

Federal Grants and Activities Report – August 2011

Federal Grants Awarded					
Strategy	Funding Source	FY2011 Awarded Amount	FY2011 Expended Amount	Grant Description	Comments
Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS)	Federal	\$132,000	\$85,730	This grant award supported the FTF Children’s Budget project, the FTF “Cost of Quality” study, coordination with the Arizona Department of Health Services, and a collaboration project to support early care and education in Tribal Regions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ECCS grant also provided FTF with additional consultation from a national expert during the development of indicators for FTF priority roles. • The ECCS was renewed with a total award of \$150,000. The grant period is June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012. • The 2011 grant proposal directs grant funds to support planning for a professional development system. • Any unexpended 2010 funds (ending May 31, 2011) will be requested as carryover into the project year beginning June 1, 2011.
State Advisory Council for Early Childhood Education (SAC) *Total 3 year budget.	Federal	\$2,489,746*	\$390,204	These grant funds support the Quality First Pilot and the development, dissemination and training of the Infant/Toddler Guidelines, Birth to Five Program Guidelines, and Early Learning Standards. FTF also applied for and received supplemental funds and was awarded an additional \$164,000 that will support the work of the FTF Advisory Committees – Health, Early Learning and Family Support & Literacy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Quality First Pilot is completed with additional analysis of the data that fully informed efforts in the development of the FY 13 model of this signature program. • Contracts with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) were approved by the State Board of Education to implement the development and training for the Early Learning Guidelines, Birth to Three Developmental Guidelines and Birth to Five Program Guidelines. ADE authorized a first printing of the <i>Program Guidelines for High Quality Early Education: Birth Through Kindergarten</i>. Guidelines will also be posted on the ADE website for access by

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					<p>early care and education providers. The Program Guidelines will be distributed in conjunction with the Guidelines training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since January, 2011, SAC grant funds have support the work of the FTF Early Learning, Family Support and Health advisory committees. Covered costs include facilitators, meeting materials, and other supplies to support development of FTF indicators.
Birth to Five Policy Alliance - Zero to Three	Non-funded	In-kind technical assistance	NA	FTF receives technical assistance regarding expanding and integrating Early Head Start as part of the early childhood system so that more infants and toddlers have access to and receive high-quality early care and education services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona is among five states (AR, CO, HI, and MS) selected for this second round of technical assistance provided by Zero to Three. The Arizona team includes Judy Walruff, Mary Reinwasser, Bonnie Williams, and Amy Corriveau. • The next phase of the TA grant includes additional phone consultation from Zero to Five with the possibility of a site visit. The objective of this TA continues to focus on expansion strategies as well as coordination of resources such as training and quality improvement.
Affordable Care Act Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program	Federal	Awarded to ADHS	NA	The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) establishes a home visiting grant program for states administered through the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) as a new section of the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) block grant program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ADHS formed an Interagency Leadership Team to advise and facilitate coordination of this home visiting program with other state funded programs. FTF, ADE, DES, Head Start are members of this team. • Applications submitted include key elements from the Arizona Home Visitation Action Plan. • Community Health Analysis Areas provided the criteria for the needs assessment and community site selection for the home visiting programs under this grant. Based on the level of risk, capacity of the communities, and the evidence of the models to address required benchmarks, ADHS is moving forward to implement Healthy Families Arizona in Casa Grande/Coolidge and Nurse Family Partnership
Formula Grant in two phases	\$1,893,443 (year one - FY 11 and 12)	NA		Grantees are required to use an evidence-based program model with a benchmark component that measures: improvement in maternal and child health, childhood injury prevention, school readiness and achievement, crime or domestic violence, family economic self-sufficiency, and coordination with community resources and supports.	
	\$2,631,887 (year two-overlaps with year one)				
	Proposal				

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	Submitted to US HHS and in review process			Under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act, Arizona is eligible for non-compete formula grants annually for five years. Governor Brewer designated the Arizona’s Department of Health Services to submit and implement Arizona’s proposal for this grant program.	<p>in three of the highest risk Community Health Analysis Areas in Tucson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional communities will be added in accordance with the grant proposal and as grant funds become available.
Affordable Care Act Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program	Federal Awards up to \$9 million per state	NA	NA	A competitive grant to support expansion of Home Visiting in states was released July 1, 2011. Grants of up to \$9 million per year for four years will be awarded.	ADHS, in partnership with the interagency leadership team, submitted a proposal for these expansion funds that would include infrastructure to support a statewide home visitation system.
Competitive Grant \$9 million per year for 4 years	Proposal Submitted to US HHS and in review process				
Race To the Top-Early Learning Challenge Fund	Federal, beginning in FY 2012 Total of \$500 million Arizona eligible for up to \$70 million Awards	NA	NA	<p>In May, 2011, a \$500 million Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge was announced to encourage states to develop bold and comprehensive plans for raising the quality of early learning programs. Draft guidelines issued include the following:</p> <p><u>Absolute Priorities</u> (States must address these.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use early learning and development standards and kindergarten entry assessments to promote school readiness. • Use a tiered quality rating and improvement system to promote school readiness. <p><u>Competitive Priority</u> (States that address these will earn extra</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor Brewer filed an “intent to apply” for an Early Learning Challenge Fund grant. • FTF, other state agency representatives, and West Ed staff are meeting with Governor Brewer’s education policy staff to discuss the application process. • FTF has formed an internal workgroup to review draft guidelines and begin developing the information needed to support a competitive application. • Final guidelines are expected in mid-August with proposals due in October (about six-eight weeks to develop a proposal). • Grant awards will be made before December 31, 2011

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	<p>announcement is anticipated by December 2011</p>		<p>points.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include all early learning and development programs in the tiered rating and improvement system. <p><u>Invitational Priorities</u> (No additional points awarded if these are addressed)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain program effects into the early elementary grades. • Encourage private sector support. <p>Four key levers for change:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aligned Systems—aligning all programs under a common set of standards, focused on quality and outcomes 2. Promote Early Learning and Development Outcomes—by setting high-quality standards, using comprehensive assessments across a broad range of domains, and providing supports for their implementation, while also encompassing healthy development and family engagement 3. High-Quality, Accountable Programs—developing a robust QRIS system with tiered standards, as well as promoting participation in the system and validating its effectiveness 4. Effective Workforce—Developing the knowledge, competencies, and progression of credentials that ensure a qualified, effective, and supported workforce (including partnerships with higher education) <p>Grants will be awarded for four years, from December 31, 2011 through December 2015.</p>	
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