

Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Allocations and Funding Sources	2013	Recommendation to the Board FY 2013 Strategies and Allotments
FY Allocation	\$5,075,390	
Population Based Allocation	\$3,485,249	
Discretionary Allocation	\$802,494	
Other (FTF Fund balance addition)	\$787,647	
Carry Forward From Previous Year	\$3,493,139	
Total Regional Council Funds Available	\$8,568,529	
Strategies	Proposed Allotment	
Quality First (<i>statewide</i>)	\$709,127	Recommend approval
Scholarships TEACH (<i>statewide</i>)	-	
Child Care Health Consultation (<i>statewide</i>)	\$181,440	Recommend approval
Quality First Child Care Scholarships (<i>statewide</i>)	\$1,413,705	Recommend approval
Service Coordination (<i>FTF Directed</i>)	\$158,000	Recommend approval
Home Visitation	\$1,150,000	Recommend approval
Parent Education Community-Based Literacy	\$300,000	Recommend approval
Food Security	\$200,000	Recommend approval
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$400,000	Recommend approval
FTF Professional REWARD\$ (<i>statewide</i>)	\$50,000	Recommend approval
Mental Health Consultation (<i>statewide</i>)	\$250,000	Recommend approval
Recruitment into Field	\$75,000	Recommend approval
Scholarships non-TEACH	\$100,000	Recommend approval
Developmental and Sensory Screening	\$300,000	Recommend approval
Oral Health	\$300,000	Recommend approval
Community Awareness (<i>FTF Directed</i>)	\$40,000	Recommend approval with the line item budget submitted to the CEO for approval
Media (<i>statewide</i>)	\$168,507	Recommend approval
Community Outreach (<i>FTF Directed</i>)	\$84,000	Recommend approval
Statewide Evaluation (<i>statewide</i>)	\$174,103	Recommend approval
Proposed Allotment Total:	\$6,053,882	
Total Unallotted	\$2,514,647	

PINAL REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

**Regional Funding Plan
Three Year Strategic Direction
SFY 2013-2015**

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SFY 2013 -2015 Regional Partnership Council Budget

Section I.**Regional Allocation Summary**

Funds Available State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2012- 2015

Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Allocations and Funding Sources	2012	2013	2014	2015
FY Allocation	\$5,063,429	\$5,075,390	\$5,085,540	\$5,104,611
Population Based Allocation	\$3,576,694	\$3,485,249	<i>(fy14 and fy15 allocations are estimates only, for purposes of planning)</i>	
Discretionary Allocation	\$820,197	\$802,494		
Other (FTF Fund balance addition)	\$666,538	\$787,647	\$5,085,540	\$5,104,611
Carry Forward From Previous	\$5,125,879	\$3,493,139	\$2,514,647	\$1,546,305
Total Regional Council Funds	\$10,189,308	\$8,568,529	\$7,600,187	\$6,650,916

Section II.

Review of SFY 2012 Funding Plan

II A. SFY 2012 Regional Partnership Council Priorities

Over the last three year funding cycle, the Pinal Regional Council has invested in strategies that are targeted toward creating a strong, viable early childhood system so that a continuum of services and supports for families with young children can be implemented in the region; from universal to targeted, across the six identified goal areas developed by the First Things First State Board: Quality and Access, Family Support; Health and Mental Health; and Professional Development. The Regional Council selected these goal areas and these specific strategies in order to build a system that is responsive to the varying needs of young children and families in the region. Interwoven throughout these goal areas are Coordination and Community Awareness. These become the “glue” that enables a seamless delivery of resources and services.

In October the Regional Council again reviewed the 2008 and 2010 Pinal Region Needs and Assets Reports and grantee data reports. Both provided important information regarding the scope and reach of both the region’s needs and currently funded strategies to meet those needs. Information and feedback from community partners was also received during well-attended community forums. Regional Council members participated in three smaller work sessions focusing on Early Learning, Health and Family Support. Discussions included system building and the progress that has been made so far. While excellent progress has been made in building the partnerships and relationships necessary to implement programs in each of the three domains, Family Support, Health, and Early Learning, it is important to note that there is still significant work to be done in order to build a strong early childhood system in the region. The Regional Council is committed to continuing their strategic direction and supports this process.

The SFY 2012 funding plan allocated a significant portion of funds to each of the three domains: Early Learning (40 percent), Family Support (35 percent), and Health (20 percent). This is reflective of the Regional Council’s belief that each domain must be addressed in order to provide comprehensive services. Of particular importance to the Pinal Regional Partnership Council was providing a wide variety of services that promote early learning, supporting the overall health and well-being of children and families and building a strong early childhood system both in the region and statewide.

Early Learning (Professional Development and Quality/Access/Affordability)

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council views high quality early care and education as containing two components: professional development and quality improvement (including program environment, operations, and administration/management). To this end, the Pinal Regional Council has been committed to improving the quality of care that children and families in the region receive, through the expansion of the Quality First strategy and the development of a professional development continuum.

First, the Regional Council recognized the need to recruit new professionals into the field. Through the Recruitment into the Field strategy, the Regional Council has been able to create a two year early childhood recruitment scholarship to encourage new professionals into the field. Scholarship recipients are required to volunteer at a Quality First child care center within the Region throughout the duration of the scholarship award period and following completion of the scholarship contract. Each recipient is required to fulfill a two year work obligation in the region.

Second, the Regional Council realized that not all child care providers are prepared to move forward with coursework at institutions of higher education. For these individuals, the Regional Council sought to improve the quality of community based professional development, while linking community based training to college credits. In addition to community based opportunities for professional development, the Regional Council wanted to ensure the availability of professional development to those individuals who are ready to participate in higher education. Through the Professional Career

Pathway Project (PCPP) scholarship program and the TEACH Early Childhood[®] ARIZONA scholarship program for Quality First, further advancement in professional development by the child care workforce has been encouraged. The Professional Career Pathway Project allowed current child care providers to receive funding for early childhood education coursework at local community colleges. It additionally provided funding for obtain the National Child Development Associate credential (CDA). Recipients are able to continue their college careers through the TEACH scholarship program, earning the additional credits needed to obtain an Associate's Degree. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council understands that there is a critical need to create a seamless process to assist child care providers to make substantive educational progress. The preexisting relationship between the local community college and local non-profit agencies is a tremendous benefit that allows the Pinal Region to successfully move forward in addressing and achieving both the Quality and Access, and Professional Development goals.

Nearly 32 percent of the Region's children are cared for in some form of regulated care. Therefore, the second component for improving the quality of care within the Pinal Region has been the Regional Council's focus on environmental quality in regulated early care and education centers and family provider settings. Through a mix of three strategies, including Quality First, Mental Health Consultation and Child Care Health Consultation, the Regional Council is working to improve the quality of care for children in the region. For this, the second largest percentage of the SFY 2012 allocation has been dedicated to the expansion of Quality First.

Additionally, the Regional Council has allocated funding to support access to Child Care Health Consultation and Mental Health Consultants for the remaining regulated child care facilities. Furthermore, 240 additional children will benefit from the Recruitment and Home Providers Support strategies, which will assist lawfully unregulated home care providers to move towards regulation and link recipients to regionally funded professional development opportunities.

Family Support

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council envisions a continuum of family support strategies to support families with young children. The Family Support and Service Coordination strategies have facilitated an opportunity for agencies to provide seamless services in a coordinated effort. Through this strategy, families receive regional and state early childhood information. In addition, regionally funded and non-funded agencies have an opportunity to coordinate family support efforts. All families in the Pinal Region need developmental support in order to optimize developmental outcomes that ensure children enter school ready to succeed. This strategy is intended to be a "one stop" resource for regional information, education, and referrals to regional services. In addition to this strategy, the early literacy strategy expands the family support continuum.

The Home Visitation Services strategy targets high risk families. The goal of this strategy is to stabilize the family and provide information and resources based on the family's needs. After engaging community members and regional stakeholders in further dialogue regarding home visitation services, the Regional Council expanded the reach of the strategy to include more targeted support and services to high risk infants in the region. The High Risk Infant Home Visitation strategy was added in SFY 2011 and has provided opportunities for families to receive support for children who are at the highest risk of developing physical and developmental delays.

Health

Families within the region benefit from improved systems of coordination between health care services, early detection, and services that increase access to insurance enrollment. Through two levels of health strategies, the Pinal Regional Partnership Council has improved health services to young children. The first focus is on prevention and early detection of children's health needs. Through the continuation of the health screening strategy, children have received vision, hearing, and dental screenings with an education and referral component for parents and child care service providers. The second level focuses on health care providers. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council recognized that unless there is regional support of health care providers with continuing medical education, physician outreach and education regarding regional resources, the health system for children will continue to be negatively impacted by the major gaps within the health system.

For the SFY 2012 funding period, the Regional Council maintained its original list of prioritized needs including: Families with children birth through age five having limited access to preventative screening and referral services. These strategies have been carefully designed to assist in building an effective early childhood development and health system within the Pinal Region. In collaboration with already existing community resources, including family support and social services agencies, community training institutions, and institutions of higher education, the strategies nurture the development of a more competent community that better meets the needs of families with young children, especially during harsh economic times.

Coordination

Improving the coordination of early childhood services in the region is essential to building a comprehensive early childhood system. In meetings with grantees and notations in quarterly data submissions it is often mentioned that services in the region are fragmented and families are often not aware of existing services. The Regional Council addressed this need by holding FTF grantee orientations and regular quarterly meetings in order to share grantee information and resources for the Pinal Screening strategies.

Communication

Strategies to achieve the four objectives identified in the First Things First statewide communications plan includes distribution of First Things First leave behinds and branded collateral materials, media, sponsorships, parent education and awareness, grantee recognition, and participation in community events that align and support the mission of First Things First.

II B. SFY 2012 Strategies and Units of Service Review

SFY2012 Pinal Units of Service by Strategy		
Strategy Description	Fiscal Year 2012	
	Targeted Units	Contracted Units
Home Visitation Strategy		
Number of families served	520	320
Community-based Literacy Strategy		
Number of books distributed	0	0
Number of children served	2,500	4,500
Number of participating adults	0	3,000
Food Security Strategy		
Number of food boxes distributed	4,000	2,832
Family, Friends & Neighbors Strategy		
Number of home based providers served	67	67
Quality First Strategy		
Number of center based providers served	52	52
Number of home based providers served	16	16
Mental Health Consultation Strategy		
Number of center based providers served	10	10
Number of home based providers served	4	4
Child Care Health Consultation Strategy		
Number of center based providers served	74	74
Number of home based providers served	20	20
Quality First Child Care Scholarships Strategy		
Number of children receiving scholarships	110	96
Community Based Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals Strategy		
Number of participating professionals	500	0
FTF Professional REWARD\$ Strategy		
Number of incentive awards distributed	25	21
Recruitment into Field Strategy		
Number of participating professionals	15	15
Scholarships non-TEACH Strategy		
Number of professionals receiving scholarships	60	60
Scholarships TEACH Strategy		
Number of professionals receiving scholarships	56	56

SFY2012		
Pinal		
Units of Service by Strategy (continued)		
Strategy Description	Fiscal Year 2012	
	Targeted Units	Contracted Units
Developmental and Sensory Screening Strategy		
Number of children receiving hearing screening	5,000	5,000
Number of children receiving screening	5,000	5,000
Number of children receiving vision screening	5,000	5,000
Number of children screened for developmental delays	0	0
Oral Health Strategy		
Number of children receiving oral health screenings	5,000	5,000
Number of fluoride varnishes applied	2,500	3,000
Number of participating adults	0	2,000
Number of participating professionals	0	10
Number of prenatal women receiving oral health screenings	0	0
Health Insurance Enrollment Strategy		
Number of families served	1,000	0
Physician Education & Outreach Strategy		
Number of participating practices	7	7
Communications		
Evaluation		

Notes:

Quality First Service Numbers:

The Quality First strategy has Target Service Units of Homes and Centers. For this unique strategy, the Contracted Service Numbers will show as twice as much in comparison to the Targeted Service Numbers. This is due to implementation of the strategy through two service contracts (one for QF Coaching/Incentives, and a second for QF Assessments).

Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) Service Numbers:

The CCHC strategy has Target Service Numbers which reflect the strategy targets of “additional CCHC”. The Contracted Service Numbers include the CCHC in addition to the Service Numbers funded through the regionally funded Quality First package. Therefore, for many regions, the Target Numbers will appear lower than the Contracted Numbers.

II C. SFY 2012 Funding Summary Review

FY2012 Pinal Funding Plan Summary		
Allocations and Funding Sources	2012	
FY Allocation	\$5,063,429	
Population Based Allocation	\$3,576,694	
Discretionary Allocation	\$820,197	
Other (FTF Fund balance addition)	\$666,538	
Carry Forward From Previous Year	\$5,125,879	
Total Regional Council Funds Available	\$10,189,308	
Strategies	Allotted	Awarded
Service Coordination	\$300,000	\$158,000
Home Visitation	\$1,150,000	\$873,329
High Risk Newborn Follow Up		
Community based Literacy	\$355,000	\$241,488
Food Security	\$200,000	\$200,000
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$355,000	\$355,000
Quality First	\$736,000	\$723,538
Mental Health Consultation	\$250,000	\$250,000
Child Care Health Consultation	\$376,000	\$362,988
Quality First Child Care Scholarships	\$850,000	\$850,000
Community Based Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals	\$250,000	
FTF Professional REWARD\$	\$50,000	\$50,000
Recruitment into Field	\$75,000	\$73,728
Scholarships non-TEACH	\$151,560	\$151,560
Scholarships TEACH	\$107,000	\$101,800
Developmental and Sensory Screening	\$200,000	\$200,000
Oral Health	\$600,000	\$600,000
Health Insurance Enrollment	\$100,000	
Physician Education & Outreach	\$250,000	\$115,500
Communications		
Media	\$168,507	\$168,507
Community Outreach	\$100,000	\$100,000
Community Awareness	\$20,000	\$20,000
Statewide Evaluation	\$174,103	\$174,103
Total Allotted/Awarded	\$6,696,170	\$5,769,541
Total Unallotted/Unawarded	\$3,493,139	\$4,419,767

II D. Review of Progress

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council is committed to continuing to build the early childhood system that began with the SFY 2009 Funding Plan and continued in SFY 2010, 2011 and 2012. With the 2012 plan the Regional Council focused on the regional needs as well as recommitting to efforts of statewide strategies. Fiscal year 2012 has allowed the Pinal Regional Council to continue these services while expanding several other significant approaches. The Regional Council's intention is to move forward acknowledging the need to utilize existing resources and to continue to build on successful regional programs.

Early Learning (Quality First, Quality First Scholarships, Mental Health Consultation and Child Care Health Consultation)

The Pinal Regional Council committed the largest percentage of regional funds to the development and expansion of the Early Learning system within the Pinal Region. Through these efforts, the Regional Council has been able to provide opportunities to 34 percent of child care centers and homes to participate in the Quality First program. Thus far, there are 21 centers and 3 homes that are receiving a comprehensive package of supports that impact the quality of services in existing child care facilities. Within the region there have been major successes between the communication and partnerships among the Quality First Coaches, Mental Health Providers and regionally funded Child Care Health Consultants. There had been several barriers around recruitment and marketing of Quality First. To address this, Regional staff has been working with the Program Director to identify appropriate resolution to fill the current vacancies which includes 10 centers and 9 homes.

The Regional Council implemented the Quality First Child Care Scholarship strategy midway through SFY 2012 to address regional needs as well as spend down the regional carry forward funds. This strategy has been very successful in providing high-quality early learning experiences for 110 children throughout the Pinal Region. There has been some limitation to the number of centers and homes willing to participate in the Quality First Child Care Scholarships program because of reimbursement processing, it has been shared that it can be difficult for small providers to manage these scholarships.

Professional Development (Family, Friends and Neighbor Care, FTF Professional REWARD\$, Recruitment into the Field, Scholarships non-TEACH and Scholarships TEACH)

For SFY 2012, the Pinal Regional Partnership Council continued to prioritize the need to fund Professional Development strategies. The Regional Council designed a comprehensive professional development continuum in SFY 2009 and has continued this effort over 2010, 2011 and 2012. This continuum focuses on regulating family child care homes and includes community based professional development, intended to articulate to college credits. There have been a number of successes with unregulated care providers; this includes the regulation of 5 home settings as well as 10 new scholars into the regionally funded Professional Career Pathways Project.

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council has purposefully designed a comprehensive professional development continuum to improve the quality of care in the Pinal Region. The focused support of these professionals, through a host of varying professional development levels, will allow the Regional Council to reach as many child care providers as possible. The combination of strategies has the potential to provide a range of professional development to nearly 75 percent of the early childhood workforce in the Pinal Region. These strategies are developing the capacity of the early childhood workforce to provide high quality early education. Three scholarship models, Recruitment into Field (RIF), TEACH and Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP), are supporting the workforce to complete college coursework in order to apply for a Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) and/or their 2-year Associates' degree in Early Childhood Education. To date, 15 RIF Scholarships, 28 TEACH scholarships and 40 PCPP scholarships have been awarded.

Family Support (Home Visitation, Parent Education Community-Based Training and Food Security)

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council has a three pronged approach to help address the prioritized needs of families in the Pinal Region: Home Visitation, Parent Education Community-Based Training and Food Security. These three approaches allowed the Regional Council to impact a large number of families throughout the spectrum of needs. Regrettably, regional families continue to be challenged with the loss of state funding for safety net services and a slow economy. For some, services have been cut drastically and in some cases, eliminated.

Universal – The Community Based Literacy mobile unit has been very successful in helping parents understand infant, toddler and preschool brain development in addition to providing techniques for successful parenting and literacy development. This strategy provides 2,500 families with education on child development, literacy and kindergarten readiness.

At Risk - The Pinal Regional Partnership Council has supported the region's families that have been impacted by the economic crisis by expanding access to nutritious food and providing resources and information that support the needs of families with children birth through age five. This strategy is addressed through the coordination of local community resources in provision of basic childhood necessities. In SFY 2011, over 4,000 food boxes were distributed Region wide, and over 9,132 supplemental items were supplied for young children and their families.

High Risk - The High Risk Infant Home Visitation strategy allowed for professional nursing services for infants who were placed in the neonatal intensive care unit for 24 hours or more at birth. A public health nurse assesses medical, developmental, cognitive, fine and gross motor skills of the high risk infant. The Community Health Nurse also addresses parental concerns, assesses home environment, discusses parent well-being, and provides families with resources and referrals within the community, as needed. Within this strategy there has been a challenge around enrollment eligibility as well as limited recruitment numbers. Regional staff is working with leadership to identify solutions to these issues.

The Home Visitation strategies are currently serving 320/520 families. Through these strategies, families receive a comprehensive package of supports based on the needs of the family. These include routine developmental screening, reminders and referrals for timely Well Child Checks and immunizations, and information and resources to support positive parent-child interaction and age-appropriate learning activities including literacy that families can do together.

Health (Physician Outreach and Education, Developmental and Sensory Screening and Oral Health Screening)

Prevention and Early Detection - The Oral Health and Sensory Screening and Education strategies have succeeded in developing many community partnerships with schools, child care centers and large community events. Often there is collaboration with the local health care providers and the Regional Child Find service provider at these venues. This increased awareness is evidenced by community organizations contacting the program to schedule visits after hearing about the program in the community.

Physician Outreach and Education has had slow success in recruiting practices to participate. Recruitment of physicians and practices is ongoing, and it is reported that several physicians are lined up to participate. Developing relationships with physicians and practices takes an extended amount of time. Practices which were somewhat reluctant to participate after the initial contact are now more willing to listen and consider participation in the project due to multiple attempts.

Coordination

A major success in the improvement and coordination of Family Support services within the Pinal Region has been the establishment of a Family Support Network as a point of contact to assist families with referrals to service providers. This has led to increased collaboration among Parenting Education Providers, Home Visiting Providers, Child Care Providers, Health Care Providers, and Parents of children ages birth through five. The end result is to achieve a comprehensive system of early childhood development and health services that meets the needs of families while reducing service duplication. Through the addition of a Regional Program Coordination Specialist, the Regional Council has been able to achieve their desired outcomes around coordination of services within the Pinal Region. This strategy's main goals are

to develop and maintain three coalitions focusing on the following areas: Health, Family Support and Early Care and Education.

Communication

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council implemented Community Outreach and Community Awareness strategies to address the prioritized need to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood. The strategy is part of the statewide communications campaign. Since starting in October of 2010, the Community Outreach Consultant has distributed important information about First Things First, as well as information on child development, parenting and literacy. Due to the collaborative efforts of grantees, agencies, school districts, city/town governments and First Things First, there has been great improvement in the ability of families to get the information and support they need to help their children be healthy and ready to succeed in school.

The Pinal Regional Council is intentional in its focus and support of the mission of First Things First to give children maximum opportunities for optimal development and school success. The Regional Council is fully aware that they are building and implementing a system which supports families and communities in raising healthy children who enter school with a strong foundation and optimal development. The Regional Council has been very deliberate about the selection of strategies, focusing on three key factors: strategies' direct link to the identified needs, those which will provide the most impact, and those which can best be supported by the funding criteria. In SFY 2012, the Regional Council added strategies which further support more targeted services, given the economic challenges faced by many families in the Pinal Region. The combination of strategies, within the three focused goal areas of Early Learning, Family Support and Health/Mental Health, were carefully selected to achieve the desired outcomes for the Region and to support building an effective early childhood development and health system.

Section III.

Three Year Strategic Direction: SFY 2013-2015 Regional Funding Plan

III A. Overview

Setting the Strategic Direction

Throughout the last several months, the Pinal Regional Partnership Council has undertaken considerable thought and discussion by reviewing available data sources for strategic planning purposes. The 2010 Regional Needs and Assets Report, program evaluation data and narrative reports from First Things First grantees were carefully considered. In preparation for the SFY 2013-2015 Regional Funding Plan, the Pinal Regional Partnership Council invited the community and stakeholders to participate in three Community Forums. Throughout September and October of 2011, three small Community Forums (related to the three focus areas of Early Learning, Family Support and Health) were held, comprised of council members, members of the public and regional grantees. Finally, at the November meeting the Regional Council used a planning document to help with the identification and prioritization of the regional needs, indicators and strategies. All decisions were based on lengthy conversations and driven from the 2010 Needs and Assets report and statistical data.

In reviewing the Council's desire to provide services and support universally for all children and families within the region, it was decided to further refine their priorities based upon the identified needs of the region. Their priorities provide a strong platform that supports the establishment of an Early Childhood System so that families have a continuum of available services from universal to targeted and intensive services to reduce risk factors for children.

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council believes that the best way to improve outcomes for young children over the next three years is to focus on the highest priority need areas stated below:

- Limited access to parental education and education/service delivery systems
- Limited support and services for families who are experiencing financial hardships
- Limited opportunities to increase the knowledge and skill sets of family home care providers
- Families have limited access to high quality early care and education programs/infant and toddler care
- Families with children birth through age five have limited access to preventative screening and referral services
- Limited understanding and information about the importance of early childhood development and health

The Regional Council selected six School Readiness Indicators and approved the strategies they believe would have the biggest impact and success rate in addressing those indicators. These strategies will address the highest priority needs for young children across the region. The Regional Council has elected to address the following school readiness indicators which align to the subsequent priority roles:

School Readiness Indicators and Priority Roles

- % of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well being
 - Pinal Strategies:
 - Home Visitation
 - Parent Education Community-Based Training
 - Food Security
 - Service Coordination

- #/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical
 - Pinal Strategies:
 - Quality First
 - Home Visitation
 - Development Screenings
 - Parent Education Community Based Training
 - TEACH and PCPP Scholarships
 - FTF REWARDS: Wage compensation
 - Mental Health Consultation
 - Child Care Health Consultation
 - Service Coordination
 - Communications

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

- % of children with newly identified developmental delays during the kindergarten year
 - Pinal Strategies:
 - Quality First
 - Home Visitation
 - Development Screenings
 - Service Coordination

- #/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index-BMI)
 - Pinal Strategies:
 - Child Care Health Consultation
 - Food Security

- #/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay
 - Pinal Strategy:
 - Oral Health and Education

Strategic Approach to System Building

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council is committed to continuing to build the early childhood system. The initial years allowed the Regional Council to focus on the Regional needs and to embark upon the development of a region wide comprehensive system that addresses many of the major identified gaps in services for young children and their families in the Pinal Region. The SFY 2013 Pinal Regional Funding Plan will allow the Regional Council to continue these efforts as well as expand the footprint of current services. The Regional Council intends to move forward acknowledging the need

to utilize existing resources and to build on successful regional programs. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council understands that all strategies within the funding plan work in concert with each other.

The Regional Council was intentional about linking strategies together to create the greatest impact on school readiness indicators. Quality and access strategies continue to support further infrastructure development of high quality environments in the region while linking child care settings to other valuable resources in the community. Awareness of supports available to child care providers works to increase quality as well, shifting the selected indicators. Family support strategies create multiple access points for families to enter the early childhood system and educate them on community resources and early childhood development and health issues. These strategies impact children's school readiness and the confidence and competence of parents to recognize healthy development in the areas of health, social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor/physical. The communication strategies reach out to wider audiences who have a vested interest in early childhood and engaging more community members to spread the importance of early childhood issues.

Section III B.

Strategic Plan for SFY 2013 – 2015

Regional Priorities, Selected FTF Indicators and Priority Roles, and Strategies to Achieve Outcomes

Regional Priority to be addressed	School Readiness Indicators Correlated to the needs and priority roles	FTF Priority Roles in the Early Childhood System	SFY 2013-2015 Strategies
<p>Limited access to parental education and education/service delivery systems</p> <p>Limited support and services for families who are experiencing financial hardships</p> <p>Limited opportunities to increase the knowledge and skills sets of family home care providers</p> <p>Families have limited access to high quality early care and education programs/infant and toddler care</p> <p>Families with children birth through age five have limited access to preventative screening and referral services</p> <p>Limited understanding and information about the importance of early childhood development and health</p>	<p>% of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child’s safety, health and well being</p> <p>#/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical</p> <p>#/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars.</p> <p>% of children with newly identified developmental delays during the kindergarten year</p> <p>#/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index-BMI)</p> <p>#/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay</p>	<p>Supports and Services for Families - Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.</p> <p>Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services- Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality health care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families.</p> <p>Early Care and Education System Development and Implementation – Convene partners and provide leadership in the development and implementation of a comprehensive early care and education system that is aligned both across the spectrum of settings and with the full continuum of the education system.</p> <p>Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services- Collaborate with partners to support improved nutrition and increased age/developmentally appropriate physical activity levels among young children.</p>	<p>Quality First (including Child Care Health Consultation, QF Scholarships and TEACH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional CCHC - Service Coordination - Home Visitation - Parent Education - Community-Based Training - Food Security - Family, Friend and Neighbors - Mental Health Consultation - Scholarships Non-TEACH (PCPP) - FTF Professional REWARD\$ - Developmental and Sensory Screening - Oral Health - Community Awareness - Community Outreach - Media <p>Needs and Assets (fy14) Statewide Evaluation</p>

Section III C.

Strategy Descriptions including Target Populations and Funding Levels

Strategy: Quality First			
Strategy Description: Supports provided to early care and education centers and homes to improve the quality of programs, including: on-site coaching; program assessment; financial resources; teacher education scholarships; and consultants specializing in health and safety practices.			
Strategy Narrative			
<p>Quality First addresses the prioritized need for improved access to quality, and affordable early childhood education in the Pinal Region. It expands the number of children with access to high quality early education, including learning materials that are developmentally appropriate, a curriculum focused on early literacy and teachers trained to work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers.</p> <p>Quality First is Arizona’s voluntary quality improvement and rating system. It does not duplicate or replace, but builds upon state licensing regulations, addressing multiple aspects of early care and education through research-based indicators of quality.</p> <p>Quality First provides supports through nine program components including: coaching, financial incentives, licensure fee assistance, child care scholarships, T.E.A.C.H. Arizona scholarships, Child Care Health Consultation, program assessment, assignment of star rating and specialized technical assistance. The addition of child care scholarships to this strategy in SFY 2013 will help more low-income families receive quality child care.</p> <p>The Quality First strategy plays an important role in strengthening the Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade education system in the region and state. Research finds that positive outcomes for children do not occur when the quality of early childhood education is diluted. The star rating system will provide families with a way to identify and select high quality programs for their children. It also will create an expectation of high quality and a consistent method for measuring quality and provide participating programs with resources to support them in making changes that impact quality and ultimately outcomes for children.</p>			
Target Population Description			
<p>There are approximately 145 regulated child care providers in the Pinal Region. Of these, 21 centers and 3 homes are currently enrolled in Quality First. The target service numbers for FY2012 were 31 centers and 11 homes.</p> <p>The Regional Council will continue to target 31 Centers and 11 Homes.</p>			
Target Service Units - Quality First	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of center based providers served	31	31	31
Number of home based providers served	11	11	11
Funding Levels	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Quality First	\$709,127	\$709,127	\$709,127
Child Care Health Consultation	\$181,440	\$181,440	\$181,440
QF Child Care Scholarships	\$1,413,705	\$1,413,705	\$1,413,705
Scholarships T.E.A.C.H.	\$0	\$0	\$0

Target Service Units - Child Care Health Consultation	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of center based providers served	51	51	51
Number of home based providers served	21	21	21
Target Service Units - Scholarships TEACH			
Number of professionals receiving scholarships	67	67	67
Target Service Units - QF Child Care Scholarships			
Number of children receiving scholarships	226	226	226

Strategy: Child Care Health Consultation (addition to QF package)
Strategy Narrative The Regional Council has funded Child Care Health Consultation to provide services to 30 additional early care and education programs not enrolled in Quality First.
Target Population Description CCHC in addition to the Quality First package are reserved for child care centers not currently enrolled in Quality First. Target service units for 2013-2015 are 30. This number has been reduced from the original 2010-2012 funding levels of 60 to reflect current levels of participation. The decrease in the target population is due to the low demand for services.

Strategy: Service Coordination
Strategy Description Coordination and collaboration efforts improve and streamline processes including applications, service qualifications, service delivery and follow-up for families with young children. Reduces confusion and duplication for service providers and families
Strategy Narrative In March 2008, the Early Childhood Development and Health Board defined the strategic direction of First Things First with the adoption of the Strategic Plan Roadmap. Within this document, Coordination is identified as a one of six Goal Areas that will be accomplished by First Things First in order to build the Arizona early childhood system. To accomplish the Coordination goal, First Things First is directed to foster cross-system collaboration efforts among local, state, federal and tribal organizations to improve the coordination and integration of Arizona programs, services and resources for young children and their families. It is generally believed that by participating in cross-system efforts, organizations will begin to look at how they can change the way they work together so that services are delivered to children and families in new, more effective and efficient ways. Service agencies that work together are often easier to access and are implemented in a manner that is more responsive to the needs of the families. Cross-system efforts may also result in greater capacity to deliver services because organizations are working together to identify and address gaps in service. The Pinal Regional Council will continue their effort within the three coalition groups that have been pre-established over the last 6 months. These include the following: Health, Family Support and Early Care and Education. Each coalition has developed a strategic plan to improve coordination efforts within their focus as well as continuing evaluation from the program staff to evaluate level of coordination.
Target Population Description The intended target population of the proposed coordination activities is agencies and programs that serve families with children birth through five throughout the Pinal Region.

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Not identified	-	-	-
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Service Coordination	\$158,000	\$158,000	\$158,000

Strategy: Home Visitation

Strategy Description
 Provides voluntary in-home services for infants, children and their families, focusing on parenting skills, early physical and social development, literacy, health and nutrition. Connect families to resources to support their child’s health and early learning.

Strategy Narrative
 The regional needs and assets report revealed a great number of children who are not in regulated child care settings and may not otherwise be engaged in the early childhood system. Home visitation often reaches these families, allowing them to access valuable services and is often an entry point into the early childhood system for families. It is vital to support parents as the first teachers of children, as well as connect them to other services in the community; home visitation services enables parents to feel competent and confident in their abilities to raise their children. Regular visits by a home visitor provide the consistency that many at-risk families need to feel supported and gain parenting skills. Home visitors are able to assess challenges in the home life which may affect healthy development in a child or that may negatively impact the parents’ abilities to support a child’s learning, social-emotional wellbeing, or health needs.

Comprehensive, evidence based home visitation programs include a variety of evidence based models that exist to address the spectrum of universal needs to targeted or specialized needs of particular populations such as first time parents, teen parents, families at-risk for abuse-neglect, and low income families. Family participation in a home visitation program is voluntary, with no fee for service to families.

Through recent community forums throughout the Region and including Ak-Chin, the following need was identified: families have limited access to family support services for children with specials needs. One way the Regional Council felt they could address this Regional need was to expand the home visitation strategy that focuses on addressing these specific families’ needs and have a focused approach to addressing services specifically designed for supporting families with children with special needs. It is important to reach and support families through home visitation as early as possible.

Target Population Description
 The 520 birth to age three children whom were identified constitute 3 percent of high risk children within the Pinal Region. The Regional Council would like to also like to request the inclusion of Children with Special Needs within the target population for SFY 2013, 2014 and 2015.

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Total number of families receiving home visiting services	520	520	520
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Home Visitation	\$1,150,000	\$1,150,000	\$1,150,000

Strategy: Parent Education Community Based Training

Strategy Narrative
 Parent Education Community Based Training is a part of the larger continuum of family support within the context of an early childhood system. The purpose of community based parenting education is to build parents’ capacity and skills so they can support the healthy development of their child. Parenting education, as a key component of a comprehensive early childhood system, enhances the relationship between the parent and child to foster the child’s positive social-emotional language and literacy development and thus their readiness for school. This strategy can work with and build upon other strategies implemented in the region and community assets to address the need for comprehensive parent education and information.

This strategy has been further refined to include participation in a series of early literacy training sessions. Previously, short, one time sessions, were categorized under this strategy. The Regional Council took into consideration the fact that this more intensive model could impact the number of families who are willing to commit to attend all sessions and will monitor the participation levels as well as any wait lists that might occur for making future adjustments.

The Pinal Mobile Unit allows for outreach within the rural community that may not have the support to hold and manage family literacy programs. The program is working with local libraries, churches, community centers and non-profits to help identify family as well as coordination locations for these trainings.

Target Population Description

The target population for this strategy is universal, reaching 5 percent of children birth through five in the region, or 2,500. The Regional Council recognizes the need for all parents to receive services to increase their confidence in supporting their child’s learning and healthy development. Many strategies focus on more targeted and at-risk populations, but all families can benefit from early childhood education.

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of participating adults	2,500	2,500	2,500
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Service Coordination	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

Strategy: Food Security

Strategy Description
 Improves the health and nutrition of children 5 and younger and their families. Distributes food boxes and basic necessity items to families in need of assistance who have children birth to 5 years old.

Strategy Narrative
 The Pinal Regional Partnership Council will support the Region’s families that have been impacted by the economic crisis by expanding access to nutritious food and providing resources and information that support the needs of families with children birth through age five. This strategy addresses coordination of local community resources in provision of basic childhood necessities.

The Regional Council recognizes that this strategy provides a short term impact to ensure children are not going hungry and is interested in observing the long term impact of preparing children to be healthy and ready for school. Current data provides only short term outcomes rather than long term impact.

Target Population Description 4,000 food boxes will be distributed to Pinal Regional families that are at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. This is less than 4.5 percent of this population.			
Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of food boxes distributed	4,000	4,000	*
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Food Security	\$200,000	\$200,000	*

*This strategy will discontinue in SFY 2015 due to decreased Carry Forward Funds.

Strategy: Family, Friends & Neighbors			
Strategy Description Funding to address lawful unregulated child care homes. The child care home providers will participate in an initial and post-training assessment using a recognized quality assessment tool (Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale, Revised Edition). The goal of this strategy is to improve the quality of care and education that children receive in unregulated child care homes.			
Strategy Narrative The Pinal Regional Partnership Council is responding to a critical need to improve the quality of care in lawful unregulated child care homes. The Regional Council recognizes that unregulated care is part of the early care and education system. National estimates suggest that as many as 60 percent of all children need child care due to parent’s employment and of these, as many as 50 percent of children ages 5 and under are cared for in home-based settings. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council understands the complexity of this issue and intends to improve the quality of lawful unregulated family homes and support moving to regulation as appropriate. The Regional Council has included additional funds to incorporate Community Based Professional Development into the FFN strategy. The current model provides in home services by using the mentoring process. The Regional Council felt that the inclusion of Community Based Professional Development would enhance the overall program as well as help reach those providers that are not ready for the in-home visit.			
Target Population Description 60 lawfully unregulated home providers / 120 lawfully unregulated home providers will receive Community Based Training. This will allow for 10-20 participants to participate in each of the Community Based Training sessions in 8 locations throughout the Pinal Region. The estimated reach from this strategy is approximately 10 percent of unregulated care provider within the Pinal Region.			
Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of home based providers served	60	60	60
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000

Strategy: FTF Professional REWARD\$			
Strategy Description Improves retention of early care and education teachers through financial incentives.			
Strategy Narrative High turnover of the early childhood workforce in the Pinal Region directly impacts the quality of care for children. FTF Professional REWARD\$ has been well received within the region and the early care and education community. This compensation and retention strategy acknowledges and rewards progressive education, educational attainment and commitment to continuous employment at a qualified early care and education setting. In SFY 2011, 37 incentive awards were distributed. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council has identified access to high quality early education programs as one on the highest priorities for the region. To address this need, the Council has implemented several strategies to address quality improvement; one of them being professional development to increase the educational qualifications of professionals in the region. The Regional Council recognizes the need to retain and keep highly qualified teachers and caregivers in the region and FTF Professional REWARD\$ has been identified as a complementary strategy and a component of the early childhood system. To that end, they have made the commitment to continue this strategy for the next three years.			
Target Population Description The target population for FTF Professional REWARD\$ is 37 early childhood professionals working in the field. The reach of this strategy is estimated at 20 percent of early childhood caregivers in the Pinal Region. The program has eligibility requirements for both the applicant and the applicant’s employer. The Pinal Regional Partnership Council is committed to spending the entire amount of designated funding. Costs were updated for SFY 2013 from an average award of \$2,350 to \$1,350. Through the recalculation of the average cost per incentive for fiscal year 2013, the target service numbers could possibly increase, yet the total funding will remain the same. In the past three years, the target service number has not been reached and funds remained unspent. As a result, funding levels were decreased to reflect a more accurate level of participation and funding.			
Target Service Units	Target Service Units	Target Service Units	Target Service Units
Number of incentive awards distributed	37	37	*
Funding Level	Funding Level	Funding Level	Funding Level
FTF Professional REWARD\$	\$50,000	\$50,000	*

*This strategy will discontinue in SFY 2015 due to decreased Carry Forward Funds.

Strategy: Mental Health Consultation			
Strategy Description			
<p>Early childhood mental health consultation (MHC) builds the capacity of early care and education providers to nurture the social-emotional development of young children, as well as to prevent, identify, and reduce the impact of mental health problems among children from birth to age 6 and their families.¹ MHC requires a collaborative relationship between a professional consultant who has mental health expertise and an early care and education professional. In program-focused mental health consultation the intent is to improve the overall quality of the classroom environment as well as to provide strategies to build early care and education staff capacity to address problem behaviors or organizational problems within the setting that may be affecting one or more of the children, families, or staff.</p>			
Strategy Narrative			
<p>This strategy is designed to improve the capacity of child care providers to support the healthy social-emotional development of children in their care. A mental health consultant works with educators to increase their knowledge of healthy development and enable them to identify challenging behaviors and employ techniques to address and resolve conflicts that develop due to challenging behaviors. The strategy addresses the Pinal Regional Partnership Council’s priority to increase access to health services by ensuring healthy social-emotional development in young children. Mental health consultants also aid in the growth of the early childhood system by acting as a liaison between early childhood educators and other community resources in the health community. If children are expressing a need that is outside the capacity of the educational setting, the consultant is able to provide referral services and educate the child care staff on how to talk with parents about their child’s behavior and what resources are available to them to address their child’s social-emotional development.</p> <p>This strategy is intended to serve children who are in a child care setting and who are expressing challenging behaviors that impact the function of classrooms. The mental health consultant observes both the entire classroom and individual children to help devise strategies for educators to better manage classroom dynamics and the behaviors and interactions of children in their care. The numbers of children and families selected is based on the mental health consultant strategy model and suggested target numbers identified as reasonable for one consultant. With the various other consulting models funded by the Regional Council and the difficulty child care settings often have in managing visits of multiple consultants, the Regional Council recognized that Quality First participants may not benefit from consulting services beyond what is offered in Quality First.</p>			
Target Population Description			
<p>The Pinal Regional Council is targeting 10 centers and 4 Homes, which allow for 2 consultants. This total is 10 percent of the total number of regulated centers and homes in the Pinal Region.</p>			
Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of home based providers served	4	4	4
Number of center based providers served	10	10	10
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Mental Health Consultation	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000

Strategy: Recruitment into Field			
Strategy Description			
<p>Recruitment into the Early Care and Education Field - Expand the number of new professionals entering the early care and education workforce. Scholarships will be made available to recent high school graduates and nontraditional students</p> <p>The Pinal Regional Partnership Council has identified a critical need to encourage new professionals into the field of early care and education. Currently programs in the region are unable to find substitutes, fill teacher vacancies, or find highly qualified staff. Major factors in the shortage of early care and education workforce are low compensation, lack of benefits, and the resulting high turnover rate. This issue is a recurring concern for the Pinal Regional Partnership Council because there is a lack of recruitment of highly qualified early care professionals. The Regional Council participated in several discussions with local early care and education stakeholders and found that there is a critical need for recruitment of new professional into the early care and education field.</p>			
Strategy Narrative			
<p>This strategy would expand the number of new professionals entering the early care and education workforce. Scholarships will be made available to recent high school graduates and nontraditional students (older students, career change, stay-at-home parents, and returning college students) that do not qualify for T.E.A.C.H. and Professional Career Pathways Project, because they are not currently employed in early care. Scholars will be required to volunteer a minimum of 3 hours a week at a Quality First Center. Early childhood education scholarships will pay for tuition, books, fees, materials, and supplies associated with the early care and education courses and the course activities only.</p>			
Target Population Description			
<p>The recruitment strategy targets recent high school graduates and nontraditional students that are not working in the early care and education field and do not qualify for T.E.A.C.H. and Professional Career Pathways Project because they are currently not employed in a child care home or center. This strategy will target a minimum of 15 full time students within the Pinal Region.</p>			
Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of participating professionals	15	15	*
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Recruitment into Field	\$75,000	\$75,000	*

*This strategy will discontinue in SFY 2015 due to decreased Carry Forward Funds.

Strategy: Scholarships non-TEACH			
Strategy Description			
<p>Professional Career Pathway Project - The Professional Career Pathway Project (PCPP) is a scholarship program offered at community colleges throughout Arizona for early childhood education classes. Limited funding is currently provided through the Arizona Department of Economic Security, Child Care Administration. To be eligible, individuals must be employed or volunteer in center-based programs, family child care provider homes, or family group homes. The program pays tuition and registration fees for specific courses in early childhood education, including those necessary for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, the Community College Certificate of Completion and the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Early Childhood Education.</p>			

Strategy Narrative
 This strategy will work together with the TEACH Scholarship strategy to support continued professional development in the regions’ early care and education profession. The Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP) had been identified as an additional scholarship model for implementation in this region. PCPP will support staff working, or volunteering, in early care and education programs towards the completion of coursework required for the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA), awarded by the National Office in Washington, D.C.

Target Population Description
 Target numbers are set at 60 scholars with an average of six credits per scholar. The funding level is based on recipients completing the necessary coursework for the Child Development Associate credential and covers the cost of the assessment. Funding levels were reduced from SFY2011 after a more accurate determination of the costs associated with tuition, assessment costs and mentoring the scholar during the CDA assessment process.

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of professionals receiving scholarships	60	60	*
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Scholarships non-TEACH	\$100,000	\$100,000	*

*This strategy will discontinue in SFY 2015 due to decreased Carry Forward Funds.

Strategy: Developmental and Sensory Screening

Strategy Description
 Increase children’s access to preventative health care by providing developmental, vision, and hearing screening, education and referral. Within the SFY 2013 the Regional Council would like to add the Developmental Screen to this strategy. This will benefit the efforts that are current in place as well as address one of the priorities needs that was identified by the Regional Council.

Strategy Narrative
 The Pinal Regional Partnership Council conducted several discussions with local stakeholders within the health care network and concluded that there is need to expand preventative health care for children ages 0-5 years. This strategy will provide a non-invasive vision, hearing, and dental screening, parent and/or child care provider education, and appropriate referral to local health providers.

Strategy Components:

- Screenings
- Parent/provider education
- Referrals

Vision Screening: Appropriate screening includes family/child history, visually examining the child’s eyes, and completing vision screening exercises. The screening process will recognize indications of visual problems, and children are referred for further evaluation or treatment as determined. For many children vision impairment is not detected until entry into elementary school. Hearing loss in children affects the development of their speech and communication, which affects their educational, vocational, and social outcomes.

Hearing Screening: Hearing screening programs must include regular consultation by an audiologist. The hearing screening will result in gross observation of a child’s hearing, providing a referral if needed.

The Regional Council would like to request the addition of the Development Screen to the current strategy. The Council feels that this component would enhance the current strategy as well as address several content identified needs within the Pinal Region.

Development Screenings: Through this strategy, developmental screening is made available to children birth through age five, with an emphasis on early identification of children birth-age three. Screening activities must align with current state systems, AzEIP and IDEA Part B administered through ADE. Screening is conducted in local, easy to access community locations, but not in isolation of the larger medical and educational community as a whole.

Target Population Description

This strategy addresses multiple target populations. Primarily the focus is on providing Sensory screenings and parent education to 5,000 children in the Pinal Region. Primarily the focus of the strategy is to reach 10 percent of this population in the Region. This strategy is intended to target all communities within the region with priority given to programs that will expand/implement services to the Ak-Chin Tribal Community.

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Total number of children screened for developmental delays	5,000*	5,000*	5,000*
Total number of children receiving vision screening	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total number of children receiving hearing screening	5,000	5,000	5,000
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Developmental and Sensory Screening	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

*New to the SFY 2013 funding plan.

Strategy: Oral Health

Strategy Description

Provides oral health screenings and fluoride varnish in a variety of community-based settings; provide training to families on the importance of oral health care for their children; and provide outreach to dentists to encourage service to children for a first dental visit by age one.

Strategy Narrative

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council identified oral health as a priority health need in the region. Available data shows that the region has a high incidence of untreated tooth decay (36 percent). Prevention of tooth decay requires regular oral health screenings, application of fluoride varnish, but also requires education of the adults who care for children and make health related decisions for them.

Target Population Description

This strategy addresses multiple target populations. Primarily the focus is on providing oral health screenings and fluoride varnish applications to 5,000 children in the Pinal Region, which is a total of 10 percent of this population in the Region.* In addition, this strategy provides oral health education to parents of children birth through five, early care and education professionals, and health care professionals and pregnant women.

This strategy universally targets all children birth through five in the Pinal Region regardless of income level, but gives priority to children from low income families.

*This calculation is based in the 2011 American Community Survey population numbers for the Pinal Region, Child 0-5 years old living in the County.

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Number of children receiving oral health screenings	5,000	5,000	5,000
Number of prenatal women/ adults receiving oral health screenings	250	250	250
Number of adults	2,000	2,000	2,000
Number of fluoride varnishes applied	2,500	2,500	2,500
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Oral Health Screening	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

Strategy: Community Awareness			
Strategy Description Uses a variety of community-based activities and materials to increase public awareness of the critical importance of early childhood development and health so that all Arizonans are actively engaged in supporting young kids in their communities.			
Strategy Narrative The Regional Council would like to move aggressively with the Awareness Campaign within the Pinal Region. The Council’s focus is on delivery of a clear and precise message on First Things First and with that in mind, the Council has decided that the following components will communicate our message most effectively within the Region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Posters - Children’s Books - Book Markers - Regional Brochures - Standup Banner - Pens, Pencils & Palm Cards <p>The Regional Council would like to increase funding for the Community Awareness strategy to assist in the additional outreach happening throughout the Region.</p>			
Target Population Description This is a universal strategy that targets the entire region.			
Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
No target service units identified for this strategy	-	-	-
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Community Awareness	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000

Strategy: Media			
Strategy Description Increases public awareness of the importance of early childhood development and health via a media campaign that draws viewers/listeners to the ReadyAZKids.com web site.			
Strategy Narrative Media efforts include purchasing television and radio spots, billboards, and other approved media buys. The Regional Council would like to move aggressively with the Media within the Pinal Region. The Regional Council's focus is on delivery of a clear and precise message on First Things First and with that in mind, the Council has decided that the following components will communicate our message most effectively within our region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Print Media: Newspapers and Newsletters - Broadcast: Local City/Town News Channels - Community Presentations: Local Government/School Boards/Parenting/Faith Groups - First Things First Billboards: 3-4 located near the highest traffic points within the region. - First Things First Cinema Announcement: 3 Locations in the region 			
Target Population Description This is a universal strategy that targets the entire region.			
Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
No target service units identified for this strategy	-	-	-
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Media	\$168,507	\$168,507	\$168,507

Strategy: Community Outreach			
Strategy Description Provides grassroots support and engagement to increase parent and community awareness of the importance of early childhood development and health.			
Strategy Narrative This strategy focuses on building awareness, knowledge and action across the Pinal region regarding early childhood through community outreach efforts such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentations to local organizations and community events - Organizing and conducting early childhood focused community meetings - Gathering and sharing stories related to the impact of FTF strategies/programs - Recruiting and retaining champions for early childhood education and health 			
Target Population Description The target population varies according to the implementation plan, but includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - K-12 Teachers/Administrators - Parents - Community/Business Leaders/Government Official - Women's Organizations 			

Target Service Units	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
No target service units identified for this strategy	-	-	-
Funding Level	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Community Outreach	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$84,000

Strategy: Statewide Evaluation

Strategy Description
 Statewide Evaluation includes the studies and evaluation work which inform the FTF Board and the 31 Regional Partnership Councils. Examples include: the baseline Needs and Assets reports, specific focused studies, and statewide research and evaluation on the developing early childhood system.

Strategy Narrative
 First Things First has, and is growing, a multi-level system of research and evaluation strategies designed to be responsive to the informational needs of varied stakeholder groups, including the First Things First Board, Regional Partnership Councils, and Arizona citizens. The research and evaluation system is designed to provide both depth and breadth of high quality information, from collecting programmatic data to evaluating the overall impact of the First Things First Early Childhood System model. The system provides a framework for conducting statewide and regional studies centered on identifying current and changing needs of families and children birth to five, and the impact of programs and strategies across all First Things First priority areas. The First Things First research and evaluation system is a knowledge building system, designed to advance the understanding of needs, activities, and effectiveness. Individually and collectively, research and evaluation strategies generate data and findings which can be used to identify trends and changes in school readiness indicators and therefore to support strategic planning and decision-making which promotes the health and well-being of young children.

Target Service Units	SFY 13	SFY 14	SFY 15
No target service units identified for this strategy	-	-	-
Funding Level	SFY 13	SFY 14	SFY 15
Statewide Evaluation	\$174,103	\$174,103	\$174,103

Section III D. Proposed Funding Summary



SFY 2013 - 2015 Regional Partnership Council Budget
Pinal
Funding Plan Summary

Allocations and Funding Sources	2013	2014	2015
FY Allocation	\$5,075,390	\$5,085,540	\$5,104,611
Population Based Allocation	\$3,485,249		
Discretionary Allocation	\$802,494		
Other (FTF Fund balance addition)	\$787,647	\$5,085,540	\$5,104,611
Carry Forward From Previous Year	\$3,493,139	\$2,514,647	\$1,546,305
Total Regional Council Funds Available	\$8,568,529	\$7,600,187	\$6,650,916
Strategies	Proposed Allotment	Proposed Allotment	Proposed Allotment
Quality First	\$709,127	\$709,127	\$709,127
Scholarships TEACH	-	-	-
Child Care Health Consultation	\$181,440	\$181,440	\$181,440
Quality First Child Care Scholarships	\$1,413,705	\$1,413,705	\$1,413,705
Service Coordination	\$158,000	\$158,000	\$158,000
Home Visitation	\$1,150,000	\$1,150,000	\$1,150,000
Parent Education Community-Based Literacy	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Food Security	\$200,000	\$200,000	-
Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000
FTF Professional REWARD\$	\$50,000	\$50,000	-
Mental Health Consultation	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
Recruitment into Field	\$75,000	\$75,000	-
Scholarships non-TEACH	\$100,000	\$100,000	-
Developmental and Sensory Screening	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Oral Health	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Community Awareness	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Media	\$168,507	\$168,507	\$168,507
Community Outreach	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$84,000
Statewide Evaluation	\$174,103	\$174,103	\$174,103
Proposed Allotment Total:	\$6,053,882	\$6,053,882	\$5,628,882
Total Unallotted	\$2,514,647	\$1,546,305	\$1,022,034