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Communications Budget Community Awareness Line Item for SFY2014**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave a brief description of Community Awareness, Community Awareness changes and Budget changes for SFY 2014.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval to approve the Communications Budget – Community Awareness Line items as discussed for SFY 2014.

A motion was made by Member Dailey to approve the Communications Budget – Community Awareness Line items as discussed for SFY 2014; Member Poling seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Sponsorships**

A. City of Sierra – Back to School fair

Chair Rottweiler facilitated a very brief discussion with the Regional Council Members regarding the back to school fair.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval to approve the sponsorship request to the City of Sierra Vista in the amount of \$1,600 for the Back to School Fair.

A motion was made by Member Poling to approve the sponsorship request to the City of Sierra Vista in the amount of \$1,600 for the Back to School Fair; Member Dailey seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

**Review of SFY 2013 Grantee Financial, Data and Narrative Reports-3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave a brief description of the Financial, Data, and Narrative charts provided to the Regional Council in there packets.

- A. Financial – Ms. Avant explained the financial charts in detail to the Regional Council.
- B. Data – Ms. Avant gave a brief description of the data reports and explained that they came from the evaluation division.
- C. Narrative – Ms. Avant explained that she summarized the Statewide Narrative report and gave the entire Narrative report from the grantee locally on the form provided in the Regional Council Members packets. A lengthy discussion facilitated by Ms. Avant followed, regarding the need for therapists in the county.

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Grantee Renewal Home Visitation for SFY2014**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave a description and an overview of the Grantee Renewal information and data for the work the Grantee has completed.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval to approve the Grant Renewal with Easter Seals Blake Foundation Contract # FTF-RC002-13-0385-03, in the amount of \$600,000 for SFY 2014.

A motion was made by Member Strain to approve the Grant Renewal with Easter Seals Blake Foundation Contract # FTF-RC002-13-0385-03, in the amount of \$600,000 for SFY 2014; Member Vedock seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

**Discussion and Possible Approval of Grant Agreement Oral Health for SFY2014**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave a description and overview of the Rationale and Proposal Information forms provided to the Regional Council members in there packets. Ms. Avant gave an overview of the charts provided regarding the First Smiles Program. Ms. Avant facilitated a brief discussion on the Grant Agreement Approval.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval to approve the Grant Agreement with the U of A Cooperative Extension Contract # GRA-RC002-14-0619-01, in the amount of \$190,000 for SFY 2014.

A motion was made by Member Vedock to approve the Grant Agreement with the U of A Cooperative Extension Contract # GRA-RC002-14-0619-01, in the amount of \$190,000 for SFY 2014; Member Strain seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

**Regional Director’s Report**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave an update on the following topics:

A. Welcome Dr. Kathleen Vedock - Ms. Avant introduced and welcomed Dr. Kathleen Vedock to the Cochise Regional Council. Dr. Vedock gave a brief introduction to herself.

B. Quality First Model Update – Ms. Avant spoke briefly of the Quality First Public Launch happening on August 12, 2013. Ms. Avant gave a brief overview of the emails sent out to the Regional Council Members regarding the Quality First Model Update and how to access more information.

Ms. Avant gave a brief mention of the 2013 Summit registration process for the Regional Council Members and recognized Sarah Furnas, Administrative Assistant II. Ms. Furnas gave a brief overview of the missing State Mandated Training that the Regional Council Members are required to complete.

C. Regional Bench Marking – Ms. Avant gave a brief description of the Indicators and Benchmark forms that were provided to the Regional Council Members. Ms. Avant informed the Regional Council Members how to read the forms about the six indicators chosen by the Regional Council, their intents, what phases First Things First is in within each indicator and which specific indicators will be worked on in the near future.

**Discussion and Activity on System Building**

Chair Rottweiler concluded that there were not enough Regional Council Members and Public Members present to complete the activity planned. Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave a brief overview of the flow charts and results from the March 21, 2013 Regional Council Meeting activity. Ms. Avant gave a brief description of the activities purpose and the charts showing different system building choices and information.

**Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Dr. Stephen Poling, Vice Chair who gave a brief description of his duties as Vice Chair and his appreciation for his position on the Regional Council.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members if there were any nominations for Vice Chair. Member Dailey nominated Vice Chair Poling.

A motion was made by Member Dailey to elect Vice Chair Poling as Vice Chair; Member Strain seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
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Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

Chair Rottweiler gave a brief description of her duties as Chair and her appreciation for the position on the Regional Council.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members if there were any nominations for Chair. Member Dailey nominated Chair Rottweiler.

A motion was made by Member Dailey to elect Chair Rottweiler as Chair; Member Strain seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote by those members present (7-0-0).

Member Strain	yes	Member Buckhanan	yes
Member Vedock	yes	Member Simpson	yes
Member Dailey	yes	Chair Rottweiler	yes
Vice Chair Poling	yes		

**Announcements**

- A. Next Regular Meeting – June 20, 2013 , Benson 2PM City Hall
- B. Community and Council Updates

Member Strain – announced that she is attending the Public Private Partnership Meeting on May 31, 2013 in Phoenix.

Member Dailey – welcomed Dr. Kathleen Vedock. Member Dailey mentioned that she is looking forward to the 2013 Summit, and what a wonderful function it is.

Member Buckhanan – made comments on the First Things First mission.

Member Simpson – announced that he would have his missing paperwork into the office that day.

Chair Rottweiler – announced that the Cochise Regional Office is having a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on June 14, 2013 in the new office building.

**Adjournment**

With no further business before the Regional Council, Chair Rottweiler adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Submitted By: Sarah Furnas  
Administrative Assistant II

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Melanie Rottweiler



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AGENDA ITEM: Quality Assurance

BACKGROUND: First Things First (FTF) is working on a quality assurance system that includes continuous performance and program monitoring. The quality assurance model will use a team approach conducted in collaboration with grant partners. A strength-based, comprehensive assessment will be used to evaluate the implementation of FTF standards of practice and to support grant partners to address specific issues and concerns. Results will be used to inform and strengthen FTF standards of practice and the early childhood system.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director and QA Specialist presents this as information purposes only.



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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 2

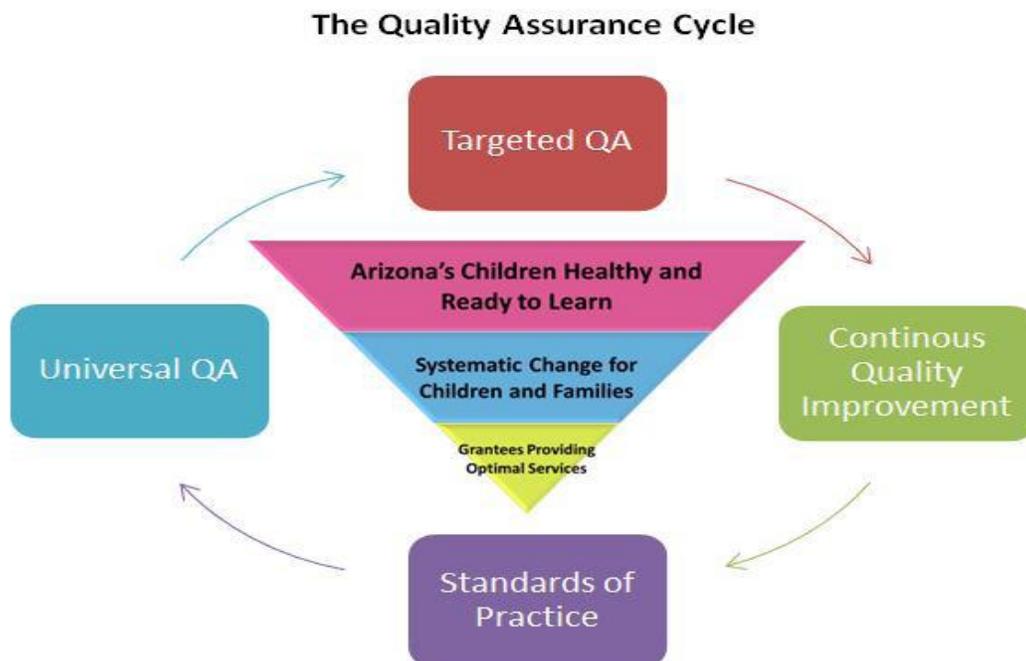
## Quality Assurance (QA) Model

### Background

First Things First (FTF) is working on a quality assurance system that includes continuous performance and program monitoring. The quality assurance model will use a team approach conducted in collaboration with grant partners. A strength-based, comprehensive assessment will be used to evaluate the implementation of FTF standards of practice and to support grant partners to address specific issues and concerns. Results will be used to inform and strengthen FTF standards of practice and the early childhood system.

### Anticipated Outcomes of the Quality Assurance Process

1. Effectively and efficiently assess if grant partners are meeting performance and financial standards as agreed to in the contract, adhering to the standards of practice and scopes of work;
2. Identify areas for improvement that result in better, more efficient service delivery;
3. Identify if additional interventions are necessary to support programs/services to be delivered effectively;
4. Continuously improve the early childhood development and health system by providing and maintaining high quality service delivery and identifying best practices that change outcomes for children.





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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 2

### **The QA Cycle is made up of five components**

The ***Inverted Pyramid*** represents the quality assurance and evaluation system that leads to child outcomes.

***Standards of Practice*** is a set of essential components that reflect the foundational level of which the strategies are built.

***Universal QA*** is the planned and ongoing collection and review of performance information.

***Targeted QA*** involves a systematic approach of evaluating if actual programmatic functions meet the standards of practice.

***Continuous Quality Improvement*** focuses on utilizing data to improve FTF programs and to support grantees through aspects of professional development, technical assistance, and community-based resources.



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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 2

The diagram illustrates a cycle of quality assurance. At the top is a red box labeled 'Targeted QA'. Below it is a pink box labeled 'Arizona's Children Healthy and Ready to Learn', which contains the text 'Systematic Change for Children and Families' and 'Explores Providing Optimal Services'. To the left is a blue box labeled 'Universal QA'. To the right is a green box labeled 'Continuous Quality Improvement'. At the bottom is a purple box labeled 'Standards of Practice'. Arrows indicate a clockwise flow: from Targeted QA to Continuous Quality Improvement, from Continuous Quality Improvement to Standards of Practice, from Standards of Practice to Universal QA, and from Universal QA back to Targeted QA.

## First Thing First Quality Assurance Site Visit

Grantee Name: University of Arizona Cooperative Extension  
Contract ID: ISA-RC002-11-0175-01-Y3  
Strategy: Oral Health  
Regional Partnership Council: Cochise  
Site Visit Date: June 5-6, 2013

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**Agenda items to be discussed:**

- Check-in meeting and orientation to the site visit process
- Guided discussion of administrative and programmatic practices
- Observation of a direct service delivery (if applicable)
- Summary of site visit and action planning
- Closing meeting and next steps

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## PRE-SITE VIST DOCUMENTATION REVIEW CHECKLIST

EXTERNAL

GRANTEE NAME: University of Arizona Cooperative Extension      CONTRACT ID: ISA-RC002-11-0175-01-Y3

STRATEGY: Oral Health      REVIEW PERIOD: July 1, 2011 – April 3, 2013

SITE VISIT DATE: June 5-6, 2013      QA SPECIALIST: Kavita Bernstein

Please send the most current copies of:	COMPLETED	PENDING	N/A
Documentation of state or national licensure/accreditation/affiliation certification (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Documentation of any non-First Things First quality assurance review/report (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Program materials for participants and general public (i.e. brochure, flyer, website etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sample staff supervision form (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sample professional development plan (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff training attendance logs/certificates for staff utilizing the developmental and sensory screening assessment tools (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff resumes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written tribal authorization to perform services or for data collection (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any self-created implementation guides or program policies and procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consent form (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chart review (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training/education curriculum (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Activity materials (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post training evaluation form (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

First Things First Quality Assurance Site Visit



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**AGENDA ITEM:** 2014 Cochise Regional Needs and Assets Report  
Summarized Scope of Work

**BACKGROUND:** The Regional Partnership Councils have a variety of responsibilities under the law, of which one is to submit a biannual report detailing assets, coordination opportunities and unmet needs to the State FTF Board. This Needs and Assets Report is developed by a regionally selected vendor. These vendors are awarded contracts and will be working directly with the Regional and Evaluation Divisions staff. Monthly progress reports will be provided to the Regional staff and shared with the Regional Council as directed by the Chair.

The below document provides the Regional Council with a proposed Scope of Work by the approved Needs and Assets vendor Donelson Consulting, LLC.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Regional Director presents this as information purposes only.

**Proposed Scope of Work for 2014 First Things First Needs and Assets Report  
For the Cochise Regional Council  
Donelson Consulting LLC**



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### **Introduction**

The Donelson Consulting team is responding to your request for a proposal for the 2014 Needs and Assets Report. We understand you may want to retain the comprehensive set of zip-code level data that was in the 2012 report within the constraints of your base report budget. We propose a modified data report that will meet the requirements for: 1) FTF's scope of work and 2) regional council members' planning and decision-making. We propose to include data tables updated with the most current data available from the State of Arizona agencies (through the request made from FTF), the American Community Survey, and a special data request to the Child and Family Resources of Southern Arizona for the CCR&R data. The tables with 2010 Decennial Census population data will not be updated.

### **Description of Items to be Updated in 2014 Report**

We will update the data tables for your 2014 report that address each of the major areas contained within the FTF Needs and Assets Report required Scope of Work.

The data we will update for the FTF 2014 Needs and Assets report are:

- The Zip Code Fact Boxes, which will contain the most recent year of data and up to four years of trend data, where available.
- A table of all County and State totals for indicators that originate from the state data request for the most recent year available only (TANF, WIC, food stamps, child immunizations, DDD, AzEIP, child safety and security, DES child care subsidies).
- A table of County and State totals for the ADHS birth characteristics data for the most recent year available only (number of births, births to teen mothers, percent of mothers with prenatal care in first trimester, percent of mothers with no prenatal care, publicly funded births, number/percent of low birth weight newborns, percent of unwed mothers, number of infant deaths).

The total cost to prepare the Cochise Regional Council 2014 Needs and Assets Report is \$18,700, which exceeds the \$17,000 FTF will pay for each report. However, we are willing to do the report for the \$17,000 base report allocation if within the scope we propose below and on the following page. We feel it is important to inform you of the market cost of the report and provide understanding and transparency of the steps, work, and materials required to complete a data report like this. As follows, we describe in detail the major tasks to be accomplished to complete your 2014 report.

1. **State Data Request.** Receive the data for all zip codes for the entire state for all indicators. Review data for quality issues. Create county and state indicator totals. Indicators include: TANF, WIC, food stamps, child immunizations, DDD, AzEIP, child safety and security, DES child care subsidies.
2. **State Birth Data from ADHS (Arizona Department of Health Services).** Download the most recent birth year data available by 2010 Census tract from the ADHS website and map it to 2010 zip codes for each region. Create zip code, county and state level indicator totals. Indicators include: number of births, births to teen mothers, percent of mothers with prenatal care in first trimester, percent of mothers with no prenatal care, publicly funded births, number/percent of low birth weight newborns, percent of unwed mothers, number of infant deaths.
3. **CCR&R (Child Care Resource & Referral) Data Preparation and Tables.** Create and submit request for data from Child and Family Resources. Clean county level data set. Create indicator totals and data tables.

Indicators include: Child care providers by type, (Licensed, Certified, etc.) and by Contract Status with DES, CACFP Food Program, Head Start, Quality First, Accreditation, Maximum Capacity. Two additional tables will provide the number of early childhood education and care providers on the CCR&R list serving each age group with the average full-time cost per age group per week and the estimated yearly cost of full-time early childhood education and care.

4. **Fact Box Data Preparation and Formatting.** Update Fact Boxes with zip code level data. Format each zip code fact box to include new column of updated data. Indicators include: TANF, WIC, Food stamp, Birth data (# of Births; Births to Teen Mothers; Prenatal Care in the First Trimester; No Prenatal Care; Publicly Funded Births; Low Birth weight; Unwed Mothers; # of Infant Deaths), Child immunizations, DDD, AzEIP, Child safety & security, DES child care subsidies, CCR&R, Quality First Providers.
5. **One Table of County and State totals for all indicators from state request;**  
**One Table of County and State totals for ADHS birth characteristic data.** For the state data request data, a large table will be created and formatted that will have the total for each indicator by county and state. This table will be useful for comparing the regional (county) and state totals and fulfills the FTF scope of work requirements to include these geographical comparisons. Indicators include: TANF, WIC, Food stamp, Child immunizations, DDD, AzEIP, Child safety, DES child care subsidies. Similarly, one large table will be created with indicator totals by county and state for the ADHS birth characteristic data. These include: number of births, births to teen mothers, percent of mothers with prenatal care in first trimester, percent of mothers with no prenatal care, publicly funded births, number/percent of low birth weight newborns, percent of unwed mothers, number of infant deaths. After each of the two tables, a one paragraph summary will follow to describe the most recent year of data available.
6. **One Table of ACS Data Updating Employment Status of Parents Living with Own Children 0-5; One Table of ACS Data Updating Educational Attainment of New Mothers.** Although the 2010 Decennial Census population data will not be updated, the American Community Survey (ACS) data can be updated because estimates are released every year and at three- and five-year intervals. The employment status of parents living with own children 0-5, and educational attainment of new mothers are considered to be important indicators for determining county-level needs of families. The most current and valid estimates for reporting will be determined (e.g. 3-year cumulative estimates from 2009-2011). Data estimates will be downloaded from the U.S. Census Bureau website and the indicators will be created at the county and state level. The two data tables will be updated and formatted. After each of the two tables, a one paragraph summary will follow to describe the most recent year of data available.
7. **Report Production (TOC, List of Tables, References, Introductory Content Provided by FTF, Report Introduction, and Appendix).** Develop and format a Table of Contents (TOC), List of Tables, References and insert and format the introductory material provided by FTF for the 2014 report e.g., Letter from Chair, Acknowledgements. Write a report introduction that describes the report's approach for 2014. Compile Appendices that contain materials provided by Regional Director that address RPC's funding strategies, family support assets, public awareness and communication, coordination and collaboration, and system-building efforts.
8. **Monthly Report Submission.** FTF requires vendors to submit a monthly report to Regional Directors about the activities conducted and progress made on the Needs and Assets Report in the past month.
9. **Team Communications.** Regular meetings and communications of the Donelson team to plan, coordinate and conduct report activities as described above.
10. **Meeting with Councils and FTF Staff.** Meetings and communications with Regional Director to receive feedback about report drafts and presentation of final report draft to Regional Council members.
11. **Report Submission and Review.** Prepare and submit final report to councils.
12. **FTF Vendor Meetings.** Attendance at quarterly vendor meetings held by FTF (by phone). These meetings are conducted by FTF to inform vendors about contract requirements and updates, and to trouble-shoot vendor issues.



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*06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 4*

AGENDA ITEM: Newspaper Insertion

BACKGROUND: At the last regular meeting (May 16, 2013) the council approved the SFY2014 community awareness line item budget. Within the budget a line item for a newspaper insertion was discussed and approved. The Regional Council requested I provide content information for discussion and approval at the next regular meeting.

The below document provides the Regional Council with proposed content for the first submission to the Sierra Vista Herald for August 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director recommends approval of the proposed content for the first submission to the Sierra Vista Herald within the community awareness budget for SFY2014.



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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 4



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Cochise Regional Partnership Council

**Newspaper Insertion:**

Volume 1 Issue 1

August 2013

**1<sup>st</sup> Page:**

**First Things First Early Childhood Everyday: Ready for School. Set for Life.**

First Things First is a statewide early childhood and health organization that partners with parents and communities to ensure that all Arizona children ages birth to 5 – are given the tools to arrive on the first day of kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed. Research has shown that 90 percent of critical brain development for a child happens before age 5. The brain connections made during this time can lay the foundation for a lifetime.

First Things First was created in 2006 when the voters of Arizona approved an 80 cent per pack tax on tobacco products – a new dedicated funding stream for programs serving young children in Arizona. Through competitive grants, First Things First funds programs that provide information and support to parents of young children, improve the quality of child care, increase access to early education and health services, promote early literacy skills, improve the professional skills of teachers working with young kids, and prevent oral disease through dental screenings and fluoride varnishes.

The First Things First Cochise Regional Partnership Council works to expand and enhance education and health services for children from birth through age 5; and ensures that the early childhood funds are spent on strategies that will result in improved education and health outcomes for all young children within Cochise County.

**Meet your Cochise Regional Partnership Council:**

Welcome to the Cochise Region of First Things First. The Cochise Regional Partnership Council consists of volunteers who work to ensure children birth to five are healthy and prepared to succeed not only in their first year of school, but throughout their entire lives. The Cochise Regional Council Members strives to make informed decisions about which strategies will best serve all children within Cochise County.



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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 4

A child’s earliest experiences dramatically impact their future learning. Science has shown that 80 percent of critical brain development and wiring happens by age 3; and 90 percent by age 5. The Cochise Regional Partnership Council Members understand that learning and education begins – at birth with parents and caregivers – a child’s first teacher.

We hope you will join the Cochise Regional Partnership Council in their commitment to ensuring all young children in Cochise have a solid foundation from which to grow. The Cochise Regional Partnership Council meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 2 pm. Please call the First Things First Sierra Vista Regional office at 520-378-3280 for meeting location each month.

### **Cochise Regional Council Members:**

- Melanie Rottweiler, Chair
- Dr. Stephen Poling, Vice Chair
- Reverend Shawn L. Buckhanan, Faith Based
- Marjorie Dailey, Child Care Provider
- Chuck Hoyack, Educator
- Pastor Tommy L. Simpson, Philanthropy
- Jane Strain, At Large
- Michael Vetter, At Large
- Dr. Kathleen Vedock, Health Services Provider
- Nancy-Jean Welker, Business
- Vacant, Parent

“A Commitment to young children is an investment in our community.”

### **Get Involved:**

## GET INVOLVED



[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

### CONNECT WITH FIRST THINGS FIRST

 [facebook /AZFirstThingsFirst](https://www.facebook.com/AZFirstThingsFirst)

 [twitter /azftf](https://twitter.com/azftf)

 [YouTube/FTFArizona](https://www.youtube.com/FTFArizona)

 [Pinterest /azftf](https://www.pinterest.com/azftf)

 [Flickr /azFirstThingsFirst](https://www.flickr.com/photos/azFirstThingsFirst/)





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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 4

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Page:**

First Things First funded Programs and Resources in Cochise County:

### **Family Support**

#### **Birth to Five Helpline**

Helps families with young children get free answers to their toughest parenting questions. Contact the Southwest Human Development at 1-877-705-KIDS.

#### **Parent Kits**

Have you ever thought “I wish my baby came with an instruction manual?” First Things First can help. Arizona Parent Kits are available to the family of each newborn when they are discharged from the hospital. Be sure to ask for yours at the Sierra Vista Regional Health Center. The Arizona Parent Kit has a wealth of information for all phases of your child's youngest years. First Things First in partnership with Virginia G. Piper Trust is investing over \$2.5 million to provide the Parent Kit to families across Arizona. Arizona Parents Guide – combines resources and information with practical parenting advice. Infant Board Book - to encourage parents to begin reading to their children at an early age.

6 Videos/DVDs – topics include:

“The First Years Last Forever,”  
“Safe from the Start,”  
“Your Healthy Baby,”  
“Quality Child Care,”  
“Discipline” and  
“Ready to Learn”.

Refrigerator Magnet with the toll free number for the Birth to Five Helpline.

#### **Quality First Child Care Scholarships**

Scholarships support families who are employed, seeking employment or who are improving their skills by participating in training or education to better compete in the market place and who wish to give their children an educational boost. Families with incomes less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPL) may lack the resources necessary to place children with providers offering quality early care and education. The high cost of early care and education is one of the most difficult obstacles to obtaining and maintaining employment for many low-income single-parent families. Without access to quality care, working families are forced to decide whether to quit their jobs or leave children in the care that is not their primary choice. For more information, please contact Valley of the Sun United Way at 866-973-0112 or visit <http://www.azftfscholarships.org>

#### **Parents As Teachers – Home Visitation Program**



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Provides voluntary in-home services for infants, children and their families, focusing on parenting skills, early physical and social development, literacy, health and nutrition support. The program connects families to resources to support their child's health and early learning. The PAT program gives young children stronger, more supportive relationships with their parents on a variety of topics, including parenting skills, early childhood development, literacy, etc. For more information on Cochise County Parents As Teachers, please contact Easter Seals Blake Foundation at (520) 452-9784.

## **Health**

### **Child Care Health Consultation**

Child care providers are entrusted with young children for hours every day. While providing early education services, they must also keep children safe and protected from injuries and potentially serious infectious diseases. Child care staff also work with parents to promote good social, emotional and physical health for children—all generally without benefit of medical expertise.

Child Care Health Consultants (CCHCs) are experts in child health available to support child care providers to assure that children in their care are safe, healthy and ready to succeed. They also provide advice on the well-being of a single child, with the view toward training child care staff to prevent and intervene appropriately in future occurrences. For more information please visit <http://extension.arizona.edu/programs/child-care-health-consultation>.

### **Oral Health**

Provides oral health screenings and fluoride varnish in a variety of community-based settings; provide training to families on the importance of oral health care for their children; and provides outreach to dentists to encourage service to children for a first dental visit by age one. For more information, please visit <http://extension.arizona.edu/cochise/first-smiles>.

### **Recruitment- Stipends/Loan Forgiveness**

The purpose of these programs is to provide incentives for Speech/Language Pathologist, Occupational and Physical Therapist, Child Psychologist, and Mental Health Specialist who provides early childhood development services to children through age 5 in specified areas of Arizona. For more information, please visit <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/ftf/>.

## **Early Education**

### **Quality First**

Quality First partners with child care providers to improve the quality of their educational programs for kids birth to 5. Quality First helps child care providers identify what needs to be improved, and then supports providers in making those changes happen – whether it's scholarships to help child care workers become more skilled at working with young kids; more books and better learning materials; or, mentors in areas like health and children with special needs. Quality First expands the number of children who have access to high quality care and education. For more information please see page 3.



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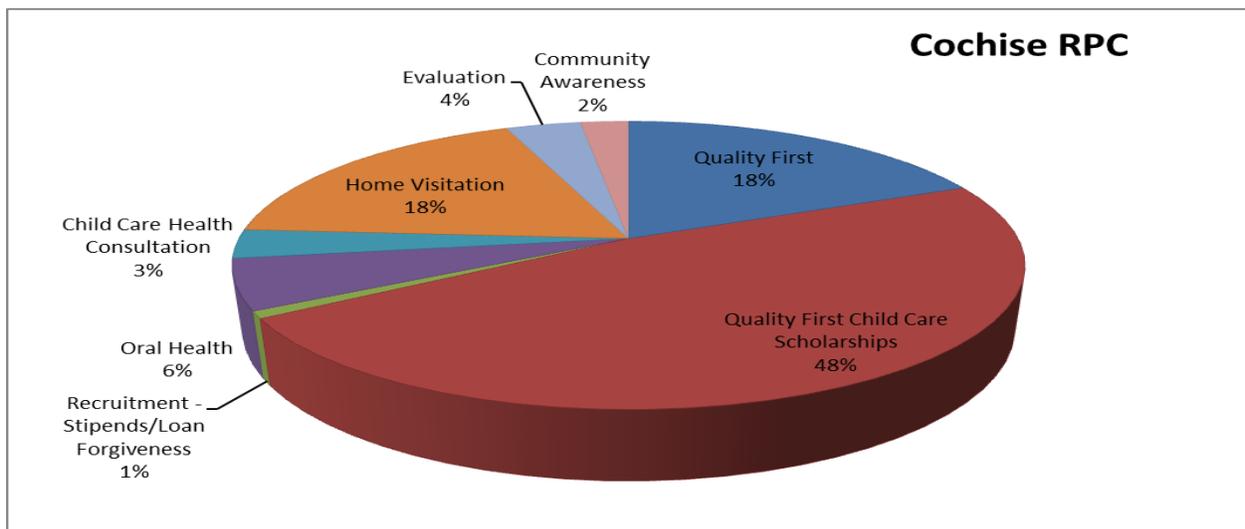
## **Evaluation**

Evaluation includes the studies and evaluation work which inform the FTF Board and the 31 Regional Partnership Councils, examples are baseline Needs and Assets reports, specific focused studies, and statewide research and evaluation on the developing early childhood system.

## **Community Awareness/Media**

Community Awareness and media strategies use a variety of community-based activities and sponsorships to increase public awareness of the critical importance of early childhood development and health, so that all Arizonans are actively engaged in supporting young kids in their communities. For more information, please visit <http://www.ReadyAZKids.com>.

Quality First	\$620,923
Quality First Child Care Scholarships	\$1,590,996
Recruitment-Stipends/Loan Forgiveness	\$37,640
Oral Health	\$190,000
Child Care Health Consultation	\$113,126
Home Visitation	\$600,000
Evaluation	\$121,589
Community Awareness	\$78,212
Total Allocations	\$3,352,486





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“First Things First Cochise Regional Partnership Council – giving children tools to start school healthy and ready to succeed.”

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Page

### **Quality First Public Launch – Cochise Specific**

Quality First

Participants:

List of all enrolled in Cochise County

### **Need Help in Locating Resources and Services Throughout Cochise County?**

**WE CAN HELP!**

**Cochise County Resource Guide available online at <http://azftf.gov/Cochise>**

**Look for the banner and click to open resources throughout the entire County.**



### **A SNAPSHOT of Children in Cochise County**

Statistics

## 4<sup>th</sup> Page

**Moving forward – how you can be involved – system building.....Partnerships – chance to donate funding.**

The Cochise Regional Partnership Council will continue its commitment to programs that improve educational and health outcomes for young kids within Cochise County, and look for new opportunities to expand those programs.

In order to expand and build a comprehensive early childhood system the Regional Council will continue to work with grantees to connect home visiting efforts with high quality child care, particularly those focused on children’s well-being and healthy development to prepare young children for school and life success.



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The Cochise Regional Partnership Council will continue working and connecting agencies and businesses throughout the entire County to build the system for young children and their families. The Council will continue to hold future dialogues around coming together to leverage dollars through public private partnerships to maximize the resources available to help young children within Cochise County to arrive at school healthy and ready to succeed.

### How can you Help?

## **THE ACADEMIC SKILLS KIDS DEVELOP EARLY ON WILL HELP THEM BE MORE SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL.**

The social skills they develop – like perseverance, attention, motivation and self-confidence – will make them more successful in life.

That's why everyone from [CEOs](#) to [military leaders](#) are calling for greater investments in early childhood.

They know that educated, productive citizens are critical to the success of our economy and the security of our nation.

We all have a shared responsibility for making our communities stronger.

## **THE BEST PLACE TO START IS WHERE THE FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING IS BUILT - BIRTH TO 5 YEARS OLD.**

Contact Us:  
First Things First  
Sierra Vista Regional Office  
77 Calle Portal Suite B140  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
520-378-3280

Melissa Avant, Regional Director  
[mavant@azftf.gov](mailto:mavant@azftf.gov)  
Sarah Furnas, Administrative Assistant  
[sfurnas@azftf.gov](mailto:sfurnas@azftf.gov)



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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 5

AGENDA ITEM: Grantee Year End Reports

BACKGROUND: This is an opportunity for the Council to hear directly from the grantees on FTF funded programs within Cochise County.

RECOMMENDATION: Information Purposes Only



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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 5

6/5/2013

 **Easter Seals Blake Foundation and Cochise Health and Social Services**   
 Collaboration bring you

**Cochise Parents as Teachers Program**

 **Parents as Teachers**  
*Alpharetta*

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Cochise Health and Social Services

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 **Parents as Teachers** 

- **Our Vision**  
 All children will learn, grow and develop to realize their full potential.
- **Our Mission**  
 To provide the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.
- **Our Values**  
 The early years of a child's life are critical for optimal development and provide the foundation for success in school and in life.  
 Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers.  
 Established and emerging research should be the foundation of parent education and family support curricula, training, materials and services.  
 All young children and their families deserve the same opportunities to succeed, regardless of any demographic, geographic or economic considerations.  
 An understanding and appreciation of the history and traditions of diverse cultures is essential in serving families.

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**Parents as Teachers Curriculum**

- Parents as Teachers uses an evidence based model
- Parents as Teachers is relationship-based and parenting-focused
- The Parents as Teachers model includes:
  - Personal Visits
  - Resource Network
  - Group Connections
  - Screening

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6/5/2013

### Parents as Teachers Curriculum

- The foundational Curriculum is built on the principle that all parents, regardless of personal circumstances, can be empowered, can gain control over difficult circumstances, and can interact with their children in a way that facilitates healthy development.
- The three areas of emphasis are
  - Parent-child interaction
  - Development-centered parenting
  - Family well-being

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### Extensive Recruitment Efforts

- During the first year recruitment efforts have been the most important piece of the program. We have met with and presented the program to many
  - Businesses
  - Churches
  - Doctors
  - Child Development Centers
  - Parents
  - Schools
  - Libraries
  - Cochise County Coalition- Tombstone
  - Pediatric Center of Excellence- Douglas
  - Groups and potential partners throughout the county.
- Fort Huachuca and Sierra Vista schools have aided us with the distribution of brochures throughout their schools.

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### Extensive Recruitment Efforts

- Many businesses throughout the county have partnered with us to help spread the word and team up to provide well-rounded services, including but not limited to:
  - Wellness Depot
  - Army Community Services (ACS)
  - Child Youth and School Services (CYSS)
  - Army Public Health Nurse (APHN)
  - The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
  - Child and Family Resource (CFR)
  - CPS
  - Chicanos por la Causa
  - WIC
  - Early Head Start
  - Arizona Early Intervention Program, and many more local businesses.

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6/5/2013

## Community Events

- Cochise Parents as Teachers Program has been active in the community and has participated in many community events including:
  - Month of the Military Child
  - Festival of the Southwest
  - Story time on Fort Huachuca
  - 40<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion Spring Fling
  - Wellness Depot Story time
  - MOPS- Shiloh Baptist Church
  - Advisory Council Meetings
  - Bisbee Health Fair




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## Group Connections

- Our goal is to strengthen families through facilitated group connections.
- Some previously covered topics include:
  - Family Resiliency
  - Infant Massage
  - Nutrition
  - Dental health
  - Car seat safety
  - Literacy
  - Mother's Day Celebration
  - Sensory activities
  - Family safety

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## Group Connections

- A typical group connection includes:
  - Ice-breakers
  - Program updates and community events
  - Parent child activity
  - Socialization time
  - Snack time or meal time
  - Parent Survey
  - Handouts
    - Development centered or activity centered from PAT curriculum




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6/5/2013

## Group Connections

- Our group connections have grown so much over the past year that we are currently looking for a larger space to accommodate all of our interested families.
- First few group connections averaged about 7 families, now they average closer to 20 families. That equals out to be close to 40 people that attend a group connection.




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\*Parents as Teachers services help to build the five protective factors that are the foundation of the Strengthening Families approach. When present they serve as a buffer to prevent or reduce risk to families and children.

The protective factors are:

- Parental resilience
- Social connections
- Knowledge of parenting and child development
- Concrete supports in times of need
- Social and emotional competence of children

Home Visiting has allowed us to make a difference in the lives of families and children.

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## Contact Information:

- For more information about services provided in Sierra Vista and surrounding areas please call 520-452-9784x12
- For more information about services provided in Benson, Willcox, Bisbee and Douglas please call 520-803-3923  
— We provide services throughout Cochise County

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06-20-2013 CCHS Attachment 5

6/5/2013



**Child Care Health Consultant Program**

Nicole Sanchez, R.N., CCHC  
 University of Arizona Cooperative Extension  
 Cochise County  
 Child Care Health Consultant Program

 COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES  
 ARIZONA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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Coalition Program of the Cochise County

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**What is a Child Care Health Consultant?**

- o The CCHC is a Registered Nurse or other licensed professional who is specially trained to meet needs of child care programs

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**Why Contact a Child Care Health Consultant?**

- o Nearly 11 million children in the U.S. under age 5 are in some form of child care  
(Child Care Aware, June 2012)
- o There are 42 Quality First child care programs in Cochise County
- o Each day, child care staff must address health and safety issues
- o Most child care providers do not have ready access to health resources
- o The CCHC fills this role

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6/5/2013



**What Does a CCHC Do?**

- Provides services and referrals related to health and safety
  - delivers information
  - conducts trainings
  - site observations
- How?
  - by visiting child care programs
  - meetings with child care staff or parents
  - telephone

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**What Topics Might the CCHC Address?**

• Health and Safety Assessments	• Infection Control and Communicable Disease
• Immunizations	• Nutrition and Physical Activity
• Caring for Children with Special Health Care Needs	• Health Promotion for Staff, Parents, and Children
• Safety and Injury Prevention	• Environmental Health
• Recognition and Reporting of Child Abuse	• Quality in Child Care
	• Developmentally Appropriate Practices

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**CCHCs Offer:**

- Assistance with developing health policies
- Information on a wide variety of health/safety topics
- Consultation, resources, and referrals for serving children with special needs
- Phone consultations and follow up site visits

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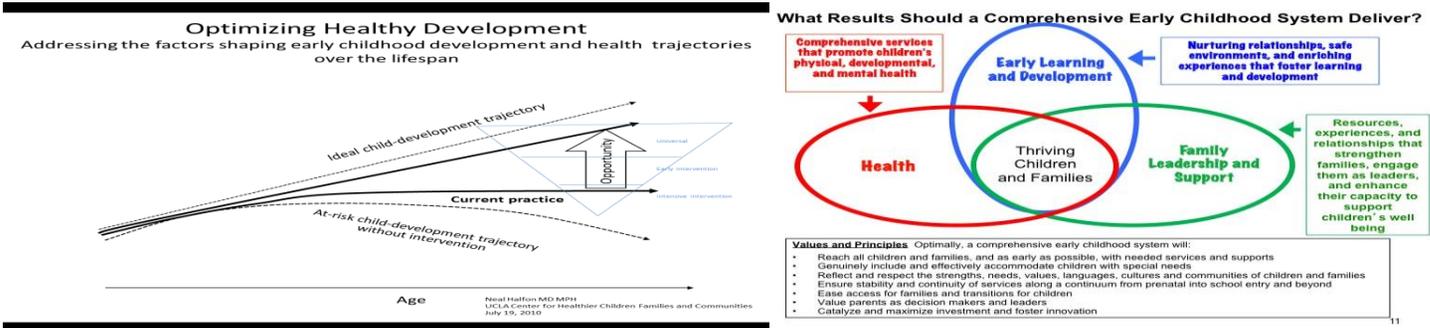
**AGENDA ITEM:** Discussion on Regional Priorities and System Building

**BACKGROUND:** The funding plan process resulted in a systematic approach to determining the strategies that will be implemented in the Cochise region’s service delivery network for children and families. The chosen strategies link to past accomplishments and continue to: build on each other, support the State Board’s priority roles; impact school readiness indicators at a local and state level; and influence the elements needed to create a sustainable early learning system. In the region, access to early care and education, family support and oral health are the primary focus areas.

The recognized need to continue building community awareness and support collaborative efforts are integrated into the structure.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Regional Director presents this as informational purposes only and to engage feedback from the Council on different ways to incorporate and build consensus within the County with key stakeholders, elected officials, business leaders, K-12 education, higher education, non-profits and others – to truly build the early childhood system within Cochise County.

Based on the data and prioritized needs, the Cochise Regional Partnership Council designed a strategic plan that builds on coordination, access to and high quality child care for the children of Cochise County. The Cochise Regional Partnership Council has identified three primary areas of focus: Home visitation, Quality First and Oral Health.



Voluntary, home-based programs, also known as home visits, match parents with trained professionals to provide information and support during pregnancy and throughout their child’s first three years. By helping parents learn how to care for their children and themselves, families reap the benefits: children are safer, healthier, better prepared to learn and more likely to become successful adults.

The Cochise Regional Partnership Council wanted to ensure the early childhood system is available beyond birth to age three and thus built the infrastructure for quality and access to quality environments. The Quality First program incorporates professional development, child care health consultation, coaching services, program standards and quality assurance and improvement efforts. Connecting home visiting efforts and high quality child care, particularly those focused on children’s well-being and healthy development, with other child and family services will ensure that young children and parents have the comprehensive support they need.

The Cochise Regional Partnership Council has incorporated an oral health strategy; tooth decay is the single most common chronic infectious disease of childhood, five times more common than asthma. Oral disease is progressive and cumulative and if left untreated can lead to needless pain and suffering; difficulty in speaking, chewing and swallowing; missed school days, increased cost of care and at a greater risk for other systemic health problems due to poor nutrition. Connections are emerging between the condition of the mouth and diabetes, heart disease, and preterm, low-weight births. According to the 2008 and 2010 Needs and Assets report oral health has been neglected in Cochise County, and proves to be a huge issue for children and families, within the Cochise Region.

The strategies presented in this funding plan focus on building and sustaining capacity and infrastructure in order to engage in the ongoing work of community change and building the early childhood system. This will ensure children have the access to quality health care and the awareness of early childhood development and health for children birth to age five in Cochise County.

**Phases, Timelines and Planning Tool:**

Phase I – Pre Assessment	Phase II – Defining the Issues	Phase III – Prepare Action Planning	Phase IV – Initial Action Plan
January/February 2013	February-March/April 2013	May – June/July	Late Summer/Early Fall 2013
<p><b>Review Council Strategic Direction;</b></p> <p><b>Talk about system building concepts;</b></p> <p><b>Link strategies to other systems locally, funding mechanisms (public private dollars, engagement of grantees, service providers, and identify community partners;</b></p> <p><b>Possible questions to assist in this work:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Is there an area of system building we have not considered or discussed;</b></li> <li><b>2. Are there other linkages between the Council and community activities;</b></li> <li><b>3. What approach do you want to take;</b></li> <li><b>4. Are other groups working on part of the system for children 0-5;</b></li> <li><b>5. Are there additional resources that can/should be utilized;</b></li> <li><b>6. How will we evaluate success;</b></li> <li><b>7. How to invite others to the table?</b></li> </ol> <p><b>Note: Indicator discussions will be included.</b></p>	<p>The “Who” will be determined by the approach and the work done in Phase I;</p> <p>Possible tool to come out of Phase I discussions: Regional (possibly cross regional) asset map or inventor of assets/individuals/groups around the priority area – asset map will be designed to continually broaden the conversation;</p> <p>Possible questions to assist in this work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who are the movers/shakers;</li> <li>2. Who to contact in the priority area and geographic area that would be most successful in getting other involved;</li> <li>3. Who should be involved to ensure culture considerations are addressed;</li> <li>4. When meeting with possible group members; what is the benefit they will gain by being involved in the system building work?</li> </ol> <p>Note: Indicator discussions will be included.</p>	<p>Action Planning will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An understanding of the community’s perception of the system, the approach and potential solutions/next steps;</li> <li>• Assure inclusive and integrated participation across community sectors in the planning process;</li> <li>• Build consensus on what can and should be done based on the community’s unique assets and needs;</li> <li>• Specify concrete ways in which members of the group can take action and why.</li> </ul> <p>June: Build consensus on system development priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene a planning group;</li> <li>• Provide needs and assets within the county;</li> <li>• Build consensus (possible mini town hall session).</li> </ul> <p>July: Develop a framework for action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and analyze current reality with group;</li> <li>• Establish/confirm group commitment/vision;</li> <li>• Outline action that could be done by one group;</li> <li>• Develop calendar and assignments.</li> </ul>	<p>This phase produces an initial action plan that may include only preliminary steps to moving toward system building – Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin with steps that are achievable over a relatively short time frame (3 months);</li> <li>• Develop action steps with specific time frames and identify those responsible for completion;</li> <li>• Build upon success by developing and action plan for other identified steps;</li> <li>• Identify tracking tools or indicators that will provide milestones for each phase and phases;</li> <li>• Provide flexible tools that allow for appropriate regional timelines that account for the complexity of the system in Cochise County.</li> </ul>

**Discussion and Activity on System Building – (March 21, 2013 – Council Meeting):**

**Activity:**

Utilizing the Habits of a Systems Thinker (2010 Waters Foundation, Systems Thinking in Schools) Council Members and all in attendance went through 2 exercises:

The Council Members and Community members were divided equally at 3 tables with 5 at each table.

**Council Members:** Reverend Shawn Buckhanan, Marge Dailey, Chuck Hoyack, Melanie Rottweiler, Jane Strain, Michael Vetter and Nancy-Jean Welker.

**Community Members:** Dr. Kathleen Vedock, Joyce Flieger, Nichole Sanchez, Emma Jimenez, Alesia Ash, Frances Roberson, Charlotte Taylor and Lana Tompkins-Stuzman

**Activity 1: Self-Assessment Exercise:**

1. Read over the cards and place them in three piles:
  - Habits that you understand and consciously practice on a daily basis
  - Habits that you understand, yet need practice using on a daily basis
  - Habits that you do not fully understand
2. With a partner or small group,
  - Share examples from pile 1 and tell a story that illustrates this habit as a personal strength
  - Share examples from pile 3 and tell a story that illustrates this habit as an area of growth

**Activity 2: SFY14 Funding Plan and System Building Questions:**

1. What system building questions are most relevant as it relates to the funding plan – discussion that need to take place that would lead you to focus in on a specific system building area or areas?
2. Use the Habits to see how your responses change, bring up additional considerations, raise different perspectives?
3. Think about how the different Habits bring forward/raise different perspectives/conditions/ideas/additional questions.

Regional Priority	School Readiness Indicators	FTF Priority Roles	SFY13-15 Strategies
<p>Limited access to quality, affordable early care and education</p> <p>Limited knowledge and information about the importance of early childhood development and health</p> <p>High number of uninsured children and low utilization of preventative health care</p> <p>Limited access to parent education and information</p>	<p>#/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical</p> <p>#/% of children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars</p> <p>#/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars</p> <p>#/% of families that spend no more than 10% of the regional median family income on quality care and education with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars</p> <p>#/% of children receiving timely well child visits</p> <p>#/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay</p>	<p>Early Care and Education System Development and Implementation – Convene partners and provide leadership in the development and implementation of a comprehensive early care and education system that is aligned both across the spectrum of settings and with the full continuum of the education system.</p> <p>Quality Early Care and Education Standards, Curriculum and Assessment – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and implementation of quality standards for early childhood care and education programs and related curricula and assessments.</p> <p>Quality, Access, and Affordability of Regulated Early Care and Education Settings – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive and affordable early care and education programs.</p> <p>Supports and Services for Families - Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.</p> <p>Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services- Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality health care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families.</p>	<p>Quality First (including CCHC, CC Scholarships, TEACH) Additional CC Scholarships</p> <p>Home Visitation</p> <p>Oral Health</p> <p>Media Community Awareness</p> <p>Regional Evaluation: Family Support Strategies</p> <p>Statewide Evaluation</p>

**Report out of Tables – top three priorities to build a better system:**

Table One:

1. Continue Child Care Scholarships;
2. Ensuring the oral health strategy creates a whole healthy child – no leaky pipes;
3. Kindergarten Development Instrument.

Table Two:

1. Family Support Strategies + Stronger Caregiver Support Strategies – (seeks to understand the big picture);
2. All communities programs – County wide – (changes perspective to increase understanding);
3. Community Awareness – (considers both short and long term consequences of actions).

Table Three:

1. How can we make media/community awareness more targeted, creative and relevant for all the County (especially extreme rural areas);
2. How can we make early childhood educators/caregivers more valued/valuable in this County;
3. How can we make home visitation a more integral part of all the strategies and connect the work to translate to the daily life of child/family?

### Analysis of Funded FTF Strategies and Building an Early Childhood System for Cochise County:

***“The goal to a better system is not to create a new program but to improve systems so that existing services and resources work better and so that more people in the community understand the importance of investing in young children.”***

1. **Quality First** (including CCCHC, Child Care Scholarships, TEACH and Additional Scholarships):
  - Amount of funding: \$2,320,159 (Quality First Coaching/Incentive \$620,923, CCHC, \$108,240, and Scholarships \$1,590,996);
  - Service Units: 21 homes and 22 centers, 329 slots for high quality affordable child care for children/families.

### **Cochise Statistics:**

Families with young children face critical decisions about the care and education of their young ones. Cost and location are two of the most critical factors. The extent of the use of kith and kin care compared to the more formal care and education settings is one of the main questions decision makers have. This issue is fundamental to supply and demand in early childhood care and education. It is a difficult issue to access because there is no existing source of data regarding the number of children cared for by family, friends and neighbors. Within Cochise County, about **45 percent** of children birth to age five who live with two parents have both parents in the workforce, and **65 percent** of children living with one parent have that parent in the work force. This equates to over **5,000 children with working parents** and underscores the **need to expand affordable quality care in Cochise County.**

The cost of child care is one of the primary factors that influence parental decisions about the type of child care they choose. The median income reported in 2000 for the Cochise Region was \$38,005; therefore, a reasonable estimate for median income in 2010 is approximately \$40,931. **The average yearly cost of child care for infants to five year olds ranges from \$6,050 to \$5,800.** This represents about **14 percent** of gross family income and a **much higher proportion of after-tax income. For any family earning the median income or below, paying for child care in a regulated setting is prohibitive.**

As expected, for the 20 percent of families with children birth to age five that are below 100 percent of the poverty level, and the 49 percent of single mother families with children birth to age five that are below 100 percent of the poverty level in Cochise County, **placing their children in a formal setting is not feasible without a subsidy.** Currently, full time child care and early childhood education in a regulated setting is **out of range for many middle class families and all low-income families** who do not receive a subsidy. The reduction in child care subsidies has a number of consequences for families and providers in Cochise County. The demand for child care among low income families has dropped resulting in lower enrollments for providers who are contracted with DES to provide services to families and children receiving subsidies. The revenue of these providers is decreasing. **The implication of the cuts for working families is that parents must stay home to care for their children, foregoing earned income, or must find more affordable informal or unregulated care to keep their jobs. The quality of care for many children is therefore jeopardized.** Given the number of parents in the workforce, high quality early childhood education programs are critical. For low income parents, access to quality providers is highly dependent on cost.

**Regional Priority**

Limited access to quality, affordable early care and education

**Strategy:**

Quality First (including CCHC, CC Scholarships, TEACH and additional CC Scholarships)

**System Building Opportunities:**

- **Businesses** – examples: Retail Stores, State and County Government, Private Corporations, Non Profit, Housing market, Ft. Huachuca;
- **Education** – K-12 Systems, Higher Education, Technical Programs, JTED, Common Core requirements;
- **Family Support** – Home Visitation programs – alignment with high quality childcare, foster Care;
- **Health** – Hospitals, Physicians, Dentists, local programs, WIC, Health Departments, Rural Health Clinics, Federally funded clinics;
- **Faith Based** – Churches all Religions;
- **Law Enforcement** – County Sherriff, City Police, State Police, Border Patrol, Judges, Superior Court/Justice Courts;
- Other?

**School Readiness Indicators**

#/% of children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

#/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

#/% of families that spend no more than 10% of the regional median family income on quality care and education with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

**Actions:**

1 Increase knowledge and awareness of star ratings and meanings of high quality affordable childcare.

2 Early Childhood Investments: Quality early childhood experiences increase high school graduation rates and college enrollment, which in turn, reduce teen pregnancy, unemployment, crime and dependence on social services.

**Activities:**

1 Quality First Star Rating Public Launch – August 2013.

2 Explain why Early Care and Education is critical between birth and five years old – utilize FTF Economics Fact Sheet and Cochise Annual Report 2012, Cochise Fact Sheet – Local Data.

3 Creative Partnerships – the blending and braiding of funding and leveraging of additional resources (Title 1, IDEA Special Education, Head Start, Child Care Subsidy).

4 Private businesses, philanthropists or other entities who are interested in sponsoring additional Quality First sites, scholarships can do so by making a grant/donation/appropriation to FTF and designating the purpose of the investment.

**Action Steps:**

- Relay the importance of high affordable quality childcare through Quality First;
- Credible sources based on facts for buy in;
- Ask for buy in through partnerships and/or sponsorships;
- Contribute to the early childhood system in Cochise County – how/when/why – marketing.

2. **Home Visitation** (Parents As Teachers):

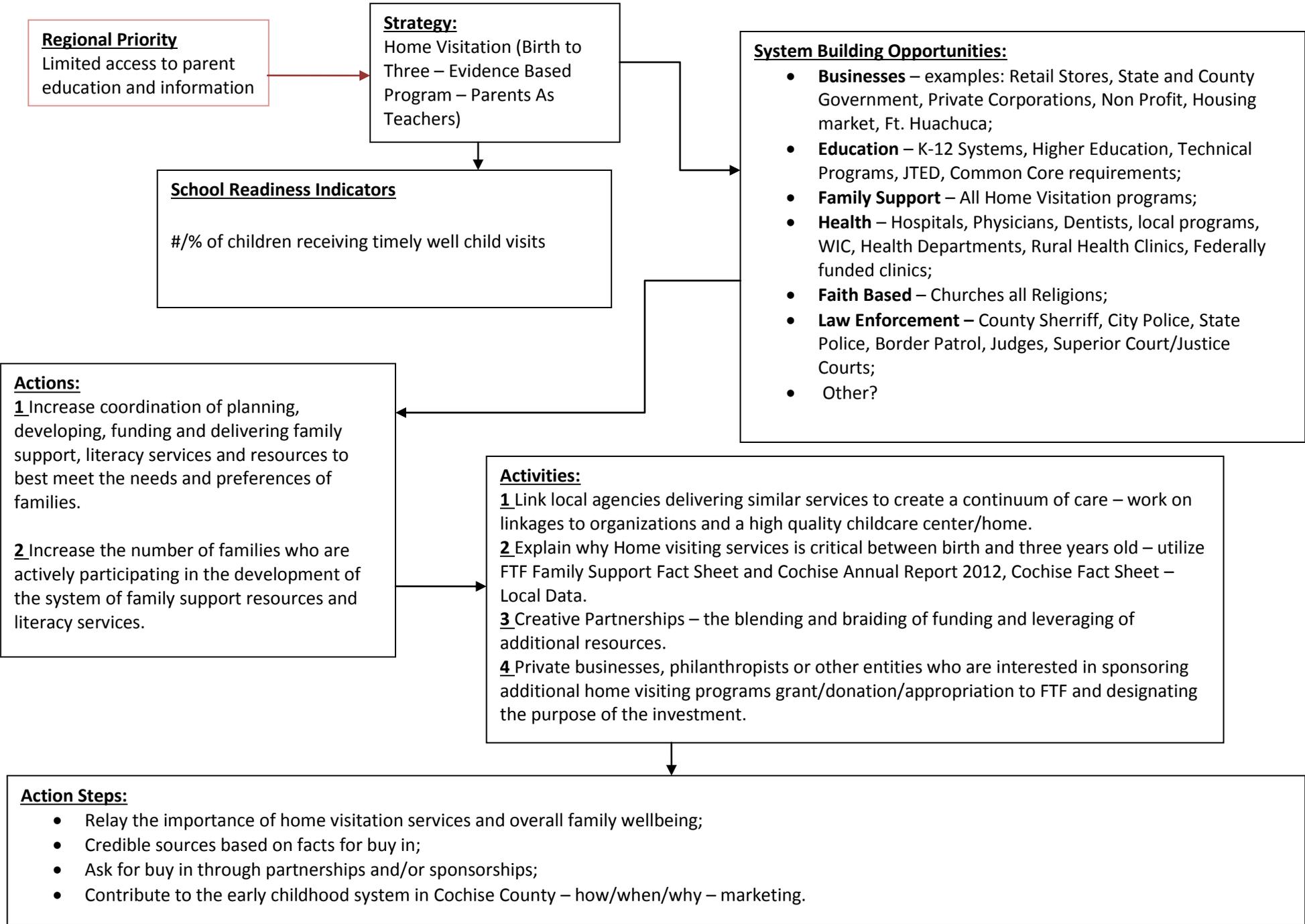
- Amount of funding: \$600,000
- Service Units: 200 Families birth to three.

**Cochise Statistics:**

Parent awareness on the importance of good parenting skills, literacy requirements (reading every day) and recognizing developmental delays, in their young child, health issues, immunizations, bonding with the infant/toddler and other skill sets. According to the census, adults in Cochise tend to have lower educational attainment levels. For example, adults 18 years and over without a high school diploma were 43.2 percent in Douglas, 42.4 percent in Bowie, and 32.5 percent in Willcox. The estimates for Cochise County were 25 percent of unmarried mother having less than a high school diploma compared to 16.5 percent of married mothers. In Sierra Vista, 47.6 percent of unmarried mothers and 16.3 percent of married mothers reported less than a high school education. In Cochise County, according to Census 2000, about 2,938 households had a grandparent/spouse living in the household with their grandchildren under 18 years old. Of this number, **1,616 households** or over half (**55 percent**) had a grandparent/spouse who was responsible for their own grandchildren under 18 years old living with them. The rate is **higher than the state's rate (45 percent)**. Overall, parents indicated that the quality of access to services, and the eligibility processes for services are the areas with poorest performance – with 89 percent of respondents reporting that they have to fill out paperwork and eligibility forms multiple times, and 45 percent agreeing that services were not available at times and locations they need, or meet the needs of their whole family. Support can be provided in homes, at early care and education centers and homes and in the broader network of community based services. Child safety and security involve many subjects, but one of most concern is child abuse and neglect, which necessitates family support services in a community. In 2009, there were 72 child removals officially reported in the Cochise region, a significant decrease from 149 reported in 2007.

Voluntary, home-based programs, also known as home visits, match parents with trained professionals to provide information and support during pregnancy and throughout their child's first three years. By helping parents learn how to care for their children and themselves, families reap the benefits: children are safer, healthier, better prepared to learn and more likely to become successful adults.

**Connecting home visiting efforts and high quality child care, particularly those focused on children's well-being and healthy development, with other child and family services will ensure that young children and parents have the comprehensive support they need.**



3. **Oral Health** (First Smiles):

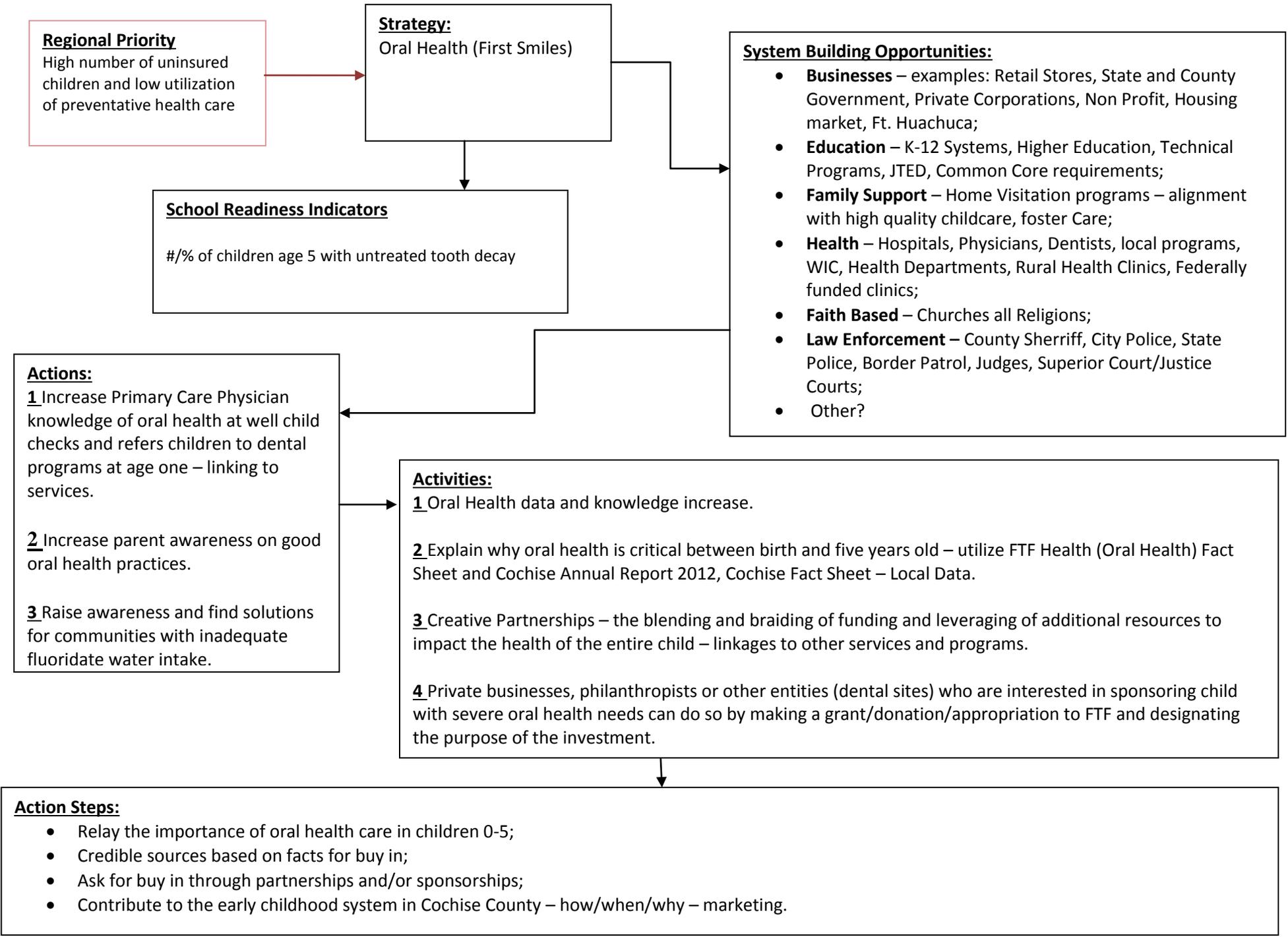
- Amount of funding: \$190,000
- Service Units: 1500 oral health screenings/varnishes children birth to five, 60 expectant mothers, 42 dental professionals, and 2500 participating adults (education).

**Cochise Statistics:**

Tooth decay is the single most common chronic infectious disease of childhood, five times more common than asthma. Low income and minority children have more untreated decay and visit the dentist less frequently. Oral disease is progressive and cumulative and if left untreated can lead to needless pain and suffering; difficulty in speaking, chewing and swallowing; missed school days, increased cost of care and at a greater risk for other systemic health problems due to poor nutrition. Connections are emerging between the condition of the mouth and diabetes, heart disease, and preterm, low-weight births. Access to dental care is limited for young children in both the state and the region. Lack of dental coverage may be a contributing factor to lack of oral health among children. According to the 2008 and 2010 Needs and Assets report oral health has been neglected in Cochise County, and proves to be a huge issue for children and families, within the Cochise Region. Many Children within the County are not seen by a dentist until they are between 3 and 4 years old.

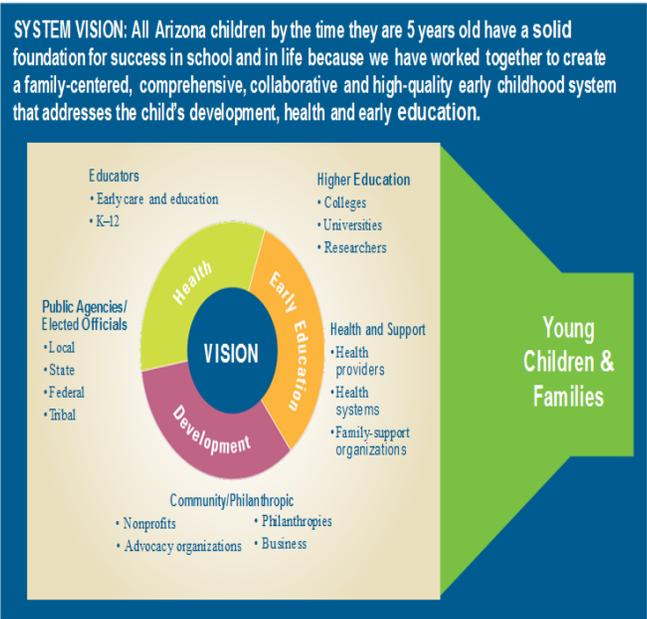
There is a significant need for oral health services throughout the County – highest amount of tooth decay is in Sierra Vista, Douglas and Tombstone.

**Connecting a child with a dental home, physician, CCHC (Quality First), health and nutrition programs throughout the entire County**

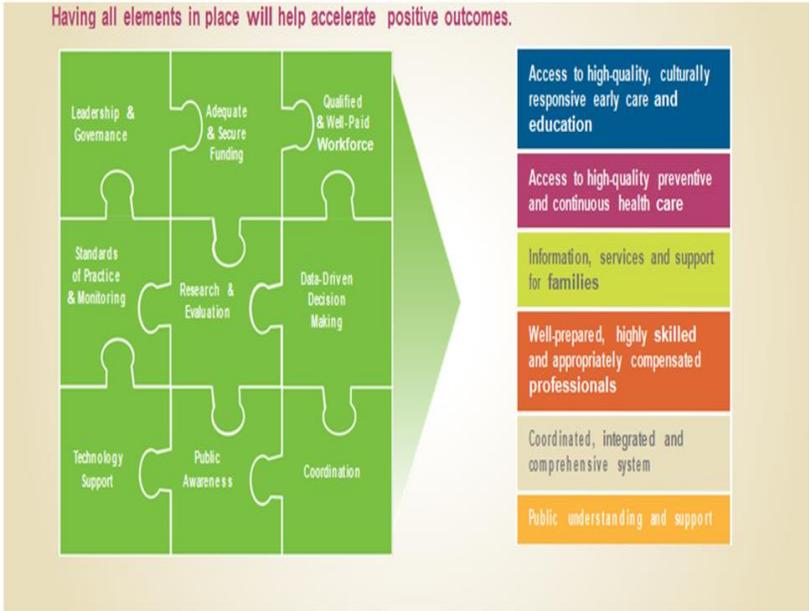


Short term goals and long term goals/objectives???

# Developing a Model Early Childhood System

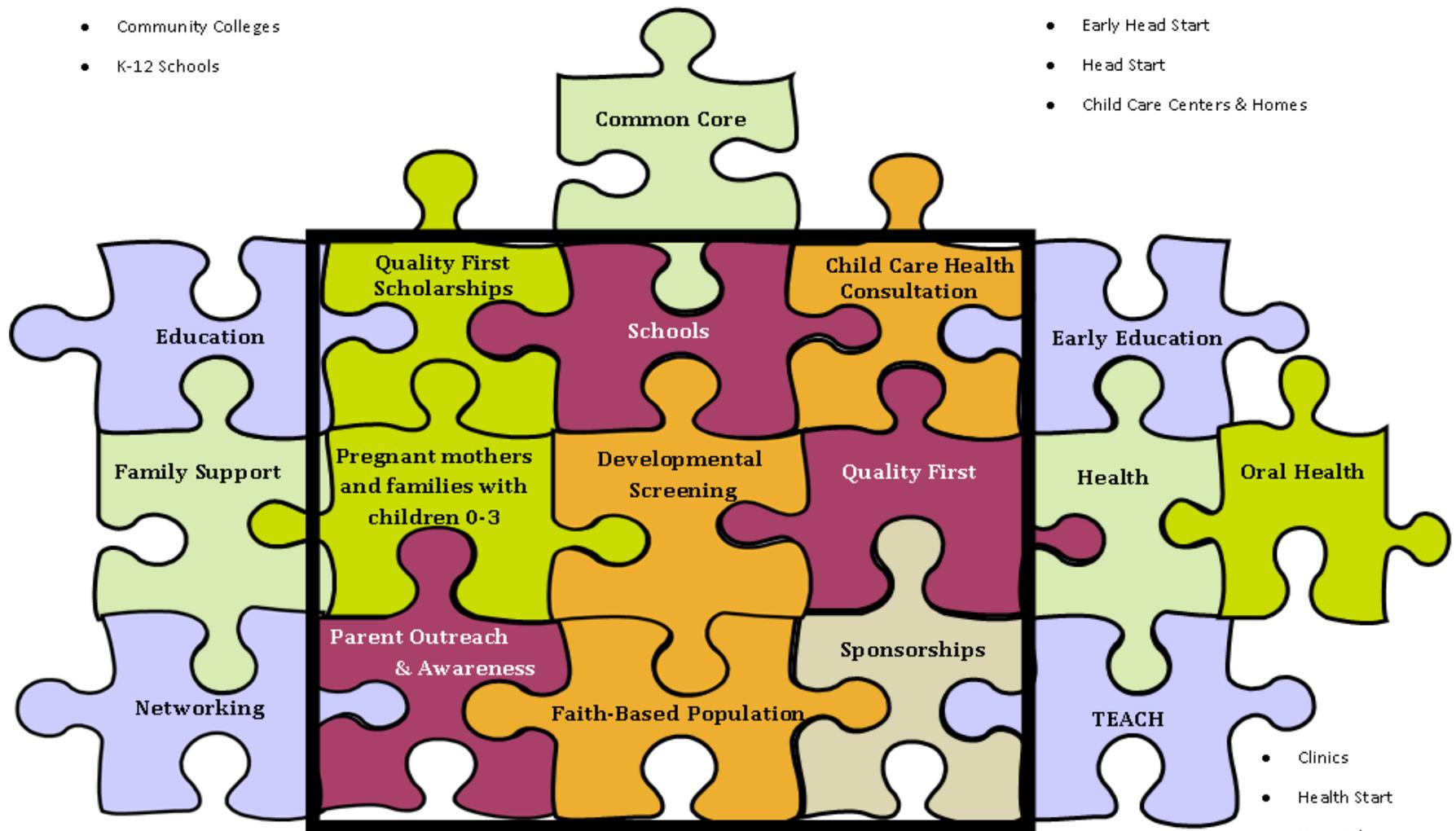


# Key System Elements and System Outcomes



- Universities
- Community Colleges
- K-12 Schools

- Early Head Start
- Head Start
- Child Care Centers & Homes



- DES Scholarships
- Domestic Violence Shelter
- Food Banks/Housing Supports
- Parent Groups

- Clinics
- Health Start
- Hospitals
- Physicians
- Dentists
- WIC

**Action Plan/Work Plan**

**Objectives – Early Care & Education**

- 1. Increase knowledge and awareness of star ratings and meanings of high quality affordable childcare.
- 2. Link programs and services to early childhood investment opportunities.

**Objectives – Family Support**

- 1. Increase coordination of planning, developing, funding and delivering family support, literacy services and resources.
- 2. Link local agencies delivering similar services to create a continuum of care.

**Objectives – Health**

- 1. Increase parent and primary care physician knowledge of oral health at well child checks and refer to dental home.
- 2. Raise awareness and find solutions for communities with fluoridate water intake.

**Objectives – Community Awareness**

- 1. Making media/community awareness more targeted, creative and relevant for the entire county.

**Goals**

- 1. Early Care & Education
- 2. Family Support
- 3. Health
- 4. Community Awareness

**Outcomes – Short/Long Term**

Short: Increase knowledge on early care and education and what it means to have programs in High Quality Settings.  
 Long: Link programs such as Home Visitation, Health to create creative partnerships and the blending and braiding of funding.

**Outcomes – Short/Long Term**

Short: Increase knowledge of home visiting services and the importance of the birth to three years.  
 Long: Connect home visiting efforts to high quality child care and health services for children to include primary health care physician.

**Outcomes – Short/Long Term**

Short: Increase knowledge and the importance of oral health  
 Long: Connecting a child with a dental home – working with the physician, CCHC and other health and nutrition programs throughout the County - Working on fluoride intake and water solutions.

**Outcomes – Short/Long Term**

Long Term: Having all understand the importance of early care and education and how the system works within Cochise County to ensure children come to school healthy and ready to succeed - Local buy in and partnerships with all strategies and organizations.

**Self-Accountability**

- Be Available
- Talk about your role on the Council
- Obtain Buy In within circles and organizations
- Be a credible source on the importance of early childhood development and health
- Other

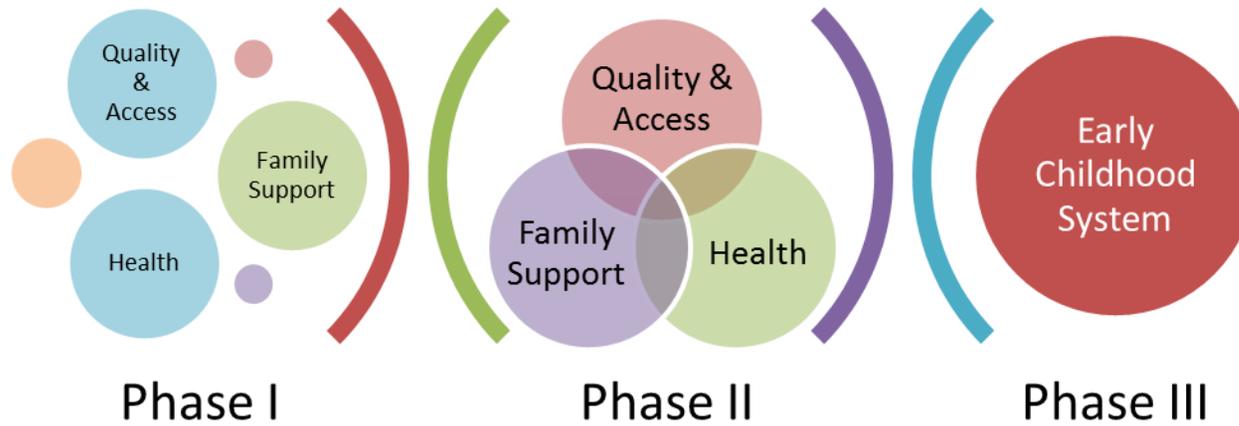
**RPC Accountability**

- Work on system building at every meeting
- Ensure strategies are connecting and linking together
- Check personal agendas at the door
- Respectful of other opinions
- Ensure every grantee understands building the system
- Other

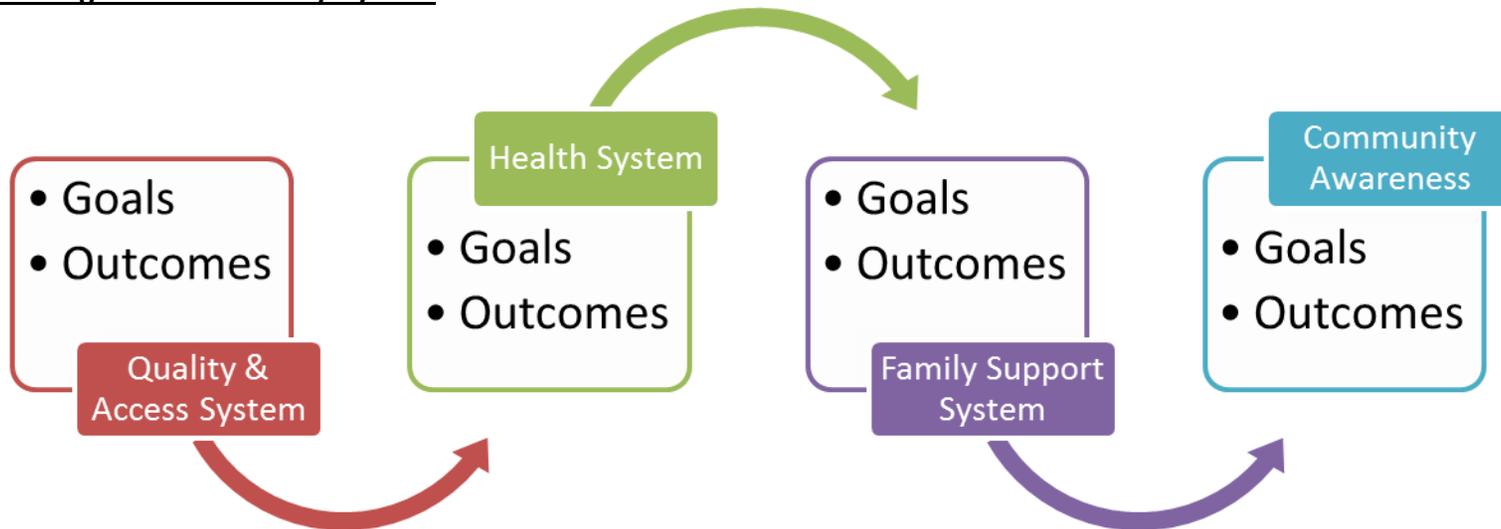
**Evaluation and Feedback**

- Continuous development of the system
- Offering feedback – positive and feedback
- Be accountable to the action plan – who/how/when
- Other

**Overall Big Picture:**



**Systemic Change over the next 3/5 years:**



**Consensus/Timeline of Action Plan:**

System	Timeline (When) Fiscal Year	Action – Steps/Who	Overarching – Building throughout	Priority Level (Consensus)
Quality & Access System				
Health System				
Family Support				
Community Awareness			YES	



Early Childhood  
System in  
Cochise County

AGENDA ITEM: Regional Director's Report

BACKGROUND: Monthly Directors Report provides the Regional Director an opportunity to inform the Regional Council on current and upcoming activities happening within the region and throughout the State.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director provides this as informational purposes only.



# June 2013 Director's Report Cochise Regional Partnership Council

## General Updates

- **Quality First Public Launch**
  - Website launch: Week of August 12<sup>th</sup>!
  - Please Note: Public star ratings on the website will include programs enrolled before July 1, 2011 on their 3<sup>rd</sup> assessment; and programs enrolled after that date will be posted on their 2<sup>nd</sup> assessment. Additionally, there are programs that have opted to post their star rating even if they are not in the public assessment cycle.
  - Providers' Marketing Toolkit: the toolkit is meant to be a resource for providers interested in marketing their participation in Quality First to families and consumers. Goal is to have the marketing toolkit to providers in advance of the August launch date.
- **Regional Benchmarking**
  - Cochise selected 6 indicators: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9.
  - Data release phases for the above indicators are in Phase 3 and 5.
  - Dr. Kemp will be attending the August and September meeting to discuss and set regional benchmarks for 2, 3, 4 and 8 indicators.
  - Please continue to look at the May 16<sup>th</sup> packet for information regarding the process and intent.
  - Please view the 3 Regional Benchmarking Webinars before the August Regional Council Meeting. A link to the webinars will be E-mailed to each Regional Council member.
- **First Things First Early Childhood Summit  
Phoenix Convention Center  
Building Strong Systems - August 25 – 27 2013**

## In The News - Open House – Come Celebrate the Ribbon Cutting of our new Office!

...

- *First Things First  
Ribbon Cutting  
with Sierra Vista  
Area Chamber –  
June 14, 2013 at  
11 AM.*
- *Regional Council  
Outstanding  
Documents –  
70% Completed.  
Please, let Sarah  
know if you need  
assistance completing  
your documents.  
Almost there!*