



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

### YUMA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

### INCREASE CENTER BASED ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOL READINESS PREPARATION OF CHILDREN ENTERING KINDERGARTEN

### REQUEST FOR GRANT APPLICATION

**FTF-RC023-10-0080-00**

### FACT SHEET

## **WHAT IS THE YUMA PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL GRANT PROGRAM TO INCREASE CENTER BASED ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOL READINESS PREPARATION OF CHILDREN ENTERING KINDERGARTEN?**

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The First Things First Yuma Regional Partnership Council (RPC) has identified the need to increase center based enrollment opportunities for school readiness preparation of children entering kindergarten and increase the number of children that are able to receive comprehensive quality early care and education programs to increase school readiness through two payment methods: a **scholarship** which supports the bulk of tuition to an early care and education program and/or a **stipend** that provides an additional amount so parents are able to afford a higher quality program.

High quality early childhood experiences are critical for children's optimal health and development. Even though there are a wide variety of public preschool programs, licensed early care and education programs and certified home care providers in the region, only 14 percent of children age birth to five are in regulated child care settings. Because there are a significant number of vacancies in regulated care that could be made available to families in the region, this strategy aims to increase the number of children entering kindergarten with preschool experience.

## **WHAT IS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING AVAILABLE?**

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Approximately \$650,600 is available in this Request for Grant Application. Contract renewal will be contingent upon satisfactory contract performance, evaluation and availability of funds.

The anticipated contract period for any resultant grant will be September 1, 2009 - to June 30, 2010.

## **PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR THE GRANT MAKING PROCESS**

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April 8, 2009	RFGA available on-line
April 28, 2009	Pre-application Conference Vista South School, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at 221 E. 26 <sup>th</sup> Place, Yuma, AZ 85364
May 20, 2009	Applications due to the location listed in the RFGA by 1:00 p.m.
September 1, 2009	Anticipated grant awards made

## **HOW TO GET A COPY OF THE RFGA**

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Please visit the First Things First web site on or after April 8, 2009: <http://www.azftf.gov/>

## **QUESTIONS?**

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All questions must be submitted in writing and include **FTF-RC023-10-0080-00** in the subject line of the email or on the cover sheet of the fax.

Questions should be submitted to the Grants and Contracts Procurement Specialist via email at [grants@azftf.gov](mailto:grants@azftf.gov) or via fax at (602) 265-0009.