



FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

# NEEDS AND ASSETS REPORT 2010



## NORTH PHOENIX

Regional Partnership Council



## NORTH PHOENIX

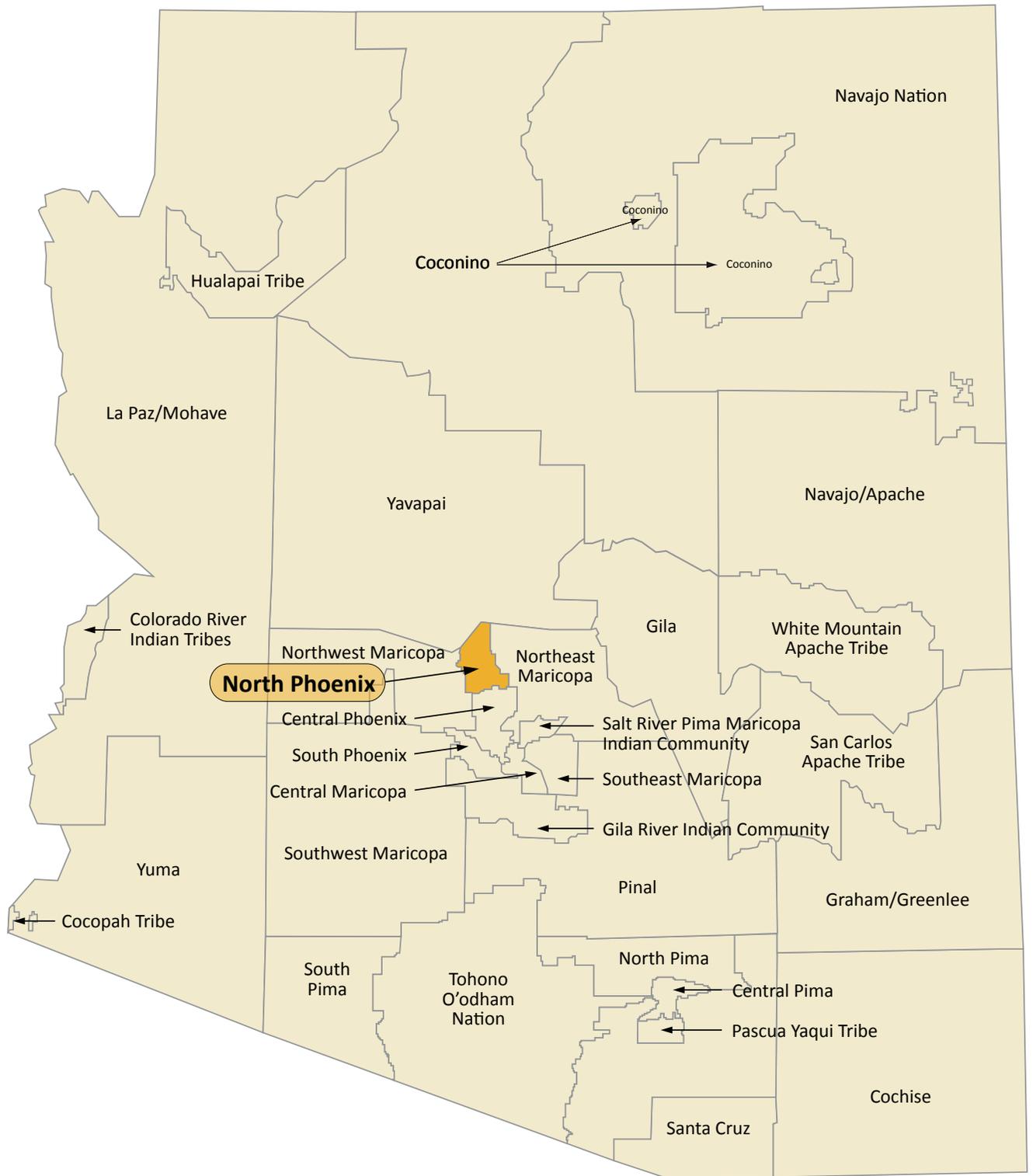
### Regional Partnership Council

---

#### Council

Jenna Goad, Chair  
Sally Downing, Vice Chair  
Bill Adams  
James Emch  
Cindy Hallman  
Mary Myers  
Barbara Nicol  
Connie Robinson  
Willette Watts  
Mindy Zapata  
Vacant

4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012  
Phone: 602.771.5100  
Fax: 602.274.7040  
[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)



# Contents

<b>Message from the Chair</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Introductory Summary and Acknowledgments</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>1.0 INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>11</b>
1.1 Overview of the North Phoenix Region .....	11
1.2 Methodology .....	11
<b>2.0 THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN LIVING IN THE NORTH PHOENIX REGION</b> .....	<b>14</b>
2.1 General Population Trends .....	14
2.3 Economic Circumstances.....	23
2.4 Educational Indicators .....	28
<b>3.0 THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM IN THE NORTH PHOENIX REGION</b> .....	<b>29</b>
3.1 Early Care and Education .....	29
3.2 Supporting Families .....	36
3.3 Health .....	41
3.4 Public Awareness and Collaboration .....	50
3.5 Stakeholder Priority for Services .....	51
<b>4.0 SUMMARY AND FUTURE DIRECTION</b> .....	<b>54</b>
<b>APPENDIX A</b> .....	<b>57</b>
<b>APPENDIX B</b> .....	<b>89</b>
<b>APPENDIX C</b> .....	<b>98</b>

## Message from the Chair

September 8, 2010

Message from the Chair:

The past two years have been rewarding for the First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, as we delivered on our mission to build better futures for young children and their families. During the past year, we have touched many lives of young children and their families by increasing access to quality childcare, healthcare, early literacy, and family support services. We have funded scholarships to increase the affordability of childcare and resulting in over 200 children having a quality early learning environment. We have provided opportunities for professional development and quality improvement through our Quality First, Friend, Family, and Neighbor, Professional REWARD\$, and TEACH programs which have served 41 centers, 38 home-based providers, and nearly 300 early childhood educators. We have increased children's access to preventative healthcare through the use of Child Care Health Consultants, Mental Health Consultants, and Health Screenings. And we have increased families' access to information and services to help their child achieve their fullest potential through Home Visitation, Early Literacy, and Teen Parent Support programs that have served over 9,000 families.

The First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council will build on these past successes and continue to expand the early childhood system to better serve families. For the next year, we will work to expand the availability of our current programs and will also work to implement new strategies that address the unmet needs of families in our region. One particular priority for the region for the coming year is to reduce the number of children involved in the Child Protective Services system. To that end, we will establish Family Resource Centers throughout the region to provide families with the support and resources they need BEFORE they are in crisis.

Our strategic direction has been guided by the Needs and Assets reports, specifically created for the North Phoenix Region in 2008 and the new 2010 report. The Needs and Assets reports are vital to our continued work in building a true integrated early childhood system for our young children and our overall future. The North Phoenix Regional Council would like to thank our Needs and Assets Vendor MGT of America, Inc. for their knowledge, expertise and analysis of the North Phoenix region. The new report will help guide our decisions as we move forward for young children and their families within the North Phoenix region.

Going forward, the First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council is committed to meeting the needs of young children by providing essential services and advocating for social change.

Thanks to our dedicated staff, volunteers and community partners, First Things First is making a real difference in the lives of our youngest citizens and throughout the entire State.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jenna Goad". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jenna Goad, Chair

North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

# Introductory Summary and Acknowledgments

## First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

The way in which children develop from infancy to well functioning members of society will always be a critical subject matter. Understanding the processes of early childhood development is crucial to our ability to foster each child's optimal development and thus, in turn, is fundamental to all aspects of well-being of our communities, society and the State of Arizona.

This Needs and Assets Report for the North Phoenix Geographic Region provides a clear statistical analysis and helps us in understanding the needs, gaps and assets for young children and points to ways in which children and families can be supported. The needs young children and families face are outlined in the executive summary and documented in further detail in the full report.

The North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council recognizes the importance of investing in young children and empowering parents, grandparents, and caregivers to advocate for services and programs within the region. This report provides basic data points that will aid the Council's decisions and funding allocations; while building a true comprehensive statewide early childhood system.

### **Acknowledgments:**

The First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council owes special gratitude to the agencies and key stakeholders who participated in numerous work sessions and community forums throughout the past two years. The success of First Things First was due, in large measure, to the contributions of numerous individuals who gave their time, skill, support, knowledge and expertise.

To the current and past members of the North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, your dedication, commitment and extreme passion has guided the work of making a difference in the lives of young children and families within the region. Our continued work will only aid in the direction of building a true comprehensive early childhood system for the betterment of young children within the region and the entire State.

We also want to thank the Arizona Department of Economic Security and the Arizona Child Care Resource and Referral, the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Arizona State Immunization Information System, the Arizona Department of Education and School Districts across the State of Arizona, the Arizona Head Start Association, the Office of Head Start, and Head Start and Early Head Start Programs across the State of Arizona, and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System for their contribution of data for this report.

- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.
- Arizona Department of Economic Security.
- Arizona Department of Health Services.
- Arizona Department of Education.
- American Community Survey.
- Arizona Head Start Association and National Head Start.

# Executive Summary

In January 2010, MGT of America, Inc. (MGT), was awarded a contract by the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board, also known as First Things First (FTF), to provide a Regional Needs and Assets Report for North Phoenix. MGT teamed with Children's Action Alliance for this important engagement. The report synthesizes relevant community data to help inform the FTF Regional Council in decision-making.

## Methodology

---

The methodology used to prepare the Regional Needs and Assets Report is described in this section.

The focus of the report is a collection and meaningful analyses of informative data indicators. The Needs and Assets Report included an emphasis on the Council's existing "assets," that is the institutions or organizations within the region that can be strengthened, expanded, and/or partnered with to support early childhood activities.

### Primary Data Collection and Analysis

Local regional data have been of the utmost importance to the success of this project. The team collected qualitative primary data to reflect the personal views of regional participants and the unique features of the region.

The team used three methods of primary data collection as described below:

1. Web-based stakeholder surveys.
2. Telephone interviews.
3. Stakeholder meetings.

#### *Web-based Stakeholder Surveys*

The team worked closely with FTF staff and the Regional Coordinators and Managers to collect contact information from currently compiled lists of early care and development stakeholders in the region. The team supplemented these stakeholders with information obtained from key organizations, such as medical centers, school principals, food banks, libraries, and WIC centers.

FTF provided MGT with 2,360 e-mail addresses for early care and development stakeholders in Maricopa County. E-mails were sent to each contact seeking participation in the survey portion of this study. Respondents were asked to indicate the communities which they served, and many indicated that they serve communities across multiple regions.

The survey was initiated in April 2010 following revisions based on input from Regional Council Members. The surveys focused on qualitative data from stakeholders about early childhood needs and assets in their local community. Survey respondents were asked to provide information and/or data sources that will contribute further to the reports. Results of the survey are located in Appendix A of this report.

#### *Telephone Interviews*

The team conducted individual telephone interviews with stakeholders in the region to obtain

additional information and perspectives on early childhood needs and assets. In addition to early childhood professionals, the team interviewed parents and neighborhood leaders. Some interviewees provided input in written form.

A summary of the responses is located in Appendix B of this report.

### *Stakeholder Group Interviews*

Group meetings were held with community stakeholders. These group interviews involved organizations providing relevant services in the region and other select community members.

These group meetings provided additional relevant information, perceptions, and opinions of services considered assets as well as potential barriers or unmet needs of the community.

A summary of the responses is located in Appendix B of this report.

### **Secondary Data Collection and Analysis**

The team worked with FTF and other Arizona and national data sources for indicators in the Regional Needs and Assets Report template provided in the FTF solicitation. The team worked closely with Regional Coordinators and Managers to identify local sources of documented information. Examples of national and regional sources included in this report are as follows:

- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.
- Arizona Department of Economic Security.
- Arizona Department of Health Services.
- Arizona Department of Education.
- American Community Survey.
- Arizona Head Start Association and National Head Start.

## **Report Overview**

---

The North Phoenix Region has both strengths and challenges for young children and their families. The young child population in the Deer Valley and Washington Elementary School Districts has been growing very fast in comparison to the county and the state. The Madison Elementary School District has fewer than 3,000 children younger than five years old.

There is racial and ethnic diversity in the region. Much of the region has high percentages of young children who are African American, compared to the 5 percent in Maricopa County. The Washington Elementary School District, city of Glendale, and city of Phoenix have more than 53 percent of young children who are Hispanic, compared to 47 percent countywide; other parts of the region have significantly lower rates of Hispanic children. Fewer than 5 percent of young children in all areas of the region were born in another country, with Washington Elementary School District at the highest rate of 4.5 percent. Ten percent of households in the city of Glendale have no one over the age of 14 who speaks English well; the rates are much lower in other parts of the region. In Maricopa County, 37 percent of children younger than six have at least one foreign born parent. The rate is higher in the city of Phoenix at 50 percent, but lower in other parts of the region, ranging from 17 percent in the Madison Elementary School District to 44 percent in the Washington Elementary School District.

The economic downturn has taken a toll on families in the region. The number of homeless children (birth to age five) in transitional or emergency shelters who had previously lived in the region rose from 88 in 2007 to 152 in 2009 – a larger increase than in the First Things First regions in Maricopa County. The number of very poor young children receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (welfare) in the region grew to 2,190 in 2010. This is a 46 percent increase over 2007 – the largest increase in comparison to other regions in Maricopa County, and more than three times the increase statewide.

Families in the region face additional economic challenges. The number of adults claiming unemployment insurance benefits more than tripled between 2007 and 2009, as it did countywide. The poverty rate for young white children living in two-parent families in the cities of Glendale and Phoenix and in the Washington Elementary School District was over 15 percent, significantly higher than the 10 percent rate countywide. The median income for two-parent families with young children in the region is above the countywide rate in the Paradise Valley, Deer Valley, and Madison School Districts; it is below the countywide rate in the Washington Elementary School District and in the cities of Glendale and Phoenix. The median incomes of families headed by single women are less than half the median of two-parent families.

Family stresses are evident with the large number of children who were removed from their homes by Child Protective Services due to abuse or neglect – 792 children in 2009. This is the highest number of any First Things First region in Maricopa County. Although the region had a large number of foster homes, a significant shortage of foster homes remains.

The region has a mixture of strengths and weaknesses in the service delivery system. Nearly three quarters of the schools in the region were rated higher than performing, similar to the statewide rate. However, 8.5 percent of the schools in the region were underperforming or failing compared to 3.1 percent statewide. The number of licensed or certified childcare providers in the region rose between 2008 and 2010, while it fell for every other region in Maricopa County. There are 37 childcare providers accredited or recognized by a national organization. Although this is a drop from 41 in 2008, 17 percent of all providers in the North Phoenix Region have national recognition – the highest rate of the First Things First regions in Maricopa County.

The number of school-based clinics in the region dropped from eight to two between 2002 and 2009 – a steeper drop than the statewide decline. The percentage of children in the region who have no health insurance ranges from 11 percent in the Paradise Valley School District to 20 percent in the city of Phoenix, compared to the countywide rate of 15.5 percent.

State budget cuts are weakening the early childhood infrastructure in the region. In 2010, 639 four year old students were enrolled in preschool in school districts in the region through the state-funded Early Childhood Block Grant program. Due to budget cuts, that funding is no longer available. The number of children receiving subsidies for childcare dropped by 39 percent between 2009 and 2010, reflecting the state budget cuts that closed the door to any qualified, low-income working families who applied.

The need for access to high quality, affordable childcare is strong throughout the region. Nearly two out of three households with children younger than 18 in the city of Phoenix had all parents in the labor force, with significantly higher rates in the other parts of the region. This indicates a large need for childcare. Preschool enrollment in the region is similar to or above the rate in Maricopa County, with lower enrollment for families in the city of Phoenix.

The input from the community through the online survey, the stakeholder meetings, and the telephone interviews all overwhelmingly point to a great demand for quality improvements in childcare and financial assistance for parents needing childcare. Thirty-two percent of the respondents to the

online survey said that childcare services are not meeting the needs of families in the community and 85 percent identified cost as the single most important barrier in childcare. More than four in ten respondents said that childcare subsidies and high quality childcare are services that are missing in the region. The number one priority for First Things First funding from respondents to the online survey is to improve the quality of early childhood development and health programs.

Community members greatly value health services in the region for young children, including dental services, immunizations, prenatal programs, AHCCCS/KidsCare health coverage, childcare health consultants, public health services, and nutrition programs. They also identify early education assets such as parent education, home visitation, family resource centers and other family support programs, childcare subsidies and scholarships, Quality First, the Birth to 5 Helpline, public libraries, and literacy programs.

Community members emphasized a need to improve awareness among parents about early education needs and about available services. Both formal reports and stakeholder meetings identified the value of making information available in a more systematic way to both parents and providers.

# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Overview of the North Phoenix Region

---

The city of Phoenix, located in Maricopa County, covers more than 517 square miles and has a population of over 1.5 million, ranking it the fifth largest city in the country and the largest capital city in terms of population. The FTF Board established three regions in the city of Phoenix: North, Central and South. The North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council boundary reaches as far North as New River and the Maricopa County line. In the West, it typically extends to 51st Avenue, including three ZIP codes for the city of Glendale. The East boundary of the region reaches 51st Street and winds along Tatum Boulevard. The South side of the region spans to Glendale Avenue. The North Phoenix Region is composed of small communities in close proximity to the Phoenix Metro area. The region includes neighborhoods as diverse as Sunnyslope, the North Central Corridor, Deer Valley, Moon Valley, Anthem and New River. The North Phoenix region includes the following ZIP codes: 85020, 85021, 85022, 85023, 85024, 85027, 85028, 85029, 85032, 85050, 85051, 85053, 85083, 85054, 85085, 85086, 85087, 85302, 85304, and 85306. Elementary schools in the North Phoenix Region fall within four districts. They include Deer Valley Unified School District, Paradise Valley Unified School District, Madison School District, and Washington Elementary School District.

## 1.2 Methodology

---

The methodology used to prepare the Regional Needs and Assets Report is described in this section.

The focus of the report is a collection and meaningful analyses of informative data indicators. The Needs and Assets Report includes an emphasis on the Council's existing "assets," that is the institutions or organizations within the region that can be strengthened, expanded, and/or partnered with to support early childhood activities.

### 1.2.1 Primary Data Collection and Analysis

Local regional data have been of the utmost importance to the success of this project. The team collected qualitative primary data to reflect the personal views of regional participants and the unique features of the region.

The team used three methods of primary data collection as described below:

1. Web-based stakeholder surveys.
2. Telephone interviews.
3. Stakeholder meetings.

#### *Web-based Stakeholder Surveys*

The team coordinated with First Things First staff and Regional Coordinators and Managers to develop the survey instruments and to collect survey respondent contact information. A master list of potential respondents was created that consisted of early care and development stakeholders in each region. A draft survey was presented to two focus groups on March 25 and 26, 2010 during

meetings that were accessible through teleconferencing and “Live Meeting” format. Input was synthesized and incorporated into the survey design and the final version was converted into a web-based application in late March and early April.

FTF provided MGT with 2,360 e-mail addresses for early care and development stakeholders in Maricopa County. E-mails were sent to each contact seeking participation in the survey portion of this study. Respondents were asked to indicate the communities which they served, and many indicated that they serve communities across multiple regions.

Pilot testing began in early April, and the online survey was provided to all respondents on April 22, 2010. Some key features of the survey include the ability for respondents to provide information about multiple communities, edit responses as needed up until the final closing deadline, and review their survey completion status using a “completion matrix.” The survey period was extended for an additional week following a request for extension. The survey period ended on May 25, 2010. Seventy-three respondents provided survey input about the North Phoenix Region. Survey responses can be found in **Appendix A**.

### *Telephone Interviews*

The team conducted individual telephone interviews with stakeholders in the region to obtain additional information and perspectives on early childhood needs and assets. In addition to early childhood professionals, the team interviewed parents and neighborhood leaders. Some interviewees provided input in written form if requested.

A summary of the responses is located in **Appendix B** of this report.

### *Stakeholder Group Interviews*

Group meetings were held with community stakeholders. These group interviews involved organizations providing relevant services in the region and other select community members.

These group meetings provided additional relevant information, perceptions, and opinions of services considered assets as well as potential barriers or unmet needs of the community.

A summary of the responses is located in **Appendix B** of this report.

## **1.2.2 Secondary Data Collection and Analysis**

The team worked with FTF and other Arizona and national data sources for indicators in the Regional Needs and Assets Report template provided in the FTF solicitation. The team worked closely with Regional Coordinators and Managers to identify local sources of documented information. Examples of national sources included in this report are as follows:

- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.
- Arizona Department of Economic Security.
- Arizona Department of Health Services.
- Arizona Department of Education.
- American Community Survey.
- Arizona Head Start Association and National Head Start.

Many of the analyses included in the successive chapters of this report rely on American Community Survey (ACS) data published by the U.S. Census Bureau. The information presented for each topic area reflects the most current and geographically comprehensive data available through this source. More specifically, three particular databases were used to generate the tables: 1) three-year average estimates covering the 2006-08 period; 2) single-year estimates for the year 2008; and, 3) single year estimates for the year 2005 (used as a historic reference point to calculate change). Items noted as “Most Recent Estimates” reflect either the three-year average estimate for the demographic statistic over the 2006-08 period or, if unavailable, the single-year estimate for the year 2008. Alternately, items denoted as “3-Year Trend” indicate the percentage change in the demographic component between the single-year estimates for the years 2005 and 2008.

As noted, data from ACS are presented for the most specific geographies available for each data element. ACS will not publish results when population totals are too small to allow for reliable estimation; therefore, localities shown will vary from exhibit to exhibit.

In addition to national, state, and county-level data, geographies available through the ACS at the sub-FTF regional level include cities and towns and school districts. Note that the data shown for school districts does not refer to the students enrolled in school there; it covers all residents living within the geographic boundaries of the school districts. Because the boundaries of the cities and school districts do not match the First Things First regional boundaries, the exhibits include several geographies to best reflect the characteristics of the region. Some of these geographies overlap and some include residents outside the region.

## 2.0 THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN LIVING IN THE NORTH PHOENIX REGION

This chapter presents data and analyses regarding families and children living in the region.

### 2.1 General Population Trends

**Exhibit 2-1** presents an analysis of the population of children age four and under. As shown:

- The Deer Valley and Washington Elementary School Districts had large growth in the number of young children in recent years.
- In the city of Phoenix, 9 percent of the population is age four and under; the rate is lower in the rest of the region.

#### EXHIBIT 2-1

#### PERCENTAGE, NUMBER, AND CHANGE IN POPULATION AGE 0 TO 4 YEARS

AREA	POPULATION 0 TO 4 YEARS		
	MOST RECENT DATA	PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION (ALL AGES)	3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	16,603	7.7%	26.0%
Paradise Valley Unified District	17,117	7.0%	8.2%
Madison Elementary District	2,949	5.2%	*
Washington Elementary School District	18,066	7.4%	22.9%
Glendale City	21,011	8.9%	-4.9%
New River Census Designated Place	2,048	6.8%	*
Phoenix City	133,300	9.1%	15.2%
Maricopa County	324,159	8.4%	11.3%
Arizona	500,031	7.9%	12.1%
United States	20,672,826	6.9%	3.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* Indicates sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic component.

**Exhibit 2-2** presents data relevant to the diversity of the population. As shown:

- Just under half of the young children in Maricopa County are Hispanic; the rates in the region vary from 18 percent in the Deer Valley School District to 62 percent in the city of Phoenix.
- In Maricopa County, 4.9 percent of the young children are African American; rates are higher in most of the North Phoenix Region.

## EXHIBIT 2-2

### RACE AND ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN AGE 0 TO 4 YEARS

AREA	PERCENT AGE 0 TO 4 YEARS (MOST RECENT DATA)					PERCENT CHANGE			
	RACE				ETHNICITY	RACE			ETHNICITY
	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	OTHER -OR- UNABLE TO ESTIMATE	HISPANIC OR LATINO (ANY RACE)	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	HISPANIC OR LATINO (ANY RACE)
Deer Valley Unified District	83.3%	3.6%	*	13.1%	17.9%	46.0%	*	*	-31.0%
Paradise Valley Unified District	81.4%	5.5%	*	13.2%	32.7%	7.6%	*	*	62.8%
Madison Elementary District	70.9%	*	*	29.1%	40.7%	*	*	*	*
Washington Elementary School District	57.7%	6.2%	4.8%	31.3%	53.8%	5.5%	*	*	75.3%
Glendale City	73.7%	6.1%	*	20.2%	55.0%	12.7%	*	*	26.3%
New River Census Designated Place	90.4%	*	*	9.6%	*	*	*	*	*
Phoenix City	70.4%	6.2%	2.2%	21.2%	61.7%	28.0%	103.7%	-28.1%	13.6%
Maricopa County	73.4%	4.9%	2.4%	19.3%	47.2%	20.9%	61.3%	-12.4%	19.4%
Arizona	69.3%	4.2%	5.5%	21.1%	45.7%	20.8%	59.8%	-13.6%	19.4%
United States	66.9%	13.6%	0.9%	18.6%	24.6%	4.9%	-3.8%	6.5%	16.1%

**Exhibit 2-3** presents data relevant to children under six with potential cultural and linguistic challenges. As shown:

- Nearly 5 percent of children under six in the Washington Elementary School District and nearly 4 percent of those in Phoenix were born outside the U.S., higher rates than both Maricopa County (2.8%) and Arizona (2.2%). The other localities more closely reflect the county and state on this measure.

### EXHIBIT 2-3

#### CHILDREN UNDER SIX WHO ARE FOREIGN BORN

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6
	MOST RECENT DATA
Deer Valley Unified District	2.8%
Paradise Valley Unified District	2.3%
Madison Elementary District	3.2%
Washington Elementary School District	4.5%
Glendale City	2.5%
Phoenix City	3.9%
Maricopa County	2.8%
Arizona	2.2%
United States	1.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**Exhibit 2-4** also presents data relevant to children with potential cultural linguistic challenges. As shown:

- The percentage of children under six with at least one foreign born parent in the city of Phoenix (50.3%) and the city of Glendale (40.4%) were higher than those of Maricopa County (36.6%) and Arizona (31.7%).

### EXHIBIT 2-4

#### CHILDREN UNDER SIX WITH AT LEAST ONE FOREIGN BORN PARENT

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6
	MOST RECENT DATA
Deer Valley Unified District	21.0%
Paradise Valley Unified District	32.9%
Madison Elementary District	17.2%
Washington Elementary School District	44.3%
Glendale City	40.4%
Phoenix City	50.3%
Maricopa County	36.6%
Arizona	31.7%
United States	24.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**Exhibit 2-5** presents data relevant to the age and ethnicity of mothers giving birth in Maricopa County and Arizona. As shown:

- The proportion of births in Maricopa County to teen mothers stayed the same between 2005 and 2008 (11.6%).
- The proportion of births to teens was much higher for non-White mothers than for White, non-Hispanic mothers.

## EXHIBIT 2-5

### BIRTHS BY AGE AND ETHNICITY

AREA		2005						2008					
		TOTAL	MOTHER'S AGE GROUP					TOTAL	MOTHER'S AGE GROUP				
			<15	15-17	18-19	20+	UNKNOWN		<15	15-17	18-19	20+	UNKNOWN
Maricopa County	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62,232</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>62,667</b>	<b>0.15%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>88.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
	White Non-Hispanic	26,130	0.0%	1.5%	4.2%	94.2%	0.0%	26,201	0.02%	1.6%	4.5%	93.8%	0.0%
	Hispanic or Latino	28,318	0.4%	6.5%	9.9%	83.2%	0.0%	28,319	0.26%	6.5%	9.8%	83.4%	0.0%
	Black or African American	2,697	0.1%	5.9%	10.1%	83.8%	0.0%	3,272	0.28%	4.8%	10.1%	84.8%	0.0%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	1,817	0.4%	6.3%	11.8%	81.5%	0.0%	1,940	0.21%	5.4%	10.2%	84.3%	0.0%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	2,133	0.0%	1.0%	1.9%	97.0%	0.0%	2,605	0.04%	0.5%	2.2%	97.2%	0.0%
	Other/Unknown	1,137	0.0%	3.0%	7.1%	89.9%	0.0%	330	0.00%	3.9%	4.2%	91.2%	0.6%
Arizona	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95,798</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>87.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>99,215</b>	<b>0.16%</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
	White Non-Hispanic	39,657	0.0%	1.8%	5.1%	93.1%	0.0%	41,925	0.04%	1.8%	5.3%	92.9%	0.0%
	Hispanic or Latino	42,156	0.3%	6.5%	10.3%	82.9%	0.0%	42,639	0.26%	6.4%	10.2%	83.2%	0.0%
	Black or African American	3,450	0.2%	5.8%	10.5%	83.5%	0.0%	4,301	0.28%	4.7%	10.3%	84.7%	0.0%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	6,293	0.3%	7.6%	11.2%	80.9%	0.0%	6,362	0.35%	6.4%	11.9%	81.4%	0.0%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	2,805	0.0%	1.0%	2.4%	96.6%	0.0%	3,425	0.03%	0.8%	2.5%	96.7%	0.0%
	Other/Unknown	1,437	0.1%	2.9%	6.2%	90.8%	0.0%	563	0.00%	3.7%	4.4%	91.5%	0.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services.

**Exhibit 2-6** presents data relevant to children with language barriers. As shown:

- Based on 2006-07 enrollments, Spanish was the most common primary language for children in the city of Phoenix programs: 51.7 percent of children in Early Head Start and 66.7 percent of children in Head Start.
- Statewide, 56 percent of the children in Head Start spoke Spanish as their primary language.

## EXHIBIT 2-6

### HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY PRIMARY LANGUAGE

AREA	LANGUAGES	EARLY HEAD START ENROLLMENT		HEAD START ENROLLMENT	
		2006-07		2006-07	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Phoenix City, Arizona	English	389	48.3%	2,426	31.4%
	Spanish	416	51.7%	5,146	66.7%
	Central/South American and Mexican	0	0.0%	12	0.2%
	Caribbean Languages	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Middle Eastern/South Asian Languages	0	0.0%	58	0.8%
	East Asian Languages	0	0.0%	30	0.4%
	Native North American/Alaska Native	0	0.0%	4	0.1%
	Pacific Island Languages	0	0.0%	8	0.1%
	European and Slavic Languages	0	0.0%	10	0.1%
	Other Languages	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	African Languages	0	0.0%	25	0.3%
	Unspecified	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Arizona	English	914	52.4%	6,261	42.7%
	Spanish	825	47.3%	8,213	56.0%
	Central/South American and Mexican	0	0.0%	12	0.1%
	Caribbean Languages	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	Middle Eastern/South Asian Languages	0	0.0%	74	0.5%
	East Asian Languages	1	0.1%	43	0.3%
	Native North American/Alaska Native	2	0.1%	9	0.1%
	Pacific Island Languages	0	0.0%	8	0.1%
	European and Slavic Languages	0	0.0%	13	0.1%
	Other Languages	1	0.1%	2	0.0%
	African Languages	1	0.1%	38	0.3%
	Unspecified	1	0.1%	4	0.0%

Source: Head Start Program Information Report, 2007-08. Profile Report – Individual Program Level (Unpublished Data).

**Exhibit 2-7** presents data about single parents and two-parent families by race and ethnicity. As shown:

- Single parent households are more prevalent in the Washington Elementary School District, Glendale, and Phoenix than the balance of Maricopa County.
- The rate of young children living in two-parent households has been declining in most of the region.

## EXHIBIT 2-7

### TYPES OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER FIVE BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

AREA	PERCENT OF FAMILIES W/ CHILDREN UNDER 5 (MOST RECENT DATA)						PERCENT CHANGE IN TYPES OF FAMILIES (3-YEAR TREND)					
	ALL RACES & ETHNICITIES			HISPANIC OR LATINO (ANY RACE)			ALL RACES & ETHNICITIES			HISPANIC OR LATINO (ANY RACE)		
	TWO-PARENT	SINGLE PARENT (MALE)	SINGLE PARENT (FEMALE)	TWO-PARENT	SINGLE PARENT (MALE)	SINGLE PARENT (FEMALE)	TWO-PARENT	SINGLE PARENT (MALE)	SINGLE PARENT (FEMALE)	TWO-PARENT	SINGLE PARENT (MALE)	SINGLE PARENT (FEMALE)
Deer Valley Unified District	79.4%	6.4%	14.1%	*	*	*	8.6%	*	*	*	*	*
Paradise Valley Unified District	71.4%	7.4%	21.2%	*	*	*	-8.3%	*	28.6%	*	*	*
Washington Elementary School District	62.8%	12.4%	24.9%	63.2%	15.2%	21.7%	-10.4%	*	-37.0%	*	*	*
Glendale City	61.4%	8.0%	30.6%	*	*	*	-28.9%	*	-12.0%	*	*	*
Phoenix City	66.0%	10.0%	24.0%	65.6%	11.7%	22.6%	-6.7%	9.5%	-9.9%	-11.2%	3.6%	-2.0%
Maricopa County	71.3%	8.5%	20.3%	66.5%	10.8%	22.7%	-10.0%	4.6%	-2.6%	-9.2%	-6.3%	17.2%
Arizona	68.4%	9.0%	22.6%	63.9%	10.4%	25.7%	-8.4%	2.8%	2.0%	-12.1%	-4.5%	17.2%
United States	69.6%	7.5%	22.9%	65.3%	11.1%	23.7%	-0.8%	4.1%	2.7%	3.7%	4.1%	6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

**Exhibit 2-8** presents data relevant to children being raised by their grandparents. These families often have challenges due to the health and financial needs of grandparents and the circumstances that led to the children living with them. As shown:

- One in ten young children in the city of Phoenix lives with their grandparents; the rates are lower in other parts of the region.

## EXHIBIT 2-8

### CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SIX LIVING WITH GRANDPARENTS

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 MOST RECENT DATA
Deer Valley Unified District	7.0%
Paradise Valley Unified District	7.6%
Washington Elementary School District	9.7%
Glendale City	9.4%
Phoenix City	10.1%
Maricopa County	9.0%
Arizona	11.2%
United States	9.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

**Exhibit 2-9** shows the educational level of mothers who gave birth in the last 12 months. As shown:

- More than six out of ten babies born in the city of Glendale and the city of Phoenix had mothers who had a high school education or less, compared to just over half the babies born countywide.
- In recent years, the percent of women having babies in the region who have less than a high school education has grown dramatically.

## EXHIBIT 2-9

### EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF WOMEN WHO GAVE BIRTH IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

AREA	EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RATES OF WOMEN WHO GAVE BIRTH IN LAST 12 MONTHS									
	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL		HIGH SCHOOL OR EQUIVALENT		SOME COLLEGE OR AA DEGREE		BACHELOR'S DEGREE		GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE	
	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	16.2%	326.9%	17.0%	-47.0%	34.8%	-3.7%	22.3%	*	*	*
Paradise Valley Unified District	23.0%	55.6%	16.6%	-38.4%	25.8%	24.5%	26.2%	*	*	*
Madison Elementary District	30.7%	*	*	*	16.4%	*	*	*	*	*
Washington Elementary School District	31.8%	39.6%	22.6%	-45.7%	33.8%	-0.6%	8.8%	*	*	*
Glendale City	35.9%	97.5%	28.0%	-28.2%	24.7%	-12.2%	8.0%	*	3.4%	*
New River Census Designated Place	*	*	*	*	52.5%	*	*	*	*	*
Phoenix City	35.5%	9.5%	26.7%	-30.0%	21.2%	4.5%	11.7%	28.8%	4.9%	115.1%
Maricopa County	27.5%	13.3%	24.2%	-23.8%	26.7%	1.4%	14.7%	17.2%	6.8%	11.6%
Arizona	25.3%	-1.6%	26.1%	-20.9%	30.0%	13.8%	12.4%	15.1%	6.3%	15.4%
United States	17.8%	-7.6%	25.9%	-8.3%	29.2%	11.5%	18.2%	-2.1%	9.0%	9.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

**Exhibit 2-10** presents the percentage of households in which all parents are in the labor force. As shown:

- The proportion of households with all parents in the labor force in Deer Valley Unified District, Paradise Valley Unified District, and Washington Elementary School District was higher than the county or state.
- More than two thirds of households in most of the region had all parents in the workforce, indicating a high need for childcare.

**EXHIBIT 2-10 PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN IN WHICH ALL PARENTS ARE IN THE LABOR FORCE**

2006-08

AREA	PERCENT OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18**	
	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	72.9%	*
Paradise Valley Unified District	70.6%	*
Washington Elementary School District	71.1%	*
Phoenix City	64.1%	1.9%
Maricopa County	66.9%	3.5%
Arizona	67.2%	5.1%
United States	71.0%	4.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

\*\* Represents all households with all parents employed or seeking employment as a proportion of total households with children under the age of 18.

Single mothers who work are more likely to need childcare services. As shown in **Exhibit 2-11**:

- The proportion of single mothers in the labor force living in the Deer Valley Elementary School District and the Paradise Valley Unified School District both exceeded the county rate of 55 percent and the state rate of 56 percent.

**EXHIBIT 2-11**

**SINGLE MOTHERS IN THE WORKFORCE**

AREA	PERCENT OF SINGLE MOTHERS IN THE WORKFORCE**
	MOST RECENT DATA
Deer Valley Unified District	60.8%
Paradise Valley Unified District	60.3%
Washington Elementary School District	57.9%
Glendale City	54.1%
Phoenix City	51.6%
Maricopa County	55.0%
Arizona	56.0%
United States	60.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\*\* Single mothers (age 20-64) of children under the age of six that are employed or seeking employment as a proportion of total single mothers (age 20-64) of children under the age of six.

As defined by the Census Bureau, a linguistically isolated household is one in which no member 14 years old and over (1) speaks only English or (2) speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well.” In other words, all members 14 years old and over have at least some difficulty with English. As shown in **Exhibit 2-12**:

- More than one in ten households are linguistically isolated in the cities of Phoenix and Glendale; rates are lower in the other parts of the region.

## EXHIBIT 2-12

### LINGUISTIC ISOLATION OF HOUSEHOLDS

AREA	PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS LINGUISTICALLY ISOLATED	
	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	2.0%	*
Paradise Valley Unified District	4.8%	*
Madison Elementary District	2.9%	*
Washington Elementary School District	9.6%	3.6%
Glendale City	10.1%	0.6%
Phoenix City	11.7%	-0.1%
Maricopa County	7.5%	-0.4%
Arizona	6.7%	-0.2%
United States	4.8%	0.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Note: Data presented in this exhibit are based on available figures for total households, not only households with children.

## 2.3 Economic Circumstances

Children in families with unemployed parents may face additional stresses. As shown in **Exhibits 2-13** and **2-14**:

- Exhibit 2-13 shows that from 2007 to 2009, the number of unemployment insurance claimants in Maricopa County and the North Phoenix Region more than tripled.
- Exhibit 2-14 shows that unemployment rates more than doubled in New River, the city of Phoenix, and Maricopa County between 2005 and 2010. The unemployment rate in the city of Phoenix is higher than the countywide rate.

## EXHIBIT 2-13

### NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CLAIMING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

AREA	JANUARY-JUNE 2007	JANUARY-JUNE 2009	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	7,006	21,761	210.6%
Maricopa County	40,890	130,251	218.5%
Arizona	87,083	231,628	166.0%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2007, 2009). DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010 from Database (Unpublished Data).

## EXHIBIT 2-14

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

AREA	TOTAL EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS MARCH 2010	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MARCH 2005	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MARCH 2010	UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENT CHANGE
New River City	7,421	2.5%	5.3%	112.0%
Phoenix City	780,746	4.9%	10.2%	108.2%
Maricopa County	1,822,752	4.1%	8.7%	112.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

**Exhibit 2-15** presents data on the number of children (birth to age five) who are homeless and living in transitional or emergency shelters. The exhibit includes children whose last permanent address was in the North Phoenix Region. As shown:

- The number of young children living in shelters in the North Phoenix Region increased nearly 73 percent between 2009 and 2010. During the same time period, the number of homeless children in all FTF Maricopa County regions increased more than 64 percent.

## EXHIBIT 2-15

## HOMELESS CHILDREN LIVING IN SHELTERS

AREA	HOMELESS CHILDREN AGE 0 TO 5		
	2007	2009	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	88	152	72.7%
Sum of FTF Maricopa Regions**	724	1,188	64.1%

Source: Maricopa Homeless Management Information System.

\*\*Includes all data reported for ZIP codes encompassed by Central Phoenix, South Phoenix, North Phoenix, Central Maricopa, Northeast Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Southeast Maricopa, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Southwest Maricopa FTF regions.

**Exhibit 2-16** indicates the median income of families with children under 18. As shown:

- Median income levels in many locations in the region exceed county and statewide rates.
- The cities of Glendale and Phoenix and the Washington Elementary School District all have median incomes below the county median.

## EXHIBIT 2-16

### MEDIAN INCOME OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 BY FAMILY TYPE

AREA	MEDIAN PERSONAL INCOME, FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18					
	MARRIED COUPLES		SINGLE PARENT, MALE		SINGLE PARENT, FEMALE	
	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	\$98,072	15.0%	\$54,531	11.8%	\$41,261	-10.6%
Paradise Valley Unified District	\$95,009	10.2%	\$51,394	2.8%	\$36,602	46.2%
Madison Elementary District	\$95,837	*	\$41,384	*	\$25,956	*
Washington Elementary School District	\$60,158	24.9%	\$35,467	25.6%	\$28,619	18.9%
Glendale City	\$72,371	16.1%	\$40,278	5.1%	\$27,316	22.8%
New River Census Designated Place	\$112,315	*	\$89,366	*	\$41,078	*
Phoenix City	\$64,878	16.4%	\$37,306	10.2%	\$27,367	30.3%
Maricopa County	\$78,381	12.4%	\$42,272	12.0%	\$31,333	25.2%
Arizona	\$73,039	13.3%	\$39,197	11.3%	\$27,091	11.2%
United States	\$78,924	13.6%	\$38,160	7.3%	\$24,786	13.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Federal poverty guidelines vary by size of family and are adjusted each year for inflation. As issued by the Department of Health and Human Services for 2009, the threshold for a single person is \$10,830 per year, and increases by \$3,740 with each additional family member. Families are considered to be living in poverty if their income is below \$14,570 for a family of two, \$18,310 for a family of three, and \$22,050 for a family of four.

**Exhibit 2-17** shows poverty rates for families with young children. These children may face challenges that inhibit their ability to learn, including severe family stress, hunger, unstable housing, and health problems. As shown:

- Poverty rates for Hispanic families in the region are dramatically higher than for families overall.
- The Deer Valley, Madison, and Paradise Valley School Districts have much lower poverty rates than other localities in the region.

## EXHIBIT 2-17

## POVERTY STATUS OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND UNDER

AREA	PERCENT OF TWO PARENT HOUSEHOLDS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (MOST RECENT DATA)						PERCENT OF SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLDS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (MOST RECENT DATA)					
	RACE OF HOUSEHOLDER			ETHNICITY	ALL RACES/ ETHNICITIES		RACE OF HOUSEHOLDER			ETHNICITY	ALL RACES/ ETHNICITIES	
	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	HISPANIC OR LATINO (ANY RACE)	TOTAL, TWO PARENTS	PERCENT CHANGE 3-YEAR TREND	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN	NATIVE AMERICAN	HISPANIC OR LATINO (ANY RACE)	TOTAL, ONE PARENT	PERCENT CHANGE 3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	4.8%	*	*	*	5.0%	204.5%	23.4%	*	*	*	19.9%	*
Paradise Valley Unified District	6.2%	*	*	26.0%	8.3%	28.5%	*	*	*	*	33.6%	*
Madison Elementary District	*	*	*	*	7.1%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Washington Elementary School District	15.1%	*	*	24.3%	17.0%	78.1%	39.5%	*	*	35.9%	36.6%	*
Glendale City	16.2%	*	*	27.5%	16.3%	-29.3%	*	*	*	*	46.2%	*
Phoenix City	16.8%	11.2%	26.5%	26.0%	17.4%	10.2%	42.6%	45.9%	43.7%	44.5%	41.4%	-2.6%
Maricopa County	10.3%	7.0%	16.5%	21.3%	10.9%	-0.9%	37.5%	45.6%	38.1%	43.4%	37.4%	-4.5%
Arizona	10.1%	6.0%	24.0%	20.7%	11.2%	-11.5%	40.4%	44.5%	48.6%	47.6%	41.6%	-2.4%
United States	7.4%	10.9%	18.8%	19.4%	8.7%	-3.4%	39.8%	50.6%	50.4%	45.7%	43.4%	-3.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

## Section Summary

There is great variation within the North Phoenix Region in the demographic characteristics of young children and their families. There is diversity within the region that calls for strategies and grantees with cultural competence. Compared to Maricopa County overall, much of the region has high rates of young children who were born outside the U.S. And more than one in five young children in most of the region have at least one parent who was born in another country.

The data help point to families who are most at risk who might benefit most from targeted regional strategies for family support and parent education. Young children in the region are more likely to live with a single parent than children countywide. The percentage of babies born to a mother with less than a high school education has been increasing dramatically. Median incomes are low and poverty rates are high in the cities of Glendale and Phoenix and the Washington Elementary School District. Poverty rates for Hispanic families in the region are dramatically higher than for families overall. Regional home visitation programs and strategies, such as providing childcare scholarships and targeted literacy support, can be designed to reach families with risk factors.

## 2.4 Educational Indicators

**Exhibit 2-18** shows the academic achievement among schools in the region.

- For 2008-09, the school ratings in the region were similar to the ratings statewide, with 27 percent of schools labeled as performing or below.
- 7.1 percent of the schools in North Phoenix Region were rated as Underperforming, compared to a statewide proportion of only 1.9 percent. However, the North Phoenix Region had a higher proportion of schools rated as Highly Performing than the statewide average.

### EXHIBIT 2-18

#### AZ LEARNS PROFILE

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SCHOOLS BY AIMS RATING 2008-09					
	EXCELLING	HIGHLY PERFORMING	PERFORMING PLUS	PERFORMING	UNDERPERFORMING	FAILING TO MEET ACADEMIC STANDARDS
North Phoenix	21.4%	17.1%	34.3%	18.6%	7.1%	1.4%
Arizona	22.0%	14.2%	37.9%	22.8%	1.9%	1.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Education, 2010. AZ's Instrument to Measure Standard (AIMS) Results. Retrieved March 31, 2010, from Arizona Department of Education. <http://www.ade.state.az.us/researchpolicy/AIMSResults/>.

Charter schools are not included in the analysis.

AZ LEARNS is the Arizona Department of Education's school accountability system. Each school is labeled based on students AIMS test scores, state baseline goals, and yearly progress.

## 3.0 THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM IN THE NORTH PHOENIX REGION

### 3.1 Early Care and Education

**Exhibit 3-1** shows data related to the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) program which provides families with information about childcare available in their area. As shown:

- From 2008 to 2010, the number of childcare providers listed from the region grew slightly; the capacity of these providers grew much faster.

#### EXHIBIT 3-1

##### CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SUMMARY STATISTICS

CENTRAL PHOENIX	2008	2010	PERCENT CHANGE
Number of Providers	296	313	5.74%
Total Capacity	19680	25119	27.64%
Capacity per Provider	66.49	80.25	20.70%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2007, 2009. DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010, from Database (Unpublished Data).

**Exhibit 3-2** presents the availability of regulated childcare in the region. This exhibit displays the number of childcare providers that are regulated by the state. The Department of Health Services (DHS) licenses and inspects childcare centers. DHS also certifies home-based childcare businesses with five to ten children, called "childcare group homes." The Department of Economic Security certifies and monitors home-based childcare businesses with four or fewer children that participate in the childcare subsidy program. There are many home-based childcare providers that are not certified by DES or DHS and are not included here. As shown:

- The total number of regulated providers in the region increased by 45 between 2008 and 2010; this increase occurred at a time when most areas were losing regulated providers, especially DES certified homes.

#### EXHIBIT 3-2

##### NUMBER OF LICENSED/CERTIFIED CENTERS/HOMES

AREA	DHS LICENSED CENTERS	DES CERTIFIED HOMES	GROUP HOMES	TOTAL
North Phoenix 2008	179	0	0	179
North Phoenix 2010	180	22	22	224
2008-10 Change	1	22	22	45

Source: Child Care Resource and Referral, May 2010.

Many schools participate in the Early Childhood Block Grant Program (ECBG) to assist families in need. State funding for the ECBG preschool was eliminated in January 2010. Therefore, no more preschool students can enroll through this funding source. As shown in **Exhibit 3-3:**

- ECBG preschool enrollments for the North Phoenix Region increased from 2005 to 2010.

### EXHIBIT 3-3

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENTS

AREA	ECBG ENROLLMENT LEVELS				PERCENT CHANGE
	2005		2010		
	NUMBER ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL	PERCENT OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT	NUMBER ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL	PERCENT OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT	2005-10
Deer Valley Unified District	140	100.0%	244	44.0%	74.3%
Madison Elementary District	180	26.5%	228	100.0%	26.7%
Washington Elementary School District	140	68.6%	167	84.3%	19.3%
SUM, Regional Districts	460	44.9%	639	65.2%	38.9%

Source: Arizona Department of Education: Student Services, 2008, 2010. Early Childhood Block Grant Reports: ECBG Enrollment Report data pulled on April 2, 2010 (Unpublished Report). N/A indicates that the data were not available.

**Exhibit 3-4** presents data related to the number of children enrolled in a nursery, preschool, or kindergarten program. As shown:

- Many areas of the region had enrollment rates similar to or higher than the countywide rate. Enrollment rates in the city of Phoenix, on the other hand, were significantly lower.
- The enrollment rates in the Deer Valley and Madison School Districts are particularly high.

#### EXHIBIT 3-4

#### NUMBER OF CHILDREN (AGES THREE TO SIX) AND OVER ENROLLED IN NURSERY/PRESCHOOL OR KINDERGARTEN PER 1,000 CHILDREN

AREA	ENROLLMENTS PER 1,000 CHILDREN**
	MOST RECENT DATA
Deer Valley Unified District	370
Paradise Valley Unified District	317
Madison Elementary District	495
Washington Elementary School District	304
Glendale City	308
Phoenix City	289
Maricopa County	308
Arizona	314
United States	383

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\*\* Total enrollments by children age three to six in nursery, preschool, or kindergarten per 1,000 children.

**Exhibit 3-5** presents data related to the percentage of children enrolled in nursery school, preschool, or kindergarten who live in families with incomes below the poverty level. As shown:

- More than one quarter of the students enrolled in the city of Phoenix and the Washington Elementary School District were living in poor families, significantly higher than rates in the rest of the region and countywide.

#### EXHIBIT 3-5

#### PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN (AGES THREE AND OVER) ENROLLED IN PRESCHOOL/NURSERY SCHOOL OR KINDERGARTEN WHO FALL BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL (FPL)

AREA	PERCENT ENROLLED BELOW FPL	PERCENT CHANGE
	MOST RECENT DATA	3-YEAR TREND
Deer Valley Unified District	5.1%	341.4%
Paradise Valley Unified District	12.9%	49.5%
Madison Elementary District	15.6%	*
Washington Elementary School District	25.8%	78.2%
Glendale City	19.8%	3.7%
New River Census Designated Place	8.5%	*
Phoenix City	25.0%	11.8%
Maricopa County	16.9%	14.6%
Arizona	19.1%	-0.5%
United States	17.6%	-2.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* Indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

**Exhibit 3-6** presents data on childcare providers that have attained a national accreditation or recognition, indicating that they meet specified quality standards. As shown:

- Seventeen percent of regulated providers in the region have been accredited or recognized by a national organization – this is the highest rate of the First Things First regions in Maricopa County.
- In the North Phoenix Region, the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) had the largest number of accredited/recognized area providers with 14, followed by the National Association of Child Care Professionals (NAC) with 12.
- While the number of regulated providers in the region grew between 2008 and 2010, the number with a national recognition or accreditation fell.

### EXHIBIT 3-6

#### RECOGNIZED AREA PROVIDERS

ACCREDITATION/ RECOGNITION	NUMBER OF ACCREDITED/RECOGNIZED AREA PROVIDERS								ACCREDITED PROVIDERS PER APPROVED PROVIDER**
	AMI	AMS	ACSI	NAC	NAEYC	NECPA	NAFCC	TOTAL	
2008	2	0	1	13	23	2	0	41	0.23
2010	1	0	10	12	14	0	0	37	0.17
2008-10 Change	-1	0	9	-1	-9	-2	0	-4	-0.06

Source: Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), American Montessori Society (AMS), Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), National Association of Child Care Professionals (NAC), National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA) National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), 2010.

\*\* Number of licensed centers per **Exhibit 3-2**.

Exhibit 3-7 provides data related to the number of pregnant women and children that benefit from being enrolled in the Head Start Program. As shown:

- In the North Phoenix Region, over 800 children are enrolled across all area Head Start programs.

### EXHIBIT 3-7

#### HEAD START NUMBER OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN SERVED 2007-08

AREA	NAME	TYPE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	PREGNANT WOMEN	TOTAL ENROLLMENT
North Phoenix	Deer Valley Head Start	Head Start	165	0	165
	Washington Elementary School District	Head Start	637	0	637

Source: Head Start Program Information Report, 2007-08. Profile Report-Individual Program Level (Unpublished Data).

In spring 2010, MGT administered a web-based stakeholder survey completed by early care and development stakeholders in North Phoenix. The survey was designed to identify the extent to which community needs are being met, impacts of budget cuts on service provision, services that may be lacking, and barriers to services. Survey topics areas included childcare, education, literacy development, special needs, health services, and social services. **Appendix A** provides survey response rates for each survey item within each section of the survey. Group meetings and personal interviews were conducted throughout the North Phoenix Region, which provided supplemental data to further explore the topic areas. Summaries to the group meetings and personal interviews along with the meeting and interview questionnaires can be found in **Appendix B**. A summary of key survey findings, along with group meetings and interview findings, directly related to early care and education is presented in this section of the report.

Respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which services met the needs of children birth through age 5 and their families within their community for four areas specifically related to early care and education. **Exhibit 3-8** shows the percent of responses within the region indicating that needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent) and the percent reporting that needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Needs were least met in the area of childcare. According to the personal interviews and group meetings, there are a number of other notable needs in the North Phoenix Region that are not being met related to early care and education, including transportation, childcare (especially quality childcare), preschools, after-school care, and safety education.

## EXHIBIT 3-8

### MEETING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION NEEDS

SERVICE AREAS	GOOD TO EXCELLENT	POOR OR VERY POOR
Childcare	48.8%	31.7%
Educational Services	54.0%	18.9%
Child/Family Literacy Development	53.4%	10.0%
Special Needs	47.3%	16.7%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 30 to 41 across areas.

### 3.1.1 Barriers

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to children and families receiving services. The single most important barrier reported related to educational services included awareness and cost of services. According to the personal interviews and the group meeting participants there are also such related barriers as: funding, availability of services, transportation, fear, language barriers, and childcare waiting lists. **Exhibit 3-9** shows the most frequent responses.

## EXHIBIT 3-9

### SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION BARRIERS

SERVICE AREAS	SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER
Childcare	Cost (85.4%)
Educational Services	Cost (35.1%)
Child/Family Literacy Development	Awareness (60.0%)
Special Needs	Awareness (36.1%)

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 30 to 41 across areas.

### 3.1.2 Budget Cuts

Survey respondents rated the impact of budget cuts on early care and education services from having no impact to having a very high impact. Budget cuts were a significant factor within each educational service areas surveyed. **Exhibit 3-10** shows the percent of respondents stating budget cuts were having a high or very high impact in each area. Budget cuts were reported to have the most substantial impact on childcare services. During personal interview and focus group meetings, participants stressed the need for assistance with childcare payments and more funding for pre-K and full-day kindergarten.

#### EXHIBIT 3-10

#### IMPACT OF BUDGET CUTS TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION AREAS

SERVICE AREAS	HIGH/VERY HIGH IMPACT
Childcare	92.7%
Educational Services	56.7%
Child/Family Literacy Development	46.7%
Special Needs	50.0%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 46 to 62 across areas.

### 3.1.3 Missing Services

Survey respondents indicated which early care and education services were missing from their community. **Exhibit 3-11** shows the percentage of survey respondents who identified particular services missing in the region. Group meeting participants mentioned that funding for pre-K and full-day kindergarten is needed. Other missing services included: safe and affordable housing and child support, parent education, literacy services, access to training services for the provider and parents, and grandparent training.

#### EXHIBIT 3-11

#### MISSING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES

MISSING EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AREAS	PERCENT MISSING
Early childhood literacy programs	25.0%
High quality childcare	41.7%
High quality childcare that provides alternative hours of operation	45.8%
Childcare subsidies	41.7%
Pre-Kindergarten	25.0%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses was 24.

Organizations providing leadership and services within the North Phoenix Region serve as assets within the region. Survey participants identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for provision of early care and education services. These organizations included those listed in **Exhibit 3-12**.

## EXHIBIT 3-12

### ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES

A Stepping Stone Foundation	Head Start
Agency on Aging	Healthy Families
Aging and Administration Services	Joanie and Friends
Arizona Autism Coalition	John C. Lincoln Programs
Arizona Child Care Association	KidsCare
Arizona Department of Education	Lead by Five
Arizona Language and Literacy Center	Local School Districts
Arizona Literacy and Learning Center	Maggie's Place
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Maricopa Community Colleges
AZ EIP	Maricopa County
AZAAP	Mountain Park Health Care Clinic
Birth-5 Helpline	Native American Center
Blake Foundation	Partnership for Arizona Children
Boys and Girls Club	Peoria Fire Department
Care First Rescue Center	Phoenix Children Hospital
Casey Family Programs	Phoenix Children's Museum
Central AZ College	Phoenix Public Library
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Protecting Arizona Families Coalition
Child and Family Services	Public Libraries
Child Care Providers	Quality First
Child Care Resources and Referrals	Raising a Reader
Child Protective Services	Raising Special Kids
Child Support Enforcement	Reach Out and Read
Children's Action Alliance	Rise
Children's Law Center	Safe Kids Coalition
Communities in Schools	SARRC
Crisis Nursery	Southwest Human Development
Deer Valley Community Center	Southwestern Autism Research Center
Department of Economic Security	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
Division of Developmental Disabilities	United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona
Family Involvement Center	Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix
First Things First	Valley of the Sun United Way
Free Arts of Arizona	WIC
Gabriel's Angels	YMCA
Golden Gate Community Center	

### 3.1.4 Section Summary

The North Phoenix Region has a high rate of families with all parents in the labor force – more than two out of three – indicating a high need for childcare. The region has strengths and weaknesses in the early childhood infrastructure. Preschool enrollment is high. Although the number of childcare providers with a national recognition fell between 2008 and 2010, it remained high compared to the other First Things First regions in Maricopa County. In the online survey, respondents reported that childcare needs were the least well met and that cost is the largest barrier. High quality childcare, childcare subsidies, and childcare with alternative hours were all reported as missing services in the region. Participants in the stakeholder meetings also emphasized the lack of affordable childcare and the need for funding for preschool programs. This indicates that childcare scholarships and other affordability strategies would benefit families in the region.

## 3.2 Supporting Families

This section of the report displays information about children and families receiving a variety of support services.

**Exhibit 3-13** shows the number of children and families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, known as TANF. This benefit is monthly cash assistance (welfare) for parents and children who have extremely low incomes. The benefits are time-limited and parents must meet specific requirements to obtain the benefits. As shown in the exhibit:

- Cases involving families with children (age 0-5) increased by 38 percent in the North Phoenix Region, while the number of participating children increased by 46 percent.
- These increases were significantly higher than the increases statewide.

### EXHIBIT 3-13

#### TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

AREA	TANF CHILDREN (AGE 0 - 5)			TANF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN (AGE 0 - 5)		
	JANUARY 2007	JANUARY 2010	PERCENT CHANGE	JANUARY 2007	JANUARY 2010	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	1,496	2,190	46.39%	1,202	1,658	37.94%
Arizona	20,867	23,866	14.37%	16,511	18,129	9.80%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2007, 2009). DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010 from Database (Unpublished Data).

**Exhibit 3-14** shows the number of children and families who qualify for and receive childcare assistance. The assistance, which functions like a voucher, is available to parents with children 12 and younger who need childcare and meet certain income and other requirements. Parents can use the voucher to pay for childcare they choose. Parents have to pay an amount in addition to the voucher that depends on their income and their childcare. The value of the voucher, however, is still based on the actual costs of childcare in 2000, therefore, parents and providers have to pay to make up the difference. Since February 2009, no qualified, low-income, working parents have been able to sign up for the subsidy because of a freeze due to budget cuts. This led to a 38 percent decrease in the number of children receiving assistance statewide between 2007 and 2010. As shown:

- The numbers of children receiving assistance in the region declined by 39 percent, which is consistent with the state trend.

## EXHIBIT 3-14

### CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

AREA	JANUARY 2009				JANUARY 2010			
	NUMBER OF FAMILIES ELIGIBLE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ELIGIBLE	NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED ASSISTANCE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED ASSISTANCE	NUMBER OF FAMILIES ELIGIBLE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ELIGIBLE	NUMBER OF FAMILIES WHO RECEIVED ASSISTANCE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED ASSISTANCE
North Phoenix	2,578	3,670	2,078	2,783	1,525	2,202	1,230	1,686
Arizona	26,257	38,126	21,377	29,089	15,833	23,244	13,014	17,891

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

**Exhibit 3-15** depicts the number of children removed from their homes by Child Protective Services due to abuse and neglect. This shows the concentration of CPS cases in certain areas. When children are removed from their own homes, the goal is to place them with relatives or with foster families who live in the same or nearby neighborhoods. This helps to promote stability in school, more familiarity and less stress for the child, and the ability to visit with parents and siblings. Exhibit 3-15 compares by ZIP code the number of children removed from their homes and the availability of foster homes. Each ZIP code is labeled as having a shortage or balance of foster homes. As shown:

- Overall, there is a large shortage of available foster homes for the number of removals in the region.
- In the North Phoenix Region, two ZIP codes (85027 in Deer Valley and 85032 in Paradise Valley) had the largest number of removals, with 88 and 97, respectively. Despite significant numbers of foster homes, these areas also have some of the largest shortages of available foster homes for these removals.

### EXHIBIT 3-15

#### AVAILABILITY OF FOSTER HOME PLACEMENTS AS RELATED TO CHILD REMOVALS IN THE NORTH PHOENIX REGION, 2009

ZIP CODE	NUMBER OF REMOVALS	NUMBER OF FOSTER HOMES	NUMBER OF REMOVALS (EXCLUDING CHILDREN PLACED WITH RELATIVES)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FOSTER HOMES AND REMOVALS (EXCLUDING CHILDREN PLACED WITH RELATIVES)	DESCRIPTION
85020	29	9	21	-12	Shortage of foster homes
85021	55	8	40	-32	Large shortage of foster homes
85022	51	8	33	-25	Large shortage of foster homes
85023	58	11	37	-26	Large shortage of foster homes
85024	21	16	12	4	Foster homes exceed children
85027	88	19	60	-41	Very large shortage of foster homes
85028	8	7	6	1	Balance of foster homes and children
85029	59	22	40	-18	Large shortage of foster homes
85032	97	23	56	-33	Large shortage of foster homes
85050	8	9	5	4	Foster homes exceed children
85051	85	17	58	-41	Very large shortage of foster homes
85053	49	23	36	-13	Shortage of foster homes
85054	0	1	0	1	No children removed
85083	5	4	5	-1	Balance of foster homes and children
85085	10	6	7	-1	Balance of foster homes and children
85086	18	25	17	8	Foster homes exceed children
85087	8	2	7	-5	Shortage of foster homes
85302	68	15	49	-34	Large shortage of foster homes
85304	41	19	31	-12	Shortage of foster homes
85306	34	12	19	-7	Shortage of foster homes
<b>NORTH PHOENIX TOTAL</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>-283</b>	

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2007, 2009. DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010 from Database (Unpublished Data).

**Exhibit 3-16** shows the number of mothers, babies, and children participating in the Women, Infants, and Children nutrition program, known as WIC. This federally funded service is available to pregnant women and mothers with their children from birth through age four who meet specific income guidelines. As shown:

- The number of women and children WIC participants increased significantly between 2005 and 2009.

## EXHIBIT 3-16

### WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) PARTICIPATION

AREA	2005		2009		PERCENT CHANGE 2005-09	
	WOMEN	CHILDREN	WOMEN	CHILDREN	WOMEN	CHILDREN
North Phoenix	2,327	4,236	4,635	7,753	99.2%	83.0%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2005, 2007, 2009). Arizona Women, Infants & Children data pulled April 22, 2010 Database (Unpublished Data). N/A indicates that the data were not available.

A summary of key survey findings related to family support services are presented in this section of the report. Survey respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which family support services met the needs of children birth through age five and their families within their community for three related areas. **Exhibit 3-17** shows the percent of responses within the region indicating that needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent) and the percent reporting that needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Needs were least met in the area of social services.

## EXHIBIT 3-17

### MEETING NEEDS FOR FAMILY SUPPORT

SERVICE AREAS	GOOD TO EXCELLENT	POOR OR VERY POOR
Parenting Support/Education	50.0%	17.5%
Child/Family Literacy Development	53.4%	10.0%
Social Services	39.4%	33.4%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.  
Total number of responses ranged from 33 to 40 across areas.

### 3.2.1 Barriers

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to families receiving support services. The single most important barrier reported across service areas related to family support service areas surveyed included awareness of services and not having enough services within the community. **Exhibit 3-18** shows the most frequent responses.

## EXHIBIT 3-18

### SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER TO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

SERVICE AREAS	SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER
Parenting Support/Education	Awareness (50%)
Child/Family Literacy Development	Awareness (60%)
Social Services	Not enough services (36.4%)

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.  
Total number of responses ranged from 33 to 40 across areas.

### 3.2.2 Budget Cuts

Survey respondents rated the impact of budget cuts on family support services from having no impact to having a very high impact. Budget cuts were a significant factor within each family support area surveyed. Shown in **Exhibit 3-19**, approximately 47 to 66 percent of respondents indicated that budget cuts had a high or very high impact on services. Budget cuts were reported to have the most substantial impact on social services.

#### EXHIBIT 3-19

##### IMPACT OF BUDGET CUTS ON FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

SERVICE AREAS	HIGH/VERY HIGH IMPACT
Parenting Support/Education	53.9%
Child/Family Literacy Development	46.7%
Social Services	65.7%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.  
Total number of responses ranged from 33 to 40 across areas.

### 3.2.3 Missing Services

Survey respondents indicated which family support services were missing from their community. Shown in **Exhibit 3-20**, most family support services were reported missing or unavailable within the community by approximately 54 to 63 percent of respondents. Family support services mentioned as continued needs by participants of interviews and focus groups included parent education, literacy services, funding for single mothers to attend college, and easy access to resource information.

#### EXHIBIT 3-20

##### MISSING FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

MISSING FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE AREAS	PERCENT MISSING
Support for grandparents raising grandchildren	62.5%
Parent coaching/education	54.2%
Support and education programs for parent and parenting teens	33.3%
Accessibility to resources that support families with young children	58.3%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.  
Total number of responses was 24.

Organizations providing leadership and services within the North Phoenix Region serve as assets within the community. Survey participants identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for provision of Family Support services. These organizations included those listed in **Exhibit 3-21**.

## EXHIBIT 3-21

## ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

A Stepping Stone Foundation	Kiwanis
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Maricopa County
Black Child and Family Services	Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	NASW
Child Crisis Center	PAFCO
Children's Action Alliance	Quality First
Churches	Raising Special Kids
CSS Head Start Program	SARRC
First Things First	Southwest Human Development
Foothills Community Foundation	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
Foothills Food Bank	University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
Glendale Elementary School District	Valley of the Sun United Way
John C Lincoln, Desert Mission Programs	YMCA

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses, stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

### 3.2.4 Section Summary

The data show significant family stress in the region. The growth in the number of very poor children receiving TANF welfare benefits was much higher than the growth statewide. There is a large shortage of foster homes in the region for children who have been removed from their families due to child abuse or neglect. The online survey results indicate a large need for family support strategies in the region, such as home visitation services. The information also points to an opportunity for additional strategies that link families with existing social services.

## 3.3 Health

Additional information is available in **Appendix C** related to data captured during a 2008 Arizona Health Survey. This survey was completed by St. Luke's Health Initiatives and is an additional informative tool for decision-makers.

**Exhibit 3-22** presents the percentage of children under 18 with and without health insurance coverage. Research has shown that children with health insurance:

- Have greater access to healthcare, particularly preventive and primary care.
- Are more likely to have well-child visits and childhood vaccinations than uninsured children.
- Are less likely to receive their care in the emergency room.
- Do better in school.

As shown in this exhibit:

- In the North Phoenix Region, children in the city of Glendale and the Deer Valley and Paradise Valley School Districts are less likely to go without healthcare coverage than children

countywide; children living in the Washington Elementary School District and the city of Phoenix are more likely to go without coverage.

- More than one in three children living in the Washington Elementary School District and the cities of Glendale and Phoenix rely on public health coverage compared to just over one in four in Maricopa County.

## EXHIBIT 3-22

### HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 BY INSURANCE COVERAGE/TYPE (MOST RECENT DATA)		
	INSURED-PRIVATE	INSURED-PUBLIC	NOT INSURED
Deer Valley Unified District	77.4%	12.3%	11.7%
Paradise Valley Unified District	74.8%	17.0%	11.4%
Washington Elementary School District	44.9%	38.8%	18.5%
Glendale City	51.5%	36.8%	12.5%
Phoenix City	46.8%	35.0%	19.7%
Maricopa County	59.6%	26.3%	15.5%
Arizona	56.5%	29.1%	16.2%
United States	64.1%	28.3%	9.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Note: Total in excess of 100percent due to overlap between public/private insurance segments.

**Exhibit 3-23** shows percentages of births paid with public funds, either AHCCCS or Indian Health Services. Births are covered by AHCCCS for women meeting certain income qualifications. As shown:

- Anthem saw an increase of more than one third in the percentage of births paid with public funds.
- More than two out of three births in the city of Phoenix are paid by public health coverage, compared to just over half in Maricopa County.

## EXHIBIT 3-23

### BIRTHS PAID BY HEALTH INSURANCE

AREA	PERCENT OF PUBLIC PAYER BIRTHS**		
	2006	2008	PERCENT CHANGE
Anthem	13.2%	17.8%	34.8%
Glendale City	59.0%	61.8%	4.7%
New River Census Designated Place	27.1%	30.0%	10.8%
Phoenix City	68.2%	68.1%	-0.1%
Maricopa County	52.0%	53.0%	2.0%
Arizona	53.8%	54.4%	1.1%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services. Arizona Primary Care Area Program

Data Sets. <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/datasets.html>

\*\* Percent of total births paid for by Arizona Health Care Costs Containment System (AHCCCS) or Indian Health Service (IHS).

Adequate prenatal care promotes healthy births. As shown in **Exhibit 3-24**:

- The percentage of women in the county receiving more than five prenatal visits improved slightly between 2005 and 2008.

## EXHIBIT 3-24

### NUMBER OF PRENATAL VISITS

AREA	TOTAL BIRTHS			NO VISITS			1-4 VISITS			5+ VISITS		
	2005	2008	PERCENT CHANGE	2005 PERCENT OF TOTAL	2008 PERCENT OF TOTAL	PERCENT CHANGE	2005 PERCENT OF TOTAL	2008 PERCENT OF TOTAL	PERCENT CHANGE	2005 PERCENT OF TOTAL	2008 PERCENT OF TOTAL	PERCENT CHANGE
Maricopa County	62,232	62,667	0.7%	1.9%	1.5%	-21.5%	3.5%	2.7%	-20.4%	94.5%	95.6%	1.2%
Arizona	95,798	99,215	3.6%	2.3%	1.8%	-24.6%	4.2%	3.6%	-14.5%	93.3%	94.5%	1.3%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Primary Care Area Program Data Sets. <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/datasets.html>.

**Exhibit 3-25** shows neonatal data for the region. As shown:

- From 2005 to 2008, the total number of newborns admitted to newborn intensive care units in the state of Arizona increased from 5,479 to 5,931, an increase of 8.2 percent. There was also an increase in the number of newborns admitted in Maricopa County.

## EXHIBIT 3-25

### NUMBER RECEIVING NEONATAL INTENSIVE SERVICES

AREA	2005			2008			PERCENT CHANGE		
	TOTAL	GESTATIONAL AGE		TOTAL	GESTATIONAL AGE		TOTAL	GESTATIONAL AGE	
		PRETERM, <37 WEEKS PERCENT OF TOTAL	37 WEEKS OR MORE PERCENT OF TOTAL		PRETERM, <37 WEEKS PERCENT OF TOTAL	37 WEEKS OR MORE PERCENT OF TOTAL		PRETERM, <37 WEEKS PERCENT OF TOTAL	37 WEEKS OR MORE PERCENT OF TOTAL
Maricopa County	3,525	60.4%	39.6%	3,768	58.1%	41.9%	6.9%	-3.7%	5.6%
Arizona	5,479	60.5%	39.5%	5,931	59.1%	40.9%	8.2%	-2.2%	3.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Primary Care Area Program Data Sets. <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/datasets.html>.

Children receiving the proper immunizations are more likely to be in better health than those children that do not receive the required immunizations. As shown in **Exhibit 3-26**:

- Immunization rates in the North Phoenix Region are slightly higher than countywide rates.
- Overall, immunization rates dropped between 2005 and 2009. However, over the same time period, there was a significant increase in the immunization rates with the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine to prevent blood infections, meningitis, and ear infections in young children.

## EXHIBIT 3-26

### IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

AREA	VACCINATIONS 12-24 MONTHS (3:2:2:2)		
	2005	2009	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	70%	67%	-5%
Maricopa County	68%	65%	-4%
Arizona	70%	67%	-6%
United States	73%	68%	-7%

AREA	VACCINATIONS 19-35 MONTHS (4:3:1:3:3:1)		
	2005	2009	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	43%	41%	-6%
Maricopa County	43%	39%	-7%
Arizona	46%	42%	-8%
United States	75%	72%	-4%

AREA	VACCINATIONS 19-35 MONTHS (4:3:1:3:3:1:4)		
	2005	2009	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	22%	36%	60%
Maricopa County	23%	35%	54%
Arizona	26%	38%	48%
United States	N/A	65%	N/A

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2005, 2007, 2009). Arizona State Immunization Information System Data Base (ASIS) data pulled on May 4, 2010 (Unpublished Data).

Notes: CDC data is from July 2005 to June 2006 and July 2008 to June 2009. CDC data covers all vaccinations 24 months and prior. The smallest rate of vaccinations was used as the U.S. rate.

3:2:2:2 is 3 DTaP, 2 Polio, 2 Hib, and 2 Hepatitis B vaccines.

4:3:1:3:3:1 includes 4 doses diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccines, 3 doses poliovirus vaccine, 1 dose measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine, 3 doses Haemophilus influenzae type B vaccine, 3 doses hepatitis B vaccine, 1 dose varicella.

4:3:1:3:3:1:4 is 4:3:1:3:3:1: plus ≥4 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

N/A indicates that the data were not available.

**Exhibit 3-27** presents a regional comparison of the percentage of children under five with disabilities and those with disabilities below Federal Poverty Level (FPL). As shown:

- Both the Paradise Valley School District and the city of Glendale have high rates of young children with disabilities. The rate in Glendale is five times the rate in Phoenix.
- Fewer than half of the young children with disabilities are living in poor families.

### EXHIBIT 3-27

#### CHILDREN UNDER FIVE WITH DISABILITIES, TOTAL PERCENT AND PERCENT LIVING IN POOR FAMILIES

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 WITH DISABILITIES	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 WITH DISABILITIES, BELOW FPL
	MOST RECENT DATA	MOST RECENT DATA
Deer Valley Unified District	*	0.5%
Paradise Valley Unified District	1.0%	*
Glendale City	3.5%	1.5%
Phoenix City	0.7%	0.3%
Maricopa County	0.8%	0.3%
Arizona	0.8%	0.2%
United States	0.7%	0.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

\* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Children with disabilities who receive an early diagnosis fare better than those children who receive a late or no diagnosis. As shown in **Exhibit 3-28**:

- From 2006-07 to 2008-09, the number of children served by the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AZEIP) in the North Phoenix Region increased from 167 to 325, an increase of close to 95 percent (94.6%). The number of children served by AZEIP also increased for the state of Arizona from 3,450 to 5,078, an increase of more than 47 percent (47.2%).

### EXHIBIT 3-28

#### ARIZONA EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (AZEIP) DEVELOPMENT SCREENINGS AND SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES/AT RISK FOR DISABILITIES

AREA	AZEIP COUNTS		PERCENT CHANGE
	2006-07	2008-09	2007-09
North Phoenix	167	325	94.6%
Arizona	3,450	5,078	47.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2007, 2009. DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010, from Database (Unpublished Data).

Dental care can improve a child's health. As shown in **Exhibit 3-29**:

- The majority of children under five in this region have regular visits with the same dental provider.
- Close to 71 percent of parents in the North Phoenix Region drive 10 miles or less for their child's dental care.

### EXHIBIT 3-29

#### ORAL HEALTH CARE CHILDREN (0 - 5)

MY CHILD/CHILDREN AGE 5 AND UNDER HAVE REGULAR VISITS WITH THE SAME DENTAL PROVIDER.	NORTH PHOENIX REGION	STATEWIDE	DIFFERENCE
Strongly agree	66.3%	62.5%	6.2%
Somewhat agree	6.8%	9.1%	-25.7%
Somewhat disagree	1.4%	5.6%	-75.2%
Strongly disagree	13.8%	13.1%	5.3%
Not sure	11.7%	9.8%	20.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>.0%</b>
HOW MANY MILES DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO GET DENTAL CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AGE 5 AND UNDER?	NORTH PHOENIX REGION	STATEWIDE	DIFFERENCE
Less than 5 miles	45.5%	39.8%	14.3%
5-10 miles	25.1%	23.6%	6.6%
10-20 miles	11.0%	13.5%	-18.3%
More than 20 miles	5.5%	12.8%	-56.8%
None available	12.8%	10.3%	24.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>.0%</b>

Source: First Things First: Medical Questions (FY 2008). Community Survey in Data Base (Unpublished Data).

**Exhibit 3-30** presents services available for those families who have children that do not have health insurance:

- Arizona has a total of 659 sliding fee clinics available, with 264 clinics residing in Maricopa County.
- The North Phoenix Region reported a total of 27 clinics in 2010.

### EXHIBIT 3-30

#### NUMBER OF SLIDING FEE SCALE CLINICS

AREA	2008	2010	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	N/A	27	N/A
Maricopa County	247	264	6.9%
Arizona	N/A	659	N/A
U.S.	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services.  
Note: N/A indicates data were unavailable.

**Exhibit 3-31** presents the number of school-based clinics for those families who have children that do not have health insurance. As shown:

- In 2009, there were two school-based clinics in the North Phoenix Region, down from eight in 2002. This was a large drop compared to the statewide trend.
- The two school-based clinics in the North Phoenix Region include Scottsdale Healthcare (located at 15833 N. 29th Street, Palomino Primary School) and Glendale UHSD (located at 35 W. Dunlap Avenue, Sunnyslope High School).

### EXHIBIT 3-31

#### NUMBER OF SCHOOL-BASED CLINICS

AREA	2002	2009	PERCENT CHANGE
North Phoenix	8	2	-75.0%
Arizona	97	82	-15.5%
Percent of State Total	8.2%	2.4%	-70.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 2009, University of Arizona Rural Health Office, 2002.

Note: Caution should be exercised in comparing 2002 numbers with 2009 numbers, as they were assembled by two different entities, and the criteria for inclusion were not apparent.

**Exhibit 3-32** depicts the number of general hospitals located in the North Phoenix Region.

- The North Phoenix Region has five general hospitals and one rehabilitation center.

### EXHIBIT 3-32

#### AREA HOSPITALS

HOSPITAL	CITY	ZIP CODE
John C. Lincoln North Mountain Hospital	Phoenix	85020
John C Lincoln Deer Valley Hospital	Phoenix	85027
Paradise Valley Hospital	Phoenix	85032
Mayo Clinic Hospital	Phoenix	85054
HealthSouth Valley Of The Sun Rehab	Glendale	85304
Banner Thunderbird Medical Center	Glendale	85306

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Licensed Hospitals as of April 2009.

**Exhibit 3-33** depicts the medically underserved areas and health professional services in the North Phoenix Region. Note that the names associated with Primary Care Areas may not be instructive as to the precise geographies that are encompassed. In order to determine the appropriate Primary Care Areas for inclusion, maps of FTF regions and Primary Care Areas were overlaid to determine all overlapping jurisdictions. As shown:

- The North Phoenix Region is not listed as a medically underserved area by either the state or the federal government.

## EXHIBIT 3-33

## MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS

PRIMARY CARE AREA	PRIMARY CARE SCORE**	ARIZONA MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREA (AZMUA)	HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA (HPSA)	FEDERAL MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREA/ POPULATION (MUA/P)	MUA/P SCORE^A
Cave Creek	6	No	No	No	

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services.

\*Higher Primary Care Scores indicate more severe levels of medical underservice. The primary care score is the sum of the values for a given area in terms of the following components: population to provider ratio, travel time to the nearest primary care facility, percent of the population with income less than 200 percent of poverty level (and 100-200%), percent of uninsured births, ratio of hospital admissions with ambulatory sensitive condition's per 1000 population less than age 65, percentage of low birth rates, the sum of the percentage of births receiving no prenatal care or prenatal care in the second or third trimester, and the percentage of births reporting four or less prenatal care visits, premature mortality, infant mortality, percent minority, and the percent elderly, and unemployment rate above the statewide average. The values for the components of the primary care score can be found at: <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/pcuindex.pdf>.

\*\*Higher MUA/P scores indicate greater levels of medical service (or less severe underservice). The MUA/P score is based on four variables: ratio of primary medical care physicians per 1,000 population, infant mortality rate, percentage of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and percentage of the population age 65 or over. For more on the MUA/P scores, see: <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/mauguide.htm>.

A summary of key survey findings related to health services is presented in this section of the report. Survey respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which services met the health needs of children birth through age five and their families within their community. Almost 38 percent (37.5%) of respondents reported that health needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent). Forty percent reported that needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Meeting attendees and interviewees suggested that the health services were not being adequately met. The participants felt that access is needed to a variety of health care services including immunizations, dental services, screening (developmental, vision, hearing, etc.) and follow-up services, well-child checks, and mental health services.

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to children and families receiving health related services. The single most important barrier cited was cost of health services (45.8%). Group participants added such barriers as health insurance, transportation, and a lack of providers in the area.

Survey respondents indicated which health services were missing from their community. Across the region, there are gaps in services. Interviewees and meeting participants were concerned about the missing mental health services and oral health care. **Exhibit 3-34** shows the most frequent responses about missing health services.

## EXHIBIT 3-34

## MISSING HEALTH SERVICES

MISSING HEALTH SERVICE AREAS	PERCENT MISSING
Access to free or low cost health services	45.8%
Health promotion and disease prevention education	37.5%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.  
Total number of responses was 24.

Organizations providing leadership and services within the North Phoenix Region serve as assets within the community. Survey participants identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for provision of health services. Interview and focus group participants also listed organizations providing leadership in their community. These organizations included those listed in **Exhibit 3-35**.

## EXHIBIT 3-35

### ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF HEALTH SERVICES

Arizona Child Care Association	Mountain Park Health Care Clinic
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Phoenix Children's Hospital
Care First Rescue Center	Quality First
Children's Action Alliance	Scottsdale Healthcare
Crisis Nursery	Southwest Human Development
Division of Developmental Disabilities	Southwestern Autism Research Center
First Things First	Valley of the Sun United Way
Healthy Families	WIC
Maricopa County	

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses; stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

## Section Summary

The region has a high rate of young children with a disability. Home visitation programs in the region are required to complete developmental screenings of all children directly or indirectly served by the program and to refer families to needed services as appropriate.

There are signs of stress in early childhood health in the region. Children living in the city of Phoenix and the Washington Elementary School District have high rates of being uninsured. Although immunization rates in the region are slightly higher than countywide rates, they have dropped in recent years. The number of school-based clinics in the region has dropped dramatically since 2002, but access to care is strong overall and the region includes five general hospitals. A strategy partnering with hospitals to link families with health care could benefit the region.

## 3.4 Public Awareness and Collaboration

A summary of key survey findings directly related to provision of coordinated services is presented in this section of the report. Survey respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which coordinated services within their community met the needs of children (birth through age five) and their families. Fifty percent of respondents reported that needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent) through coordinated services. Thirty-one percent reported that needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor) through coordinated services.

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to children and families receiving coordinated services. The single most important barrier cited was cost of health services (59.6%). Survey respondents were asked to report on two barriers especially related to coordinated services: eligibility differences among service providers and lack of communication between service providers. The percentage of respondents indicating that these were in fact barriers in their community was 30 percent for “eligibility differences among service providers,” and 54 percent for “lack of communication between service providers.” Group participants and interviewees felt that the provider’s lack of education and knowledge of available services, along with outreach among the agencies and families constitutes a huge barrier in coordinating services.

Survey respondents rated the impact of budget cuts for providing coordinated services from having no impact to having a very high impact. Approximately 85 percent of respondents indicated that budget cuts had a high or very high impact on coordinated services.

Respondents also reported on the quality, accessibility, convenience, timeliness, comprehensiveness, and responsiveness of services across all service areas in terms of the degree to which services met the needs of children and families. The percent of respondents indicating services were well met and the percent indicating services were not well met are shown in **Exhibit 3-36**.

### EXHIBIT 3-36

#### QUALITY, ACCESSIBILITY, COMPREHENSIVENESS, AND RESPONSIVENESS IN MEETING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION NEEDS

SERVICE TOPICS	GOOD TO EXCELLENT	POOR OR VERY POOR
Quality of Information	33.4%	18.1%
Accessibility of Information	20.9%	36.1%
Convenience of Services	13.9%	20.9%
Quality of Services	47.2%	2.8%
Timeliness of Services	25.0%	27.8%
Cultural Responsiveness of Services	34.7%	18.1%
Comprehensiveness of Services	26.3%	20.8%
Early Identification of Problems	25.0%	25.0%
Family Centered Practice	33.3%	16.7%
Client Focus	30.5%	19.5%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.  
Total number of responses was 72.

## 3.5 Stakeholder Priority for Services

Understanding which service areas are viewed by early care and development stakeholders as most critical for focusing resources will guide FTF's decisions about how best to use their limited resources to help children and families within the North Phoenix region. To gather this important information, survey respondents were asked to indicate the number one priority area for FTF to focus resources to help children (birth through age five) and their families. **Exhibit 3-37** shows the percentage of survey respondents reporting that a given priority area was the number one priority. The two highest priority areas were improving the quality of early childhood development and health programs and increasing the access to quality early childhood developmental and health programs

### EXHIBIT 3-37

#### PRIORITY FOR FOCUS OF FTF RESOURCES

AREA	NUMBER ONE PRIORITY
Improve the quality of early childhood development and health programs	29.2%
Increase the access to quality early childhood developmental and health programs	25.0%
Increase access to preventative health and health screenings for children through age 5	0.0%
Offer parent and family support and education concerning early childhood development and literacy	8.3%
Provide professional development and training for early childhood development and literacy	12.5%
Increase coordination of early childhood development and health programs	16.7%
Increase public awareness about the importance of early childhood development and health	8.3%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

In addition to these survey findings, interview/focus group participants offered the following areas as the top priorities for focusing FTF funding within their community:

- Develop sustainable solutions to increasing access to affordable and quality childcare.
- Focus on early childhood education.
- Focus on early intervention programs.
- Focus on elementary and secondary programs (for example, post-high school life skills assistance).
- Focus on parent education.
- Focus on prenatal care, nutrition, dental and mental health, including home visits.
- Focus on recreational opportunities.
- Provide support for grandparents raising young grandchildren.
- Provide services proven effective within North Phoenix and other communities.
- Create a Circuit Shuttle Service (perhaps in collaboration with another agency).

Organizations providing leadership and services within the North Phoenix Region serve as assets within the community. A variety of programs and services were listed as assets including health and dental services, immunizations, prenatal programs, AHCCCS/KidsCare, childcare health consultants, public health services, nutrition programs, parent education, home visitation, family resource centers and other family support programs, early care and education programs (including subsidies and scholarships), training and education for home and center-based early care and education providers, Quality First, resource information (e.g., Birth-5 Helpline), public libraries, literacy programs, domestic violence and homeless shelters, Child Protective Services, Child Support Enforcement, and faith-based organizations.

Organizations mentioned by name as assets included Arizona Literacy and Learning Center, Association for Supportive Child Care, Boys and Girls Clubs, Children's Action Alliance, Communities in Schools, Crisis Nursery, First Things First, Free Arts of Arizona, Gabriel's Angels, Maggie's Place, Phoenix Children's Museum, Southwest Human Development, Teen Outreach Pregnancy Center, and YMCAs.

Participants felt it would be possible to build on these assets if there were additional funding to serve more people, provide more outreach, increase awareness of the need for and availability of services, provide more affordable services (for example, childcare scholarships), increase communication, facilitate better coordination of resources, offer more qualified staff, and simplify eligibility. In general, interviewees felt that greater collaboration and coordination among agencies and providing a network of services to families would better meet the child and family needs in their community.

Please refer to **Appendix B** for more detailed information.

Survey participants also identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for coordination of services. These organizations include those listed in **Exhibit 3-38**.

**EXHIBIT 3-38****ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF COORDINATED SERVICES**

AHCCCS	John C. Lincoln
Arizona Autism Coalition	John C. Lincoln, (Desert Mission Programs)
Arizona Child Care Association	Le Petit Academy
Arizona Department of Education	Litchfield Elementary School District
Arizona Literacy and Learning Center	Maricopa County
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	New Directions Institute
AzAAP	PV School District Title 1 PreK
AzEIP	Quality First
Central Arizona College	Raising Special Kids
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	SARRC
Child Care Resource and Referral	Scottsdale Healthcare
Child Crisis Center	Southwest Head start
Children's Action Alliance	Southwest Human Development
Churches	Southwest Network (Don Erickson)
City of Phoenix	Sunrise Preschools
DES Child Care	T.E.A.C.H. AZ
Desert Mission's a program of John C. Lincoln Medical Center	United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona (0-3)
First Things First	Valley of the Sun United Way
Firstcare Avondale Family Resource Center	Washington Elementary School District
FitTots	WIC
Fountain Hills School District	YMCA
Head Start	

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010; stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

**Section Summary**

The need for affordable, quality childcare emerged as a top priority for the stakeholders.

## 4.0 SUMMARY AND FUTURE DIRECTION

The North Phoenix Region has both strengths and challenges for young children and their families. The young child population in the Deer Valley and Washington Elementary School Districts has been growing very fast in comparison to the county and the state. The Madison Elementary School District has fewer than 3,000 children younger than five years old.

**There is racial and ethnic diversity in the region.** Much of the region has high percentages of young children who are African American, compared to the 5 percent in Maricopa County. The Washington Elementary School District, city of Glendale, and city of Phoenix have more than 53 percent of young children who are Hispanic, compared to 47 percent countywide; other parts of the region have significantly lower rates of Hispanic children. Fewer than 5 percent of young children in all areas of the region were born in another country, with Washington Elementary School District at the highest rate of 4.5 percent. Ten percent of households in the city of Glendale have no one over the age of 14 who speaks English well; the rates are much lower in other parts of the region. In Maricopa County, 37 percent of children younger than six have at least one foreign born parent. The rate is higher in the city of Phoenix at 50 percent, but lower in other parts of the region, ranging from 17 percent in the Madison Elementary School District to 44 percent in the Washington Elementary School District.

**The economic downturn has taken a toll on families in the region.** The number of homeless children birth to age five in transitional or emergency shelters who had previously lived in the region rose from 88 in 2007 to 152 in 2009 – a larger increase than in the First Things First regions in Maricopa County overall. The number of very poor young children receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (welfare) in the region grew to 2,190 in 2010. This is a 46 percent increase over 2007 – the largest increase in comparison to the other regions in Maricopa County, and more than tripled the increase statewide.

**Families in the region face additional economic challenges.** The number of adults claiming unemployment insurance benefits more than tripled between 2007 and 2009, as it did countywide. The poverty rate for young white children living in two-parent families in the cities of Glendale and Phoenix and in the Washington Elementary School District was over 15 percent, significantly higher than the 10 percent rate countywide. The median income for two-parent families with young children in the region is above the countywide rate in the Paradise Valley, Deer Valley, and Madison School Districts; it is below the countywide rate in the Washington Elementary School District and in the cities of Glendale and Phoenix. The median incomes of families headed by single women are less than half the median of two-parent families.

**Family stresses are showing the large number of children who were removed from their homes by Child Protective Services due to abuse or neglect – 792 children in 2009.** This is the highest number of any First Things First region in Maricopa County. Although the region also had a large number of foster homes, a significant shortage of foster homes remained.

**The region has a mixture of strengths and weaknesses in the service delivery system.** Seventy-three percent of schools in the region earned a label of excelling, highly performing, of performing plus, compared to 66 percent statewide. The number of licensed or certified childcare providers in the region rose between 2008 and 2010, while it fell for every other region in Maricopa County. There are 37 childcare providers accredited or recognized by a national organization. Although this is a drop from 41 in 2008, the region has 17 percent of all licensed or certified providers with national recognition – the highest rate of the First Things First regions in Maricopa County.

The number of school-based clinics in the region dropped from eight to two between 2002 and 2009 – a steeper drop than the statewide decline. The percentage of children in the region who have no

health insurance ranges from 11 percent in the Paradise Valley School District to 20 percent in the city of Phoenix, compared to the countywide rate of 15.5 percent.

**State budget cuts are weakening the early childhood infrastructure in the region.** In 2010, 639 four-year old students were enrolled in preschool in school districts in the region through the state-funded Early Childhood Block Grant program. Due to budget cuts, that funding is no longer available. The number of children receiving subsidies for childcare dropped by 39 percent between 2009 and 2010, reflecting the state budget cuts that closed the door to any qualified, low-income working families who applied.

**The need for access to high quality, affordable childcare is strong throughout the region.**

Nearly two out of three households with children younger than 18 in the city of Phoenix had all parents in the labor force, with significantly higher rates in the other parts of the region. This indicates a large need for childcare. Preschool enrollment in the region is similar to or above to the rate in Maricopa County, with lower enrollment for families in the city of Phoenix.

The input from the community through the online survey, the stakeholder meetings, and the telephone interviews all overwhelmingly point to a great demand for quality improvements in childcare and financial assistance for parents needing childcare. Thirty-two percent of the respondents to the online survey said that childcare services are not meeting the needs of families in the community and 85 percent identified cost as the single most important barrier in childcare. More than four in ten respondents said that childcare subsidies and high quality childcare are services that are missing in the region. The number one priority for First Things First funding from respondents to the online survey is to improve the quality of early childhood development and health programs.

Community members greatly value health services in the region for young children, including dental services, immunizations, prenatal programs, AHCCCS/KidsCare health coverage, childcare health consultants, public health services, and nutrition programs. They also identify early education assets such as parent education, home visitation, family resource centers and other family support programs, childcare subsidies and scholarships, Quality First, the Birth to 5 Helpline, public libraries, and literacy programs.

Community members emphasized a need to improve awareness among parents about early education needs and about available services. Both formal reports and stakeholder meetings identified the value of making information available in a more systematic way to both parents and providers.

## Future Direction

The data and community input point to several potential priority areas for future First Things First funding in the region.

The current efforts to improve access to quality childcare through T.E.A.C.H. AZ scholarships for childcare teacher education are valued and will help to meet key needs in the region. The data and input in the region point to a focus on access to quality preschool and childcare, including the education of childcare providers.

Because the cost of childcare was identified as a major barrier, quality improvements can be supplemented with childcare scholarships and other affordability strategies.

There is strength in the childcare infrastructure within the region. Strategies can be developed to use this strength as a focus to reach families with parent support services and health services.

The region has put a strong emphasis on literacy in the funding strategies. More than half the respondents to the online survey said that literacy services are meeting the needs of young children

and their families in the region. One out of four respondents said that literacy programs were missing services in the region.

There is a strong need for more information for parents and providers and more coordination. Community input emphasized the value of “parent liaisons” who can be hired by childcare providers and social services agencies to assist parents with information and accessing services.

It is clear that designated funding is needed to help agencies collaborate and share information. There were suggestions for creating a “one-stop shop” for families looking for a variety of services.

There are strong health care assets in the region, with high immunization rates, five general hospitals and good access to primary care overall. However, there are stresses showing in early childhood health. The region could partner with some of the health care providers to help connect families with health care services, child development information, and other social services.

The data for families in the region highlight some key risk factors. The region is using home visitation strategies that focus on high risk families. Additional strategies could be designed to reach families with low incomes and parents who are young, single, and have a high school education or less.

## **Conclusion**

There is wide variation within the region in the demographics for young children and their families. Needs cover a very broad range. There are strengths in the region in the early childhood and health systems, but also significant signs of stress on families. The region is currently pursuing funding strategies that focus on literacy and also some that target families with high risk factors. Areas that could be enhanced include affordability strategies for childcare, information and collaboration, and linking struggling families with healthcare and social services.

# APPENDIX A

**FIRST THINGS FIRST***NEEDS AND ASSETS SURVEY WEB SITE***DIRECTIONS:**

Everyone must complete SECTION ONE: Coordinating Services and SECTION TWO: Questions Specific to Your Community.

**Complete SECTIONS 3 through 9 of the survey if you feel you have sufficient knowledge to share your opinions.** For those sections of the survey that you **do not feel knowledgeable**, please mark the checkbox provided.

If you serve people in multiple communities, you MAY provide different answers for each community. The [Survey Completion Chart](#) indicates when you have completed a survey section for each of the communities you serve.

Listed below are the sections of the survey:

- [Edit Your Organization's Service Area](#)
- [Section 1: Coordinated Services in Your Community for Children Birth through Age 5 and Their Families](#)
- [Section 2: Questions Specific to Your Community](#)
- [Section 3: Parenting Support/Education Services](#)
- [Section 4: Child Care](#)
- [Section 5: Education](#)
- [Section 6: Literacy Development for Children and Parents](#)
- [Section 7: Services for Children with Special Needs](#)
- [Section 8: Health Services](#)
- [Section 9: Social Services](#)

Web Site ©MGT of America, Inc. E-Mail Technical Support

## Section 1: Coordinated Services in Your Community for Children Birth Through Age 5 and Their Families

1. Thinking about the Coordinated Services in your Community for children birth through age 5 and their families, please rate how well the coordination currently meets families' needs.

AREA	HOW WELL THE COORDINATION OF SERVICES CURRENTLY MEETS FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	4.2	9.7	36.1	16.7	25.0	5.6	2.8
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	4.0	4.9	37.8	17.3	24.9	9.2	1.9

2. What are the barriers to families getting Coordinated Services in your Community for children birth through age 5? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	BARRIERS TO FAMILIES GETTING COORDINATED SERVICES IN THEIR COMMUNITY (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	SERVICES NOT WANTED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	ELIGIBILITY DIFFERENCES AMONG SERVICE PROVIDERS	LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SERVICE PROVIDERS	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	68.1	63.9	48.6	87.5	45.8	23.6	29.2	50.0	11.1	45.8	29.2	54.2	1.4
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	63.6	68.6	44.1	82.9	50.8	29.8	31.8	48.3	15.3	45.2	35.0	59.1	4.0

3. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting Coordinated Services in Your Community for children birth through age 5? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	BARRIERS TO FAMILIES GETTING COORDINATED SERVICES IN THEIR COMMUNITY (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	SERVICES NOT WANTED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	ELIGIBILITY DIFFERENCES AMONG SERVICE PROVIDERS	LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SERVICE PROVIDERS	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.8	16.7	0.0	56.9	11.1	1.4	0.0	1.4	0.0	4.2	2.8	0.0	2.8
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	3.5	13.2	0.6	53.8	12.7	2.6	0.3	2.1	0.2	5.6	2.6	0.2	2.8

4. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Coordinated Services in Your Community for children birth through age 5 and their families.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	52.8	31.9	6.9	0.0	8.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	56.5	26.0	6.1	0.5	11.0

5. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing **STRONG LEADERSHIP** for Coordinated Services in the Community for children birth through age 5 and their families. List this organization(s) in the box below.

### List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership in the North Phoenix Region

AHCCCS	John C. Lincoln, (Desert Mission Programs).
Arizona Autism Coalition	Le Petit Academy
Arizona Child Care Association	Litchfield Elementary School District
Arizona Department of Education	Maricopa County
Arizona Literacy and Learning Center	New Directions Institute
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Peoria Unified School District Preschool Program
AZ Child Care Association	PV School District Title 1 PreK
AzAAP	Quality First
AzEIP	Raising Special Kids
Central Arizona College	SARRC
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Scottsdale Healthcare
Child Care Resource and Referral	Scottsdale School District
Child Crisis Center	Southwest Head start
Children's Action Alliance	Southwest Human Development
Churches	Southwest Human Development
City of Phoenix	Southwest Network (Don Erickson)
DES Child Care	Sunrise Preschools
Desert Mission's a program of John C. Lincoln Medical Center	Teach
First Things First	United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona (0-3)
Firstcare Avondale Family Resource Center	United Way of Arizona
FitTots	Valley of the Sun United Way
Fountain Hills School District	VSUW
Head Start	Washington Elementary School District
John C Lincoln	WIC
	YMCA

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

6. Thinking about ALL SERVICES currently available for children birth through 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY, please rate the degree to which services currently meet families' needs in the areas below.

AREA	QUALITY OF INFORMATION (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.8	15.3	33.3	27.8	5.6	15.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	4.5	15.4	34.1	27.1	8.7	10.2

AREA	ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	11.1	25.0	33.3	16.7	4.2	9.7
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	11.9	21.9	34.0	18.8	4.5	8.9

AREA	CONVENIENCE/ACCESSIBILITY OF SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.8	18.1	55.6	8.3	5.6	9.7
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	6.0	19.6	51.0	13.6	3.6	6.2

AREA	QUALITY OF SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	2.8	33.3	31.9	15.3	16.7
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	0.1	2.4	35.2	32.1	19.6	10.7

AREA	TIMELINESS OF SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	4.2	23.6	31.9	15.3	9.7	15.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	5.5	22.5	36.2	18.3	10.0	7.6

AREA	CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS OF SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	18.1	29.2	22.2	12.5	18.1
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	0.4	14.1	36.9	24.1	13.3	11.2

AREA	COMPREHENSIVENESS OF SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	20.8	36.1	19.4	6.9	16.7
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	2.8	17.9	37.8	24.6	6.5	10.4

AREA	EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	4.2	20.8	34.7	18.1	6.9	15.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	6.0	21.4	37.9	19.6	3.7	11.3

AREA	FAMILY CENTERED PRACTICE (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	16.7	36.1	22.2	11.1	13.9
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	0.7	17.7	39.0	19.2	10.4	13.1

AREA	CLIENT FOCUS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)					
	VERY POOR 1	2	3	4	EXCELLENT 5	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	4.2	15.3	27.8	20.8	9.7	22.2
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	4.8	16.2	28.8	26.1	7.4	16.7

## Section 2: Questions Specific to Your Community

1. Please rate your level of knowledge of programs supported by First Things First in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE OF PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY FIRST THINGS FIRST (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	16.7	12.5	45.8	12.5	12.5	0.0	0.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	18.0	21.4	35.3	19.7	5.5	0.0	0.0

2 What is the number one priority area for First Things First to focus resources to help children birth through age five and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	NUMBER ONE PRIORITY AREA FOR FTF TO FOCUS RESOURCES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH PROGRAMS	INCREASE THE ACCESS TO QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL AND HEALTH PROGRAMS	INCREASE ACCESS TO PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR CHILDREN THROUGH AGE 5	OFFER PARENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT AND EDUCATION CONCERNING EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND LITERACY	PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND LITERACY	INCREASE COORDINATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH PROGRAMS	INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	29.2	25.0	0.0	8.3	12.5	16.7	8.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	24.0	26.0	4.1	19.7	2.9	9.9	13.5

3. What services are missing in YOUR COMMUNITY for families with children birth through age 5?  
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

AREA	SERVICES THAT ARE MISSING IN THE COMMUNITY (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)											
	SUPPORT FOR GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN	PARENT COACHING/EDUCATION	ACCESS TO FREE OR LOW COST HEALTH SERVICES	EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY PROGRAMS	HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE	HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE THAT PROVIDES ALTERNATIVE HOURS OF OPERATION	CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES	PRE-KINDERGARTEN	HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION EDUCATION	SUPPORT AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS	ACCESSIBILITY TO RESOURCES THAT SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	62.5	54.2	45.8	25.0	41.7	45.8	41.7	25.0	37.5	33.3	58.3	4.2
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	51.7	45.2	49.3	35.6	41.6	39.9	50.2	28.8	32.9	36.5	50.5	3.4

## Section 3: Parenting Support/Education Services for Families with Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL PARENTING SUPPORT/EDUCATION SERVICES CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.5	17.5	30.0	15.0	17.5	0.0	17.5
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	4.0	14.8	22.9	26.1	23.7	1.7	6.9

2. Are there waiting lists or families being turned away due to a shortage of Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE WAITING LISTS? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	25.0	10.0	65.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	28.0	19.2	28.0

3. What are the barriers to providing Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	BARRIERS TO PROVIDING PARENTING SUPPORT/ EDUCATION SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)														
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	SERVICES NOT WANTED	NO CHILD	IMMIGRATION STATUS	ELIGIBILITY DIFFERENCES AMONG SERVICE PROVIDERS	LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SERVICE PROVIDERS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	55.0	42.5	37.5	72.5	45.0	15.0	15.0	32.5	12.5	42.5	27.5	0.0	0.0	42.5	5.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	62.7	49.2	36.8	71.2	93.8	17.5	23.5	38.4	21.5	42.6	26.9	0.0	0.0	44.1	5.6

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to providing Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)														
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	SERVICES NOT WANTED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	ELIGIBILITY DIFFERENCES AMONG SERVICE PROVIDERS	LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SERVICE PROVIDERS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	5.0	12.5	0.0	50.0	12.5	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	5.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	9.4	14.7	1.4	47.4	8.7	1.9	0.4	0.4	2.2	2.4	4.9	0.0	0.0	2.3	4.0

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on providing Parenting Support/ Education Services for families with children birth through 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS ON PROVIDING PARENTING SUPPORT/EDUCATION SERVICES (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	23.1	30.8	7.7	0.0	38.5
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	25.9	30.6	637	0.4	36.4

6. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through 5.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

### North Phoenix

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Maricopa County
Black child and family services	Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Quality First
Child Crisis Center	Raising Special Kids
Children’s Action Alliance	SARRC
Churches	Southwest Human Development
CSS Head Start Program	Stepping Stones Preschool
First Things First	SWHD
Foothills Community Foundation	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
Foothills Food Bank	United Way of Arizona
Glendale Elementary School District	University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
John C Lincoln, Desert Mission Programs	

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

## Section 4: Child Care for Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about Child Care for children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL CHILD CARE FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5, CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	4.9	9.8	34.1	12.2	24.4	7.3	7.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	2.3	11.9	26.5	14.2	27.9	15.2	1.9

2. Are there waiting lists or children birth through age 5 being turned away due to a shortage of Child Care their parents prefer in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE WAITING LISTS? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	39.0	19.5	41.5
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	46.8	23.3	29.9

3. What are the barriers for parents to get the Child Care they prefer for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY										
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	IMMIGRATION STATUS	OTHER:
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	41.5	92.7	31.7	34.1	19.5	2.4	9.8	14.6	34.1	26.8	7.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	39.0	89.4	30.2	36.5	21.2	6.2	11.8	16.1	45.0	24.0	8.0

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier for parents to get the Child Care they prefer for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY										
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	IMMIGRATION STATUS	OTHER:
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.4	85.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	4.9
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	4.8	76.8	1.9	3.1	1.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	7.2	0.2	3.5

5. Please rate the impact of budget cuts to state child care subsidies for parents to get the Child Care they prefer for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS TO STATE CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES FOR PARENTS TO GET THE CHILD CARE THEY PREFER FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	65.9	26.8	2.4	0.0	4.9
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	65.8	23.0	3.0	0.1	8.1

6. Please identify recent changes to Child Care for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY due to the economy and budget cuts. YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING CHILD CARE CHANGES WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY							
	CLOSED CHILD CARE CENTERS	FEWER CHILD CARE CLASSROOMS	CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT AGES COMBINED IN SINGLE CLASSROOM	CHILD CARE TEACHERS LAID OFF	CHILDREN STAYING HOME ALONE	CHILDREN STAYING WITH FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND/OR NEIGHBORS	REDUCED QUALITY OR VARIETY OF CHILD CARE	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	63.4	43.9	34.1	70.7	70.7	82.9	58.5	2.4
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	60.0	40.8	33.3	62.9	67.0	77.5	61.1	6.1

7. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing **STRONG LEADERSHIP** within **YOUR COMMUNITY** for Child Care for children birth through age 5. List these organization(s) in the box below.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

### North Phoenix

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Scottsdale YMCA
Blake Foundation	Southwest Human Development
CAZColleges	Stepping Stones Preschool
Central AZ College	SWHD
Child and Family Services	United Way
First Things First	VSUW
Maricopa County	YMCA

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

## Section 5: Education for Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about Educational Services for children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5, CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	10.8	43.2	21.6	18.9	0.0	5.4
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	0.6	18.3	35.3	21.3	16.7	2.6	5.1

2. Are there waiting lists or families being turned away due to a shortage of Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE WAITING LISTS? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	24.3	16.2	59.5
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	23.9	18.0	58.1

3. What are the barriers to families getting Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY											
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	37.8	62.2	29.7	54.1	40.5	5.4	10.8	21.6	29.7	16.2	16.2	5.4
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	49.5	59.9	28.9	57.2	35.5	9.5	14.1	21.7	37.8	24.6	15.6	7.2

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY											
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	5.4	35.1	0.0	29.7	16.2	2.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	2.7	0.0	5.4
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	8.2	30.1	0.5	29.7	11.2	3.6	1.7	0.4	7.3	1.9	0.9	4.5

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS ON EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	32.4	24.3	8.1	0.0	35.1
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	39.8	22.6	4.1	0.5	32.9

6. List of key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Educational Services for children birth through 5. List this organization(s) in the box below.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

### North Phoenix

- AEA
- Arizona Child Care Association
- Arizona Department of Education
- Association for Supportive Child Care
- Child and Family Resources, Inc.
- Children' Action Alliance
- Churches
- Creative Bridges
- Discovery Tree
- DVUSD
- First Things First
- Quality First
- Glendale Elementary School District
- Head Start
- School Districts
- Southwest Human Development
- Southwest Human Services
- United Way

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

## Section 6: Literacy Development Services for Children Birth Through Age 5 and Their Families

1. Thinking about Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL LITERACY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 AND THEIR FAMILIES, CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	6.7	10.0	36.7	16.7	6.7	3.3	20.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	4.1	10.8	41.5	19.3	7.9	6.4	10.0

2. Are there families being turned away due to a shortage of Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE FAMILIES TURNED AWAY? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	20.0	10.0	70.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	21.2	14.1	64.7

3. What are the barriers to families getting Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	23.3	36.7	20.0	70.0	26.7	0.0	13.3	36.7	10.0	6.7	6.7	10.0	0.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	37.9	29.4	25.6	69.4	26.3	1.4	21.9	46.8	8.8	9.5	14.6	14.1	0.9

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	3.3	10.0	3.3	60.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	6.9	4.6	1.7	52.8	15.1	0.3	0.5	10.5	2.4	0.0	1.4	1.0	2.6

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS ON LITERACY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	20.0	26.7	3.3	0.0	50.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	20.2	28.8	5.2	3.1	42.7

6. List of key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Literacy Development Services for children birth through 5. List this organization(s) in the box below.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

**North Phoenix**

- A Stepping Stone Foundation
- Arizona Department of Education
- Arizona Language and Literacy Center
- Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
- AZAAP
- Child Care Providers
- First Things First
- Phoenix Public Library
- Public Libraries
- Quality First
- Reach Out and Read
- Southwest Human Development
- United Way
- Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix
- Valley of the Sun United Way

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

## Section 7: Services for Children Birth Through Age 5 with Special Needs and Their Families

1. Thinking about services for children birth through age 5 with Special Needs and their families, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES, CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	13.9	33.3	19.4	11.1	5.6	16.7
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	1.1	18.2	25.5	13.9	19.2	9.1	13.0

2. Are there waiting lists or families being turned away due to a shortage of services for children through age 5 with Special Needs and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE WAITING LISTS OR FAMILIES TURNED AWAY? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	36.1	13.9	50.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	44.8	7.4	47.9

3. What are the barriers to families getting services for children through age 5 with Special Needs in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	41.7	47.2	38.9	61.1	50.0	27.8	16.7	27.8	22.2	13.9	22.2	22.2	0.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	54.6	54.6	49.9	58.8	62.8	29.1	26.8	36.3	31.1	14.1	26.8	25.4	1.7

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting services for children through age 5 with Special Needs in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.8	13.9	5.6	36.1	22.2	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	8.3
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	5.2	13.3	5.6	26.1	34.4	2.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	5.3	1.6	1.1	4.1

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on services for children through age 5 with Special Needs and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS ON SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	25.0	25.0	11.1	2.8	36.1
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	26.4	31.4	11.0	1.3	29.9

6. List of key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for services for children through age 5 with Special Needs and their families.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

### North Phoenix

- Arizona Autism Coalition
- Arizona Department of Education
- Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
- AZ EIP
- Child & Family Resources, Inc.
- Department of Economic Security
- First Things First
- Head Start
- Local School Districts
- Maricopa County
- Quality First
- Raising Children with Special Needs
- Raising Special Kids
- Rise
- SARRC
- Southwest Human Development
- SWHD
- United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona
- United Way
- VSUW

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

## Section 8: Health Services for Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about Health Services for children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 AND THEIR FAMILIES, CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	2.9	14.7	26.5	17.6	17.6	8.8	11.8
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	1.3	13.3	27.9	21.6	24.1	4.5	7.3

2. Are there waiting lists or children birth through age 5 turned away due to a shortage of Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE WAITING LISTS OR FAMILIES TURNED AWAY? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	26.5	14.7	56.8
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	34.7	20.6	44.7

3. What are the barriers to children birth through age 5 getting Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	50.0	70.6	35.3	61.8	38.2	20.6	20.6	41.2	17.6	11.8	47.1	23.5	2.9
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	55.5	69.2	39.4	56.9	40.6	28.9	34.3	43.8	23.9	16.5	52.3	26.1	4.8

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to children birth through age 5 getting Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	5.9	32.4	5.9	23.5	8.8	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.7	2.9	2.9
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	6.1	31.1	4.1	20.4	13.4	2.5	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	14.7	0.3	5.8

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Health Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS ON HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 IN YOUR COMMUNITY (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	44.1	20.6	17.6	0.0	17.6
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	52.7	18.2	9.9	0.4	18.7

6. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Health Services for children birth through age 5. List this organization(s) in the box below.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

**North Phoenix**

- Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
- Children’s Action Alliance
- First Things First
- Maricopa County
- Quality First
- Scottsdale Healthcare
- Southwest Human Development
- SWHD
- United Way
- VSUW

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

## Section 9: Social Services Support for Children Birth Through Age 5 and Their Families

1. Thinking about Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 and their families, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	HOW WELL SOCIAL SERVICES SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 AND THEIR FAMILIES, CURRENTLY MEET FAMILIES' NEEDS (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)						
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	NEUTRAL	POOR	VERY POOR	NOT SURE
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	0.0	6.1	33.3	21.2	18.2	15.2	6.1
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	0.6	9.0	25.3	23.4	22.3	14.7	4.7

2. Are there waiting lists or children birth through age 5 turned away due to a shortage of Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	ARE THERE WAITING LISTS OR FAMILIES TURNED AWAY? (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)		
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	42.4	9.1	48.5
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	38.0	9.8	52.2

3. What are the barriers to families getting Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	42.4	48.5	42.4	78.8	45.5	18.2	15.2	27.3	18.2	15.2	30.3	15.2	6.1
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	45.1	50.1	43.1	76.6	56.7	18.0	21.7	29.1	24.5	16.0	38.8	8.8	5.3

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS SELECTING BARRIER WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY												
	TRANSPORTATION	COST	LOCATION(S)	AWARENESS	NOT ENOUGH SERVICES	DIFFICULT TO ENROLL	CULTURE	LANGUAGE	QUALITY	NO CHILD CARE PROVIDED	IMMIGRATION STATUS	DIFFICULT TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM WORK/SCHOOL	OTHER
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	3.0	9.1	3.0	30.3	36.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	6.1	3.0	0.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	5.0	10.4	2.5	24.8	40.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	4.8	0.6	7.3	0.3	2.8

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	IMPACT OF RECENT BUDGET CUTS ON SOCIAL SERVICES SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5 AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY (PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN EACH GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY)				
	VERY HIGH	HIGH	LITTLE	NONE	DON'T KNOW
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN NORTH PHOENIX REGION	43.8	21.9	9.4	0.0	25.0
TOTAL PERCENT WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY	46.0	24.4	7.0	0.3	22.4

6. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 and their families. List this organization(s) in the box below.

List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership

### North Phoenix

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	PAFCO
First Things First	Quality First
Foothills Community Foundation	Southwest Human Development
Foothills Food Bank	SWHD
Kiwanis	United Way
Maricopa County	VSUW
NASW	YMCA

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

# APPENDIX B

## CENTRAL PHOENIX REGION STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS AND PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

### SECTION I. STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

---

#### Introduction

Meetings were held on June 8th at the Juniper Branch of the Phoenix Public Library, and June 10th at the Washington Elementary School District. There were a total of 11 participants, including a school board member, a childcare center owner and director, a youth librarian, and service providers.

**Attachment A** includes the meeting protocol.

#### Assets

A variety of programs and services were mentioned as assets, including health and dental services, immunizations, prenatal programs, AHCCCS/KidsCare, childcare health consultants, public health services, nutrition programs, parent education, home visitation, family resource centers and other family support programs, early care and education programs (including subsidies and scholarships), training and education for home and center-based early care and education providers, Quality First, resource information (e.g., Birth-5 Helpline), public libraries, literacy programs, domestic violence and homeless shelters, Child Protective Services, Child Support Enforcement, and faith-based organizations.

Organizations mentioned by name as assets included: Arizona Literacy and Learning Center, Association for Supportive Child Care, Boys and Girls Clubs, Children's Action Alliance, Communities in Schools, Crisis Nursery, First Things First, Free Arts of Arizona, Gabriel's Angels, Maggie's Place, Phoenix Children's Museum, Southwest Human Development, Teen Outreach Pregnancy Center, and YMCAs.

Participants thought it would be possible to build on these assets if additional funding were available to serve more people, increased outreach and awareness of need and the availability of services, more affordable services (e.g., childcare scholarships), increased communication, better coordination of resources, qualified staff, and simplified eligibility.

#### Needs

With respect to early care and education, families need access to quality childcare and assistance with payments (subsidies). Funding for pre-K and full-day kindergarten is also needed.

With respect to health, access is needed to a variety of healthcare services, including immunizations, dental services, screening (developmental, vision, hearing, etc.) and follow-up services, well child checks, and mental health services.

In order to enhance their confidence and effectiveness as parents, families need parent education, literacy services, and easy access to accurate resource information.

With respect to basic needs, families need safe and affordable housing and child support.

Children and their families are being turned away from a variety of services, including childcare, Head

Start, inclusion preschools, special education, healthcare, quality and age-appropriate mental health services, screening/follow-up services, Food Stamps, and housing.

Barriers that keep families from getting what they need to support the development, health, and education of their children relate to: funding, service availability, service accessibility (e.g., parents may be sent from one place to another, application process is complex, the system is hard to navigate, locations not convenient), transportation, time, knowledge of the importance of getting services and how to get them, fear, language, literacy, and underlying parent issues (e.g., depression, substance abuse, embarrassment, cultural issues, pride, denial that there is a problem).

Service gaps can be addressed through increased funding for provision of emergency childcare scholarships, home visiting, and other needed services; maintaining KidsCare; expanding Quality First; provider education; parent education; use of parent liaisons; partnerships with schools; increased awareness of available resources; collaboration; and legislative support for early care and education.

## Information and Coordination

Most participants thought that families need greater access to information on the need for and use of available resources, although at least one person noted that some have the information and are unwilling or unable to act on it for a variety of reasons. The importance of the information coming from a trusted source was highlighted; this is particularly true for immigrant or refugee families whose culture may be different from the predominant culture in this area.

Examples were provided regarding effective communication, coordination, and collaboration among early childhood partners, but there was agreement that this is an area with room for improvement. The current collaboration among home visiting programs was mentioned as a model.

Various agencies were also mentioned as providing early childhood leadership, including Southwest Human Development, Association for Supportive Child Care, Chicanos por la Causa, St. Luke's Health Initiatives, Phoenix Children's Hospital, John C. Lincoln Hospital, United Way, and libraries.

## Suggestions and Ideas

Priorities for First Things First funding were:

- Quality care and education (including scholarships, subsidies)
- Parent education
- Professional development for early care and education providers
- Home visitation
- Healthcare, including mental health

## SECTION II. PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

### Introduction

During the month of June, personal telephone interviews were conducted within the North Phoenix Region in an effort to encourage core neighborhood leaders to share insights and opinions about services for children five and under along with their families in their perspective community. The targeted population included parents, faith leaders, neighborhood activists, and leaders of community groups. After numerous attempts to contact the stakeholders provided by FTF (phone and e-mail), 27 responses were provided for this report. Some of the interviewees were located in other cities or towns but provided services in the FTF North Phoenix Region. Several interviewees chose to provide their responses to the interview questions in written form. Written responses were reviewed and follow-up e-mails or calls were made to provide any needed clarifications. There was a broad range of interviewees from parents, childcare center owners, grant writers, and community groups.

### Assets

When asked about services and community efforts that are working well in their communities, interviewees described a number of programs and organizations. Some examples given by interviewees included:

- Support for vulnerable families with young children in the areas of literacy, child abuse, prevention, and economic stability.
- Childcare resources and referrals for foster care groups.
- Quality improvement programs put into place, especially with FTF.
- WIC gives information to parents on how to create nutritious meals for children and families.
- Support groups for grandparents.
- Family liaison assistance.
- Child and family resources.
- Division of Developmental Disabilities case worker.
- Outreach with care centers.
- AHCCCS – medical insurance to low income families.
- Prenatal care.
- Services provided to help low-income single moms attend college including a \$3,000 stipend, auto repair, childcare, carpet cleaning, dental and healthcare, and mentoring.

Interviewees were also queried about key organizations providing leadership concerning early childhood services in their areas. The following organizations were reported:

- FTF
- Southwest Human Development
- Children's Action Alliance.

- Childcare Resource and Referral
- Arizona Child Care Association.
- Maricopa Community Colleges
- WIC
- Phoenix Children’s Hospital
- Mountain Park Health Care Clinic
- Southwestern Autism Research Center
- Healthy Families
- Birth to 5 Help Line
- Raising a Reader
- Crisis Nursery
- Desert Mission
- Coalition South East Family Resource Center
- Golden Gate Community Center
- Work with Interstate Compact Children
- Native American Center
- DES
- Children’s Law Center
- Casey Family Programs
- Family Involvement Center
- Aging and Administration Services
- Area Agency on Aging
- Care First Rescue Center
- Head Start
- Lead by Five
- Arizona Literacy Learning Center
- John C. Lincoln Programs: Marley House and the Lincoln Learning Center
- Protecting Arizona Families Coalition
- Partnership for Arizona Children
- Raising Special Kids—RSK

- Joanie and Friends
- The Deer Valley Community Center
- United Way
- Safe Kids Coalition
- The City of Peoria
- The Peoria Fire Department
- Fresh Start
- Boys and Girls Club

## Needs

Interviewees were also asked to describe unmet needs within their communities for children five and under and their families. In this context, they discussed services from which this group may have been turned away or denied, as well as the barriers to receiving needed services. The list of unmet needs provided in the interviews is as follows:

- Childcare.
- Transportation.
- Easy access to training services.
- DES funding and scholarships.
- Preschool program.
- Kinship care services.
- Funding.
- Legal.
- Behavioral issues/Mental health.
- Computer/Technology training for grandparents.
- Healthcare/Insurance.
- After-school care.
- Well care for new mothers: clothing, mental health, specialty health.
- Support services for grandparents raising young grandchildren.
- Job opportunities.
- Affordable housing.
- Nutrition.
- Safety education.

- Rental and utility assistance.

As previously discussed, barriers were identified as an issue for families who have been denied services or who have encountered difficulties with access to certain services. In some cases, respondents were unsure of the reasons families were denied services and in other cases there was a common theme. There is an inherent need for more funding and a specific need for child-care for working families as well as affordable housing. Transportation was also mentioned by most interviewees, as families have difficulty getting to and from work while trying to manage finding an available childcare center for their children.

The lack of awareness that exists throughout the region also played a significant role in the existence of barriers. This, in turn, has prevented individuals and families from obtaining needed services and resources.

## Information and Coordination

Interviewees were asked how well they think organizations are working together to serve young children along with their families as well as how this coordination effort can be improved.

In one interview, the respondent mentioned several organizations that work; however, these organizations are just not working together. The interviewee also stated the resources at times are so scarce; people are “fighting over the resources” available to them. The interviewee stated one of the major issues seemed to be the marketability of the services allowing other agencies and individuals to become aware of what services are available to people in need.

One interviewee mentioned a significant lack of communication for young mothers regarding available resources. The interviewee felt as though the resources were discovered mostly by word of mouth or from families or friends who had babies and passed along information to the new mothers. The interviewee also stated there should be follow-up with young mothers, including early intervention and referrals after mothers leave the hospital. The respondent felt there could be more collaboration among agencies to work with mothers and families as soon as they leave the hospital.

Interviewees were asked to comment on how well families in their community are aware of or know how to find services or resources from which they could benefit. A significant issue that is inhibiting the families to seek out additional resources has to do with the immigration laws and legislation taking place in the state of Arizona. Families with parents who may not be here legally are reluctant to seek out services for their family because they feel at risk of getting deported.

Overall, respondents in this region feel that there needs to be more effort among agencies to provide a network of services. Several interviewees stated the region was in need of a “one-stop shop” for services. Due to childcare needs, low income, and a lack of transportation, it is important agencies work together to assist people in the community who are in need of services.

Positive feedback:

- Collaboration among organizations serving young families.
- DES was working well until its budget crunch.
- Agencies are working better together with budget, but coordination is still scattered.
- Quality First is a big leader, especially their staff and trainers.
- Lots of collaboration – FTF works well. With budget and economic situation, more agencies try to ensure that they are not duplicating services and that they can leverage on

each other's strengths.

- Parent liaisons help; there is a big issue in the community with trust right now due to the immigration laws.
- Arizona Partnership for Children works with various coalitions and they are working together.
- RSK is reaching out to other organizations.
- The FTF grant allows us to work with the community including Deer Valley Community Center, Head Starts, and preschools. It has also allowed us to connect with families and inform them of the available resources at the library.
- Wellcare works well.

Negative feedback:

- Lack of information – families do not know about services–sometimes even providers do not know what is available. Need to have information posted about what is available to them in the same way that job announcements are posted.
- Big disconnect – agencies are not working well together. Would give collaboration about a C or C minus on a grading system.
- Non-profits are not good at marketing their services, although there is no budget to do so. There is a high demand for the services and not enough resources to make them available.
- Some of the people who are referred by non-profit organizations are not ready for college and it is better for them to work with for-profit organizations.

## Suggestions and Ideas

Throughout the interviews, the participants were asked to suggest how to improve services for children five and under and their families and how to address these families' unmet needs in their community. Many of them said they did not know or were not sure. But some of the following suggestions were made:

1. Resource Issues:
  - Governor and legislature need to provide funding to support healthcare, childcare, and other programs.
  - State funding directed at programs designed to support families and help promote economic stability.
  - Need more resources and need to align resources – need to educate community so groups know what is out there.
  - Resources to support families in their homes.
  - Need more mandatory services; voluntary work for some families and others need to be forced to care for their children.
2. Community outreach and education initiative suggestions:
  - Commitment by general public and legislative leadership to put kids and families first.

- A “one-stop shop” for parents.
  - Help in the homes.
  - Education to get them in the door.
  - Recognition from outside agencies.
  - Positions dedicated to ensuring resources are available.
  - A coordinating agency and reinstatement of funding.
  - More opportunities to network with other agencies specializing in the needs for young children.
  - Community action groups and faith based organizations.
  - More affordable housing/permanent housing for children.
  - More organizations should do events together.
  - More representation in the hospital so parents can ease their way into their new life with a child with special needs.
  - More people on AHCCCS (healthcare), many are losing benefits because of funding loss.
  - More funding for single mothers who want to go to college.
3. Childcare suggestions:
- Multiple responses stated that there is a need for additional funding.
4. Need fewer regions – too many regions with the possibility of duplicate services:
- Regions have disparate services – family moves from one part of the county to another and may lose services.

Lastly, interview participants were asked to identify what they felt to be the top priority for FTF funding in their community. Responses include:

- Sustainable solutions to increasing access to affordable and quality childcare.
- Focus on early childhood education.
- Focus their funding efforts on parent and child education.
- Provide funding for prenatal care, nutrition, dental and mental health including home visits.
- Provide funding for recreational opportunities.
- Provide funding to support more grandparents raising young grandchildren.
- Focus on bringing back services that were effective but have been taken away due to budget cuts, like Family Builders.
- Research “Housing First” programs around the country; as they have proven to be effective.

- Provide funding for early intervention programs and school-age assistance including after high school life skills assistance.
- Consider working with another agency to develop a circuit shuttle service, like the one in Sunnyslope.

# APPENDIX C

## ST. LUKE'S HEALTH INITIATIVES SURVEY RESULTS

In 2008, the Arizona Health Survey was completed by St. Luke's Health Initiatives. The survey included more than 4,000 households, which makes it one of the most extensive surveys ever undertaken in the state. The purpose of the survey was to help researchers, community leaders, and policy makers understand the health and well-being of Arizona citizens. The results can be used to create new opportunities for Arizona-specific policies, grants, planning, community engagement, and program development.

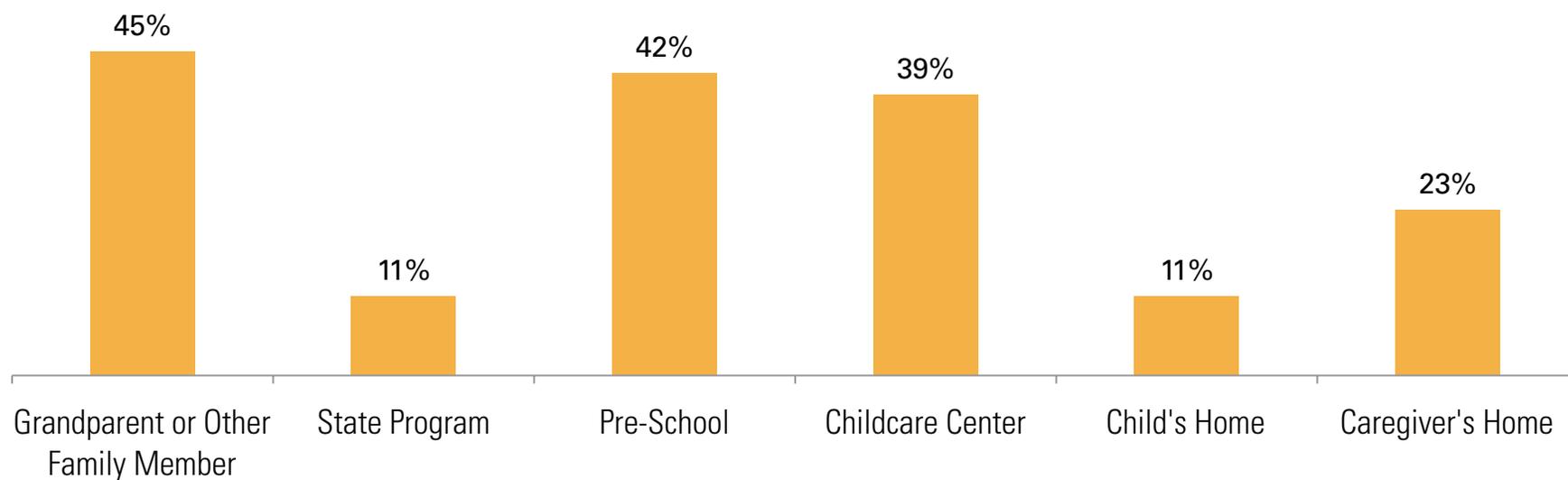
Our area of focus for this report is the child survey, which screened children between the ages of 0 and 12 years old. The adult member of the household with the most knowledge of the child's health was given the survey via telephone. Nearly 650 respondents answered this survey, primarily consisting of Maricopa County residents.

This section highlights a few of the survey questions and responses from these households with children.

## Childcare Providers for a Child in a Typical Week

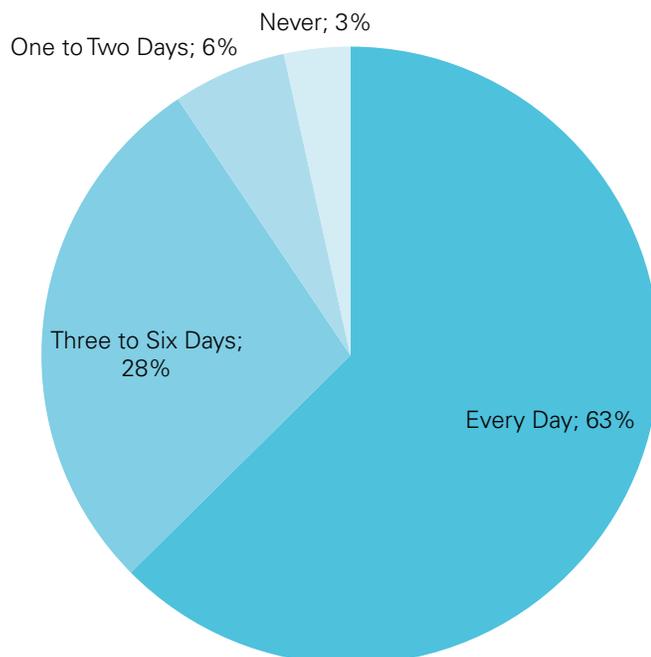
Respondents may choose more than one provider, so these numbers add to more than 100%.

Based on these survey results, the most common child care provider in a typical week was the child's grandparent or other family member. Close behind is the number of children who received care from a pre-school.



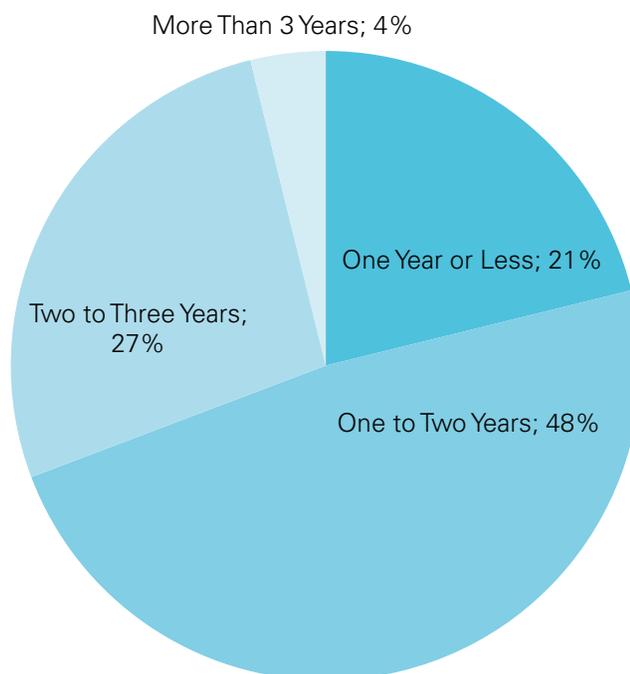
## Days Per Week You Read with Your Child

Studies have shown that reading to a child on a frequent basis is an important factor in their literary development. A majority of respondents reported reading to their child on a daily basis.



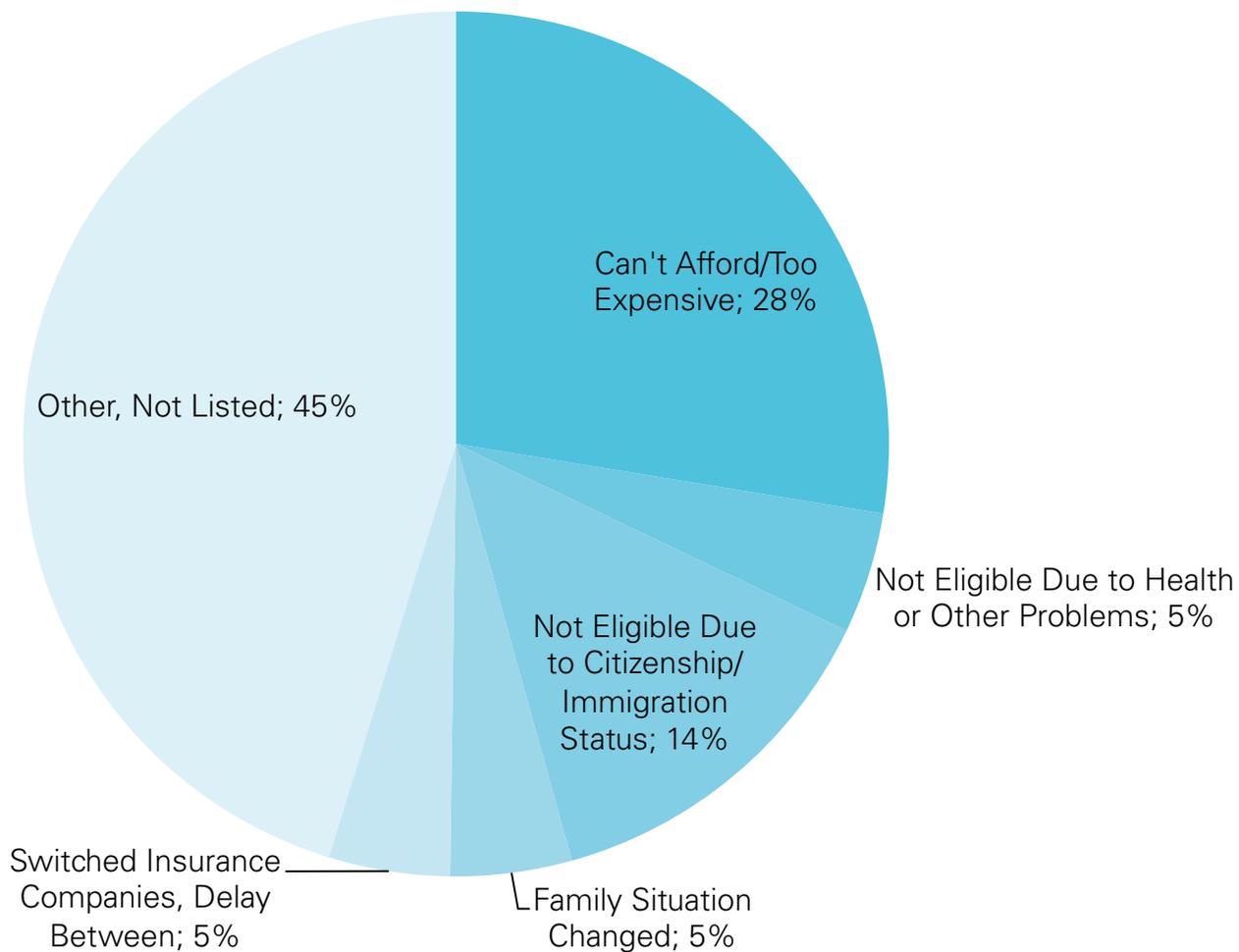
## Time Since Last Medical Doctor Visit

Slightly disturbing is the relatively high percentage of children who have not visited a medical doctor within the last two years. A yearly check up is important in identifying health problems the child may have developed.



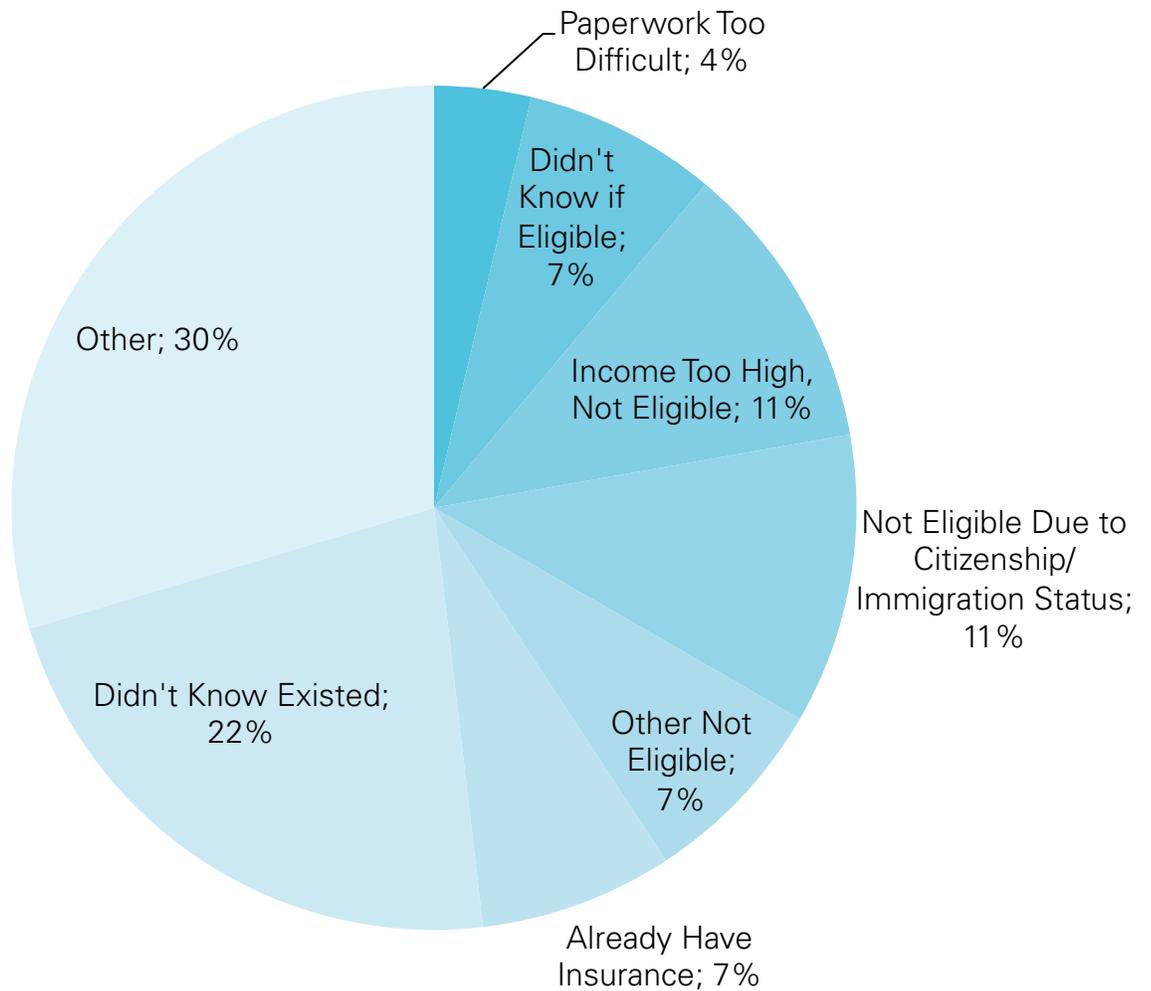
## Reason Child Does Not Have Health Insurance

One of the most common reasons for a child not being covered by some type of health insurance was that it was too expensive. This is important because it highlights the need for affordable health insurance options, like KidsCare.



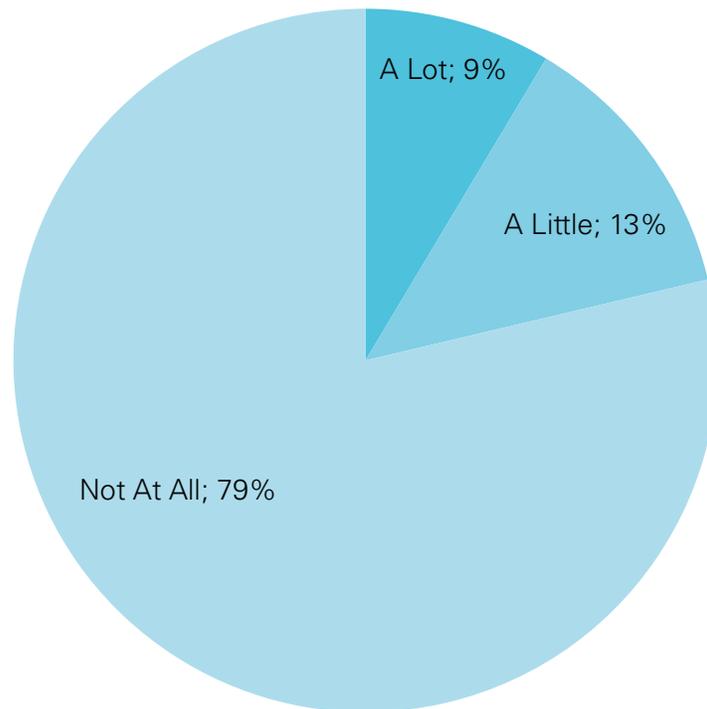
## Reason Child is Not Enrolled in KidsCare

A relatively large percentage of children who were not enrolled in KidsCare had not been enrolled because their parent(s) didn't know the program existed. If the KidsCare program starts accepting applications again, this statistic verifies the importance of educating the public about this coverage.



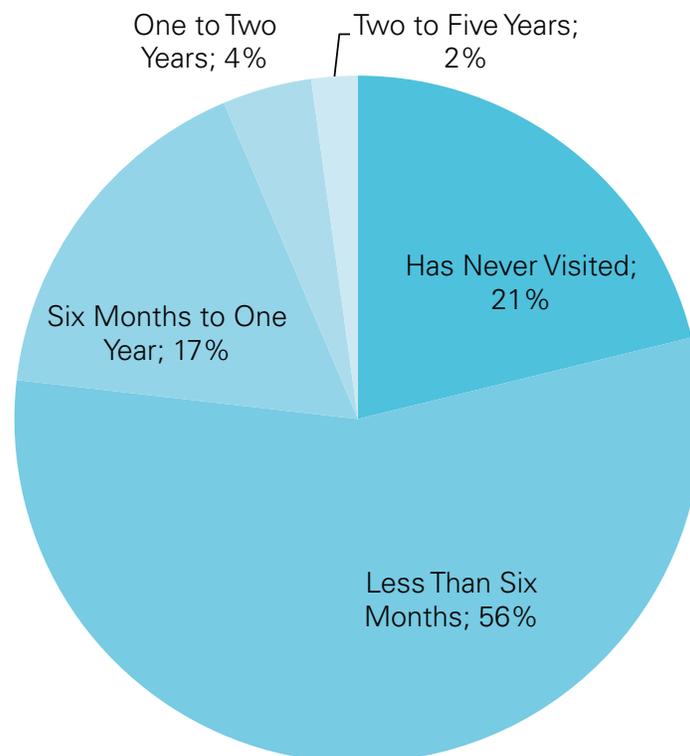
## Parents Concern About Their Child's Abilities Compared to Other Children Their Age

Most parents were not concerned at all about their child's abilities compared to other children their age. This does not necessarily mean all of those children are without problems; their parents may not recognize signs of developmental, behavioral or learning delays.



## Time Since Last Dental Clinic Visit

The majority of respondents stated that their child had visited the dentist in the last six months. A good sign considering that good dental care is important for overall child health. However, one out of five respondents said their child has never been to the dentist, putting those children at risk for a range of health problems.



## Reasons for Not Visiting the Dental Clinic

Of some concern is the rather large percentage of children who have not gone to the dentist because parents said their child was not old enough. The American Dental Association recommends that a child see the dentist for the first time within six months of the appearance of their first tooth or by their first birthday, whichever comes first.

