FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
2011 FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation 2011: $639,307
Carry Forward from 2010: $0
Funding Available for Allocation in 2011: $639,307

Prioritized Needs	Goal Area	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Limited access to high quality early care and education programs and settings that provide an individualized continuum of support.	Quality, Access, and Affordability	Strategy 1 Expansion of Head Start programs	$250,000	Recommend Approval
Limited access to high quality affordable early care and education programs and settings that provide an individualized continuum of support.	Quality, Access, and Affordability	Strategy 2 Quality First	$72,940	Recommend Approval
Limited knowledge of and access to existing comprehensive family education and support services.	Family Support	Strategy 3 Resource Guide	$15,000	Recommend Approval
Limited knowledge of and access to comprehensive family education and support services for children birth through age 5, especially in remote communities. Lack of public understanding about importance of early childhood development and health.	Family Support	Strategy 4 Child Development and Health Advocate positions	$147,241	Recommend Approval
Lack of highly qualified professionals to serve all children birth through age five.	Professional Development	Strategy 5 T.E.A.C.H.	$58,800	Recommend Approval
		Subtotal of Expenditures	$543,981	
		Fund Balance	$95,326	
		Grand Total	$639,307	

Tohono O'odham Nation Summary Financial Chart SFY 2010-2012

Revenue	SFY 2010	SFY 2011	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
FTF Total Allocation for the SFY	$407,384	$639,307	$639,307	$1,685,998
Fund Balance (carry forward from previous SFY)	N/A	$0	$95,326	
Total Available Funds			$734,633	
Strategies	**SFY 2010** OBLIGATED	**SFY 2011** PROPOSED	**SFY 2012** ESTIMATED	**Total**
1 Expansion of Head Start programs	$158,508	$250,000	$250,000	$658,508
2 Quality First	$50,135	$72,940	$72,940	$196,015
3 Resource Guide	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$45,000
4 Child Development and Health Advocate positions	$147,242	$147,241	$147,241	$441,724
5 T.E.A.C.H.	$33,536	$58,800	$58,800	$151,136
Emergency Food Boxes	$2,963	$0	$0	$2,963
Emergency Scholarships	$0	$0	$0	$0
Communication	$0	$0	$0	$0
Needs and Assets	$0	$0	$0	$0
Evaluation	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subtotal Expenditures	$407,384	$543,981	$543,981	$1,495,346
Fund Balance (carry forward)	$0	$95,326	$190,652	
Total	$407,384	$639,307	$734,633	

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
FUNDING PLAN
SFY 2011: July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

I. Regional Allocation

Regional Allocation	SFY 2010	SFY 2011
Population Based Allocation	$276,612	$401,382
Discretionary: Baseline Adjustment	$0	$0
Discretionary: Frontier Community	$58,508	$138,780
Other Discretionary: Emergency Child Care Scholarships	$69,301	
Other Discretionary: Emergency Food Support	$2,963	
Other Discretionary: 2011		$99,146
Other Income		
Total Income	$407,384	$639,307

II. SFY 2010 Funding Plan Progress Report

A. The table below provides a summary of the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council's prioritized needs, goals, key measures, and strategies for the SFY 2010 funding plan.

Identified Need	Goal	Key Measures	Strategy Name and Description	Target Service Numbers and Geographic Service Area
Limited access to high quality early care and education programs and settings that provide an individualized continuum of support.	1. FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings. 3. FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.	Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs Total number and percentage of early care and education providers Total number of children eligible and total number of available slots, proportional to the total population birth to age five	**Strategy 1: Expansion of Head Start programs** Expand existing early education programs and services that are already proving to be effective on the Nation by expanding Head Start slots and by providing funding to supplement enrollment of children who do not meet the Federal eligibility criteria.	**Target Service Numbers** = 30 total Head Start slots distributed as follows: 10 Gu Vo/Pisinemo Center 10 San Xavier Center 10 San Lucy Center **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639
Limited access to high quality affordable early care and education programs and settings that provide an individualized continuum of support.	1. FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings.	Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs participating in QIRS system Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system	**Strategy 2: Quality First** Expand the number of early care and education centers/homes on Tohono O'odham Nation participating in Quality First beyond those funded through the statewide initiative.	**Target Service Numbers** = 1 Child care center, 1 family home or group home provider **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639

Limited knowledge of and access to existing comprehensive family education and support services.	15. FTF will expand public awareness of, and financial and political support for, early childhood development and health efforts in Arizona.	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being	**Strategy 3: Resource Guide** Create a Tohono O'odham Nation Early Education and Health publication/resource guide, listing programs' contact information and services, as well as providing general information on early childhood education and health and their benefits related to school readiness.	**Target Service Numbers** = 3000 guides **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639
Limited knowledge of and access to comprehensive family education and support services for children birth through age 5, especially in remote communities. Lack of public understanding about importance of early childhood development and health.	11. FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development. 12. FTF will increase the availability, quality, and diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families.	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the level of coordination and communication among agencies serving their children Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children or giving oral stories daily in their primary language	**Strategy 4: Child Development and Health Advocate positions** Create a Child Development and Health Advocate position to educate families, the community, businesses, and government about the importance of early childhood development and health. Utilize home visits to educate parents and families about early childhood development and health, support families in advocating for their children's needs, and disseminate the Tohono O'odham Nation Early Childhood Development and Health Guide.	**Target Service Numbers** = 40 total families, 20 families per Advocate **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639

Lack of highly qualified professionals to serve all children birth through age five.	8. FTF will build a skilled and well prepared early childhood development workforce.	Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education settings with a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development on the Nation Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education who are pursuing a credential, certificate, or degree Retention rates of early childhood development and health professionals on the Nation	**Strategy 5: T.E.A.C.H.** Collaborate with the South Pima Regional Partnership Council through a partnership that will make available 2 additional T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arizona scholarships for the Tohono O'odham Nation region, beyond those provided through participation in Quality First and the 3 funded by the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council for a total of 5. Provide financial support to 5 students participating in T.E.A.C.H. for mileage and child care.	**Target Service Numbers:** 2 T.E.A.C.H. scholarships for the Tohono O'odham Nation early childhood educators, beyond those provided through participation in Quality First. **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639
Statewide - economic and employment recession	11. FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.	Percentage of families with children zero through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being	**Emergency Food Boxes**	**Target Service Numbers:** 133 food boxes **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639

B. 1) Budget Summary, 2010 Funding Plan

SFY 2010 BUDGET	SFY 2010 CURRENT	Obligated in SFY 2010	Unobligated in SFY 2010
TOTAL REVENUE	$407,384	$407,384	$0
Strategies	SFY 2010	SFY 2010	SFY 2010
1 Expansion of Head Start programs	$158,508	$158,508	$0
2 Quality First	$50,135	$50,135	$0
3 Resource Guide	$15,000	$15,000	$0
4 Child Development and Health Advocate positions	$147,242	$147,242	$0
5 T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arizona	$33,536	$33,536	$0
Emergency Food Boxes*	$2,963	$2,963	$0
Emergency Child Care*	$0	$0	$0
Communication	$0	$0	$0
Needs and Assets	$0	$0	$0
Evaluation	$0	$0	$0
Subtotal	$407,384	$407,384	$0
Fund Balance/Carry Forward	$0		$0
Total	$407,384	$407,384	
Carry Forward Plus Unobligated - available for 2011 funding plan			$0

2) Progress with SFY 2010 Funding Plan

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
#	**Strategy Name**	**Description**	**Regional Allocation**	**Target Service Numbers**	**Awards Made**	**Service Numbers**	**Status/Notes**
1	Expansion of Head Start programs	Expand existing early education programs and services that are already proving to be effective on the Nation by expanding Head Start slots and by providing funding to supplement enrollment of children who do not meet the Federal eligibility criteria.	**$158,508**	**Target Service Numbers** = 30 total Head Start slots distributed as follows: 10 Gu Vo/Pisinemo Center 10 San Xavier Center 10 San Lucy Center	Awaiting completion of Government to Government Agreement	Pending	Awaiting completion of Government to Government Agreement, under review by the Nation's Attorney General Originally $150,000-increased by $8,508, by moving funds from Frontier Allocation Approved by Regional Council at May 2009 meeting
2	Quality First	Build on the state-wide investments and expand the number of programs participating.	**$50,135**	2 centers, 3 homes Target Zip codes: 85634, 85639	FTF Statewide Initiative	2 centers, 0 home	2 centers awarded 0 homes awarded 2 homes pending confirmation
3	Resource Guide	Create a Tohono O'odham Nation Early Education and Health publication/resource	**$15,000**	3000 guides	Awaiting release of request for procurement	Pending	Awaiting release of request for procurement

		guide, listing programs' contact information and services, as well as providing general information on early childhood education and health and their benefits related to school readiness.					
4	Child Development and Health Advocate positions	Create Child Development and Health Advocate positions to educate families, the community, businesses, and government about the importance of early childhood development and health. Utilize home visits to educate parents and families about early childhood development and health, support families in advocating for their children's needs, and disseminate the Tohono O'odham Nation Early Childhood Development and Health Guide.	**$147,242**	40 families Target Zip codes: 85634, 85639	Awaiting completion of Government to Government Agreement	Pending	Awaiting completion of Government to Government Agreement, under review by the Nation's Attorney General Originally $102,941- increased by $44,301 by moving funds from Emergency Child Care Scholarships Approved by Regional Council at September 2009 meeting

5	T.E.A.C.H.	Collaborate with the South Pima Regional Partnership Council through a partnership that will make available 2 additional T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arizona scholarships for the Tohono O'odham Nation region, beyond 3 regionally funded scholars and those provided through participation in Quality First. Provide financial support to 2 students participating in T.E.A.C.H. for mileage and childcare.	**$33,536**	3 regionally funded scholars, 2 funded by the South Pima Regional Partnership Council, 5 total scholars	Hiring of appropriate instructional staff at Tohono O'odham Community College to support the Early Education degree program is in process to facilitate students for the Spring 2010 semester	Pending	Originally $8,536-increased by $25,000 by moving funds from Emergency Child Care Scholarships. Approved by Regional Council at September meeting Full utilization of all scholarships expected for the Spring 2010 semester
	Emergency Food Boxes		**$2,963**	**Target Service Numbers:** 133 food boxes **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639	Awaiting completion of Government to Government Agreement	Pending	Awaiting completion of Government to Government Agreement

III. SFY 2011 Funding Plan

A. Prioritized Needs:

The Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council recognizes the strife that families with young children are enduring given the Tohono O'odham Nation and State's current economic health. Even with the stress that the greater economy has caused, the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council has determined that the Prioritized Needs from SFY 2010 are relevant and hold true for SFY 2011. The Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Prioritized Needs for SFY 2011 are as follows:

1. Access to affordable quality early care and education
2. Access to quality early care and education
3. Educate families and community members who do not always understand the significance of early childhood development and health in a child's life that prepares them for school success
4. Coordinate existing family support systems
5. Provide opportunities for the birth through age five workforce to access professional development

B. Goals, Key Measures, and Strategies: Include in the table below the prioritized needs, goals, key measures, and strategies for SFY 2011.

Identified Need	Goal	Key Measures	Strategy Name and Description	Targeted Service Numbers and Geographic Service Area
1. Access to affordable quality early care and education	1. FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings. 3. FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.	Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs Total number and percentage of early care and education providers Total number of children eligible and total number of available slots, proportional to the total population birth through age five	**Strategy 1: Expansion of Head Start programs** Expand existing early education programs and services that are already proving to be effective on the Nation by expanding Head Start slots and by providing funding to supplement enrollment of children outside the Federal eligibility criteria. For example, a family with household income above the Federal eligibility criteria would be able to access First Things First funded slots.	**Target Service Numbers** = 42 total Head Start slots distributed as follows: 14 Gu Vo/Pisinemo Center 14 San Xavier Center 14 San Lucy Center **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639
2. Access to quality early care and education	1. FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings.	Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs	**Strategy 2: Quality First** Expand the number of early care and education centers/homes on Tohono O'odham Nation	**Target Service Numbers=** 2 Child care centers and 3 family home or group home

		participating in QIRS system Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system	participating in Quality First beyond those funded through the statewide initiative.	providers **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639
3. Educate families and community members who do not always understand the significance of early childhood development and health in a child life that prepares them for school success	15. FTF will expand public awareness of, and financial and political support for, early childhood development and health efforts in Arizona.	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being	**Strategy 3: Resource Guide** Create a Tohono O'odham Nation Early Education and Health publication/resource guide, listing programs' contact information and services, as well as providing general information on early childhood education and health and their benefits related to school readiness.	**Target Service Numbers** = 3000 guides **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639
4. Coordinate existing family support systems	11. FTF will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse, and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.	Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the level of coordination and	**Strategy 4: Child Development and Health Advocate positions** Create a Child Development and Health Advocate position to educate families, the community, businesses, and	**Target Service Numbers** = 40 families **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639

	12. FTF will increase the availability, quality, and diversity of relevant resources that support language and literacy development for young children and their families.	communication among agencies serving their children Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health, and well-being Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report reading to their children or giving oral stories daily in their primary language	government about the importance of early childhood development and health. Utilize home visits to educate parents and families about early childhood development and health, support families in advocating for their children's needs, and disseminate the Tohono O'odham Nation Early Childhood Development and Health Guide.	

5. Provide opportunities for the birth through five workforce to access professional development	8. FTF will build a skilled and well prepared early childhood development workforce.	Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education settings with a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development on the Nation Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education who are pursuing a credential, certificate, or degree Retention rates of early childhood development and health professionals on the Nation	**Strategy 5: T.E.A.C.H.** Collaborate with the South Pima Regional Partnership Council through a partnership that will make available 2 additional T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arizona scholarships for the Tohono O'odham Nation Region, beyond those provided through participation in Quality First and the 3 funded by the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council for a total of 5. Provide financial support to 5 students participating in T.E.A.C.H. for mileage and child care.	**Target Service Numbers:** 9 T.E.A.C.H. scholarships for the Tohono O'odham Nation early childhood educators, beyond those provided through participation in Quality First. Two funded by the South Pima Regional Partnership Council, 7 funded by the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership council **Target Zip codes:** 85634, 85639

C. New Strategies

The Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council has determined that no new strategies will be pursued at this time.

D. Summary Financial Chart SFY 2010-2012

Revenue	SFY 2010	SFY 2011	SFY 2012 ESTIMATED	Total
FTF Total Alloction for the SFY	$407,384	$639,307	$639,307	$1,685,998
Fund Balance (carry forward from previous SFY)	N/A	$0	$95,326	
Total Available Funds			$734,633	
Strategies	**SFY 2010** OBLIGATED	**SFY 2011** PROPOSED	**SFY 2012** ESTIMATED	**Total**
1 Expansion of Head Start programs	$158,508	$250,000	$250,000	$658,508
2 Quality First	$50,135	$72,940	$72,940	$196,015
3 Resource Guide	$15,000	$15,000	$15,000	$45,000
4 Child Development and Health Advocate positions	$147,242	$147,241	$147,241	$441,724
5 T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Arizona	$33,536	$58,800	$58,800	$151,136
Emergency Food Boxes	$2,963	$0	$0	$2,963
Emergency Scholarships	$0	$0	$0	$0
Communication	$0	$0	$0	$0
Needs and Assets	$0	$0	$0	$0
Evaluation	$0	$0	$0	$0
Subtotal Expenditures	$407,384	$543,981	$543,981	$1,495,346
Fund Balance (carry forward)	$0	$95,326	$190,652	
Total	$407,384	$639,307	$734,633	

E. Explanation for each strategy which has funding level changes from prior year.

Strategy Name	Previous Funding Amount (SFY 2010)	New Funding Amount (SFY 2011)	Rationale for Change in Funding
Strategy 1: Expansion of Head Start slots	$158,508	$250,000	The increase addresses the continuing need to improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings. The additional allocation will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings by adding 12 Head Start slots for a total of 42.
Strategy 2: Quality First	$50,135	$72,940	The increase is in response to all of the SFY 2010 slots being utilized. The increase in funding makes available 2 additional slots for centers and 3 for family home or group home providers.
Strategy 5: T.E.A.C.H.	$33,536	$58,800	The increase will serve 9 Associate of Arts scholars, up from a total of 5. Two of 9 will continue to be funded by South Pima RPC. The funding of these scholarships will allow the Nation's Early Childhood Education Department to move continuing education dollars to direct services to providers able to pursue educational advancement.
Fund Balance	$0	$95,326	The Regional Partnership Council determined funds should be held in carry forward to enable the Council to respond to unforeseen needs or increased costs of current strategies.

IV. System Impact

Background

The Regional Partnership Council worked to identify the needs of the community where they could most positively affect change. Understanding that the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council does not operate independently, the Regional Council has established working relationships with the Tohono O'odham Nation's Executive and Legislative Branches, Education Department, Head Start, Early Education Services, Community College, Special Services, Indian Health Services, U.S. Census, South Pima Regional Partnership Council, and community service providers and businesses. The alliances formed by Regional Partnership Council are a necessity in maximizing the impact of and amount of services available to the children and families of the Tohono O'odham Nation. The identification of the roles and responsibilities of partners has increased efficiency through collective problem solving, sharing of information, resources, and assets. The Regional Partnership Council will futher develop its position as the conduit uniting community partners in increasing opportunities for the children and families of the Nation.

During the SFY 2011 strategic funding planning process, the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council reaffirmed the prioritized needs of the Tohono O'odham Nation's children ages birth through five. The health and educational services available on the Tohono O'odham Nation are considerable but delivery suffers from geographical fragmentation which impairs access. Members of the Tohono O'odham Nation who reside in areas where services are available or have access to transportation enjoy significant advantages in awareness and ability to procure local, state, and Federal programs or services. Outlying areas—the communities comprising the noncontiguous and Western portions of the Nation—prove to have persistent challenges of logistics, capability, and capacity in the delivery of services.

The Regional Partnership Council operated with the understanding that current funding levels will not allow every family within the target populations to be reached. In wanting to reach the most underserved areas while considering the needs of the entire Nation, the Regional Partnership Council had to make difficult decisions in determining where the funds will have the most effect. The process of developing the SFY 2011 funding plan assisted the Regional Partnership Council in developing a realistic view of how many children and families they can serve with the allotted funds.

Access for all Children & Families

There are scores of needs that could be addressed by the Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Partnership Council if greater funding was made available. Relying on the 2008 Regional Needs and Assets Report, SFY 2010 funding plan, input from community members, reference to explicit individual knowledge, expertise, and experience, the Regional Partnership Council has focused service delivery on access to services and supports for all children and families. In the absence of a dramatic increase in financing or overwhelming need, the strategic direction of the Regional Partnership Council strategies will continue to focus on universal services as the first level of system development in changing outcomes for children ages birth through five.

The health and educational services available on the Tohono O'odham Nation are considerable, but delivery suffers from a lack of user-savvy and geographical fragmentation which often limits access. The Child Development and Health Advocate will be the conduit between the services and the client, providing

culturally appropriate consultation and invaluable feedback to improve system performance. The Child Development and Health Advocate will utilize the Tohono O'odham Nation Early Childhood Development and Health Resource Guide and Arizona Parent Kit to educate families, the community, businesses, and local representatives about the importance of early childhood development and health.

The Regional Partnership Council understands the confusion that families of children ages birth through five face when navigating and enrolling for the services available to them. A family that desires to enroll their child in Head Start will have to make contact and collect information from multiple agencies to complete registration. The Tohono O'odham Nation Early Childhood Development and Health Resource Guide will empower families with first-hand access to information. The guide will provide families with an annual single source of information intended to guide them through the existing services and how to obtain them for the Nation's youngest citizens. The guide will serve as an educational resource that will enhance the impact of the Arizona Parent Kit received at birth and the services provided by the Child Development and Health Advocates.

The Regional Partnership Council recognized the need to continue expansion of, and increase the availability of, preschool experiences through Head Start. The growth in federally funded slots will be maximized by using First Things First funding to create Head Start-compliant environments, increasing awareness of program availability through the resource guide and the work of the Child Development and Health Advocates. The 42 additional slots represent a 19.5% increase beyond the 215 federally funded that are currently available. As more federally funded spaces are made available, First Things First funds will continue to be utilized by families that do not meet the Federal guidelines for subsidized Head Start.

Improving Quality

The Regional Partnership Council, in collaboration with the South Pima Regional Partnership Council, wants to ensure that all early care and education staff are well-educated, qualified, and have access to higher academic attainment. The Early Childhood Education Department has required that all providers complete a post-secondary degree in early childhood education or development. In turn, the response by providers to both of these opportunities has encouraged the Tohono O'odham Community College to fully staff their Early Childhood Education degree program.

The Regional Partnership Council, in the spirit of prudent fiscal planning, determined that funds should be held in carryover to provide a financial cushion for current strategies and resources for contingency options. The lack of programmatic performance data raised concern that the true cost of strategies might be greater than expected.

Coordination and Collaboration

The Regional Partnership Council will continue to reach out and connect system partners with the goal of seamless access and delivery of services for the families of the Nation. The Nation's Executive and Legislative Branches have publicly supported the Regional Partnership Council by communicating to elected officials the importance of system building to O'odham families and children. The Nation's Education Department has embraced the work of the Regional Partnership Council by providing access to staff and invaluable systematic input. The interaction with the Tohono O'odham Community College has spurred the full staffing of the institution's Early Childhood Education degree program in order to support T.E.A.C.H. scholars. In

bringing about positive changes, communications with the Nation's Special Services Department assisted them in correcting service deficiencies and facilitated the development of transportation resources with the Pima Association of Governments. Engagement of Indian Health Services has given First Things First a seat at the table in addressing health care demands and the service delivery obstacles facing the Nation. The partnership with the U.S. Census supplied collateral outreach items, procured through a local O'odham-owned business, with the goal of increasing participation and understanding of the use of census data. The bolstering of T.E.A.C.H. by the South Pima Regional Partnership Council displays comprehension of the level of teamwork required to shift element for professionals in the field through cross-regional coordination.

Members from each of the Southeast Area Regional Councils are engaging in discussion regarding how they might be deliberate about coordination, particularly related to needs and assets, evaluation, communications, and regional strategies as appropriate. Council members from each region met twice in 2010, including one meeting with a consultant to focus on overall goals of coordination activities, and to determine how the Councils can work together as strategies continue to be implemented.

The Southeast area also houses a graduate intern through a partnership/collaboration between First Things First and United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona. The Community Networking Coordinator's primary responsibilities include the following tasks: research community activities associated with early childhood education and health services; create and keep current an ongoing community activities matrix; work to build a regional early education and health services information system; and collect, format, and share qualitative stories from First Things First partners/grantees. The Regional Partnership Council is confident that the SFY 2011 funding plan is the best use of available funds, addresses prioritized needs, facilitates system building, and increases opportunities changing outcomes for O'odham children birth through five.