

YAVAPAI REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL
Revised Strategy
April 2009

Attachment #3c

Strategy #14: Provide up to \$250,000 to NACOG – Head Start to purchase a permanent facility in Chino Valley, contingent upon evidence of a 50% match of funding, for the provision of Head Start services.

Background: Head Start has been providing services in Chino Valley for approximately 15 years. Their program has grown from a 10 child home-based enrollment to its current program, serving 78 children. For five consecutive years Head Start has maintained full enrollment and had a waiting list of 40 to 50 children.

Since 2000, Chino Valley's population has grown 38.3 percent (from 7,835 to 10,838) making it the second fastest growing community in the Yavapai Region. It is estimated that approximately 700 children under the age of five live in Chino Valley. A 2003 Community Health Profile completed by the Arizona Department of Health Services indicates that a greater percent of residents in Chino Valley live in poverty (15.1 percent) with income less than 100% of FPL than in any other community in the region. Over 40 percent of the population has an income that is below 200% of the FPL.

Maintaining and expanding services in Chino Valley is among the priority issues facing NACOG – Head Start, which serves Navajo, Apache, Coconino and Yavapai Counties. In addition to addressing the growing demand for services due to population growth and poverty levels, NACOG – Head Start is faced with relocating the Chino Valley services. The lease on the Chino Valley Head Start facility expires May 31, 2009 and Head Start has been asked to vacate the building. Chino Valley Head Start has been housed in space donated by the Town of Chino Valley at two different locations for nearly 11 years. Both buildings were constructed with Community Development Block Grant funds in which NACOG - Head Start and the Town collaborated. However, in both cases, the Town notified Head Start that they would need to vacate the building as soon as the required five-year occupancy period was completed.

Since the fall of 2008, Head Start has researched and viewed countless buildings and negotiated potential space with over 20 resources. The few spaces that were found that might be able to house their program without major renovation were only able to do so for a limited amount of time. During this process, a number of community partners have come forward and identified a willingness to help Head Start with in-kind support or small donations. These partners include Yavapai College, Yavapai County and individual donors. However, all efforts have failed to identify a new facility. As a result, Head Start began considering relocating all or some of Chino Valley's enrollment slots to other communities.

There are a total of 78 regulated programs in the entire Yavapai region. Only four regulated early care and education programs, serving a total of 272 children, operate in Chino Valley. Head Start's 78 enrollment slots represent 29 percent of the total childcare capacity in Chino Valley.

The optimum solution for Head Start services in Chino Valley, one that provides long-term stability, is

the purchase of a permanent facility that has the capacity for future expansion.

Strategy: Assist NACOG – Head Start purchase a building in Chino Valley that can accommodate the current enrollment of 78 children and has the capacity for future expansion.

Head Start has identified a building that would require minimal renovations to meet licensure requirements. The building, a former charter school facility, is approximately 3,400 square feet and is on 2.9 acres of property. The original list price was \$699,000. Head Start has provided a Letter of Interest to the seller indicating a sales price of \$499,000. If accepted by the seller, NACOG – Head Start will have a Tentative Agreement, which includes a 45 day discovery period during which they will obtain a formal appraisal and appropriate inspections and have the option of cancelling the agreement if there are any adverse findings. The cost of minor renovations, required for licensure, will be determined during the discovery period. At this time, the only renovations that have been identified are the addition of hand wash sinks in two restrooms, development of the playground area (all playground equipment will be moved from the current location) and the development of a food preparation area (all equipment will be moved from the current location). NACOG – Head Start, along with community partners who have offered to assist, will pay all costs associated with these renovations.

The Yavapai Regional Partnership Council approved providing up to \$250,000 for the building purchase contingent upon evidence of a 50% match. At this time, NACOG - Head Start has \$125,000 in their current budget which they will put toward the Chino Vally building purchase. They have submitted an application to Region IX Head Start, requesting an additional \$125,000 in federal Head Start funding for the purchase. Region IX Head Start has indicated an interest in the proposal, and will consider funding up to a maximum of 25% of the purchase price. The request for federal funding is going directly to Region IX for consideration out of their existing funds and is not being submitted as a request under federal stimulus funding because of the expedited nature of this purchase. In the event NACOG – Head Start does not receive federal Head Start funding, they are prepared to seek financing for the remaining \$125,000.

NACOG – Head Start will be responsible for all costs associated with program operations, including staff salaries, supplies, utilities and building maintenance. The current budget for NACOG – Head Start includes funding to support program delivery for 78 children in Chino Valley. The funding is stable and will cover ongoing services at this level. Having a permanent building, with room for expansion, provides NACOG – Head Start with the opportunity to plan for future program growth. As the opportunity arises, NACOG - Head Start can participate in competitive grant opportunities through District IX Head Start that will allow them to serve more children in Chino Valley and its surrounding communities. All future costs of building expansion and program operations will be the responsibility of Head Start.

It is proposed that NACOG – Head Start own the property. If, at some future date, the property is no longer used as a Head Start facility, it will be sold, with an agreed upon percentage of the proceeds being returned to First Things First.

The Yavapai Regional Partnership feels that maintaining and stabilizing Head Start services in Chino Valley is an important investment in the early childhood system in our region.

Lead Goal: #1: FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings.

Goal: #3: FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.

Key Measures:			
Total number of children enrolled and vacancies in regulated early care and education programs as a proportion of total population birth to age five			
Total number and percentage of public and private partners' who report they are satisfied with the extent and quality of coordination between public, private, and tribal systems			
Target Population (Description of the population to reach):			
Low income children, living in Chino Valley, who are eligible to receive Head Start services			
Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	NACOG – Head Start will purchase one facility in Chino Valley to provide Head Start services to at least 78 low-income children.	n/a	n/a
Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Number of permanent Head Start facilities in Chino Valley / proposed number Number of low income children in Chino Valley receiving Head Start services / proposed service number. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists: This strategy provides support to Head Start, a nationally-recognized, evidence-based early care and education program that has been providing services in Chino Valley for the last 11 years. Through this strategy, established services for 78 children will be maintained. Purchase of a permanent building, with property, provides Head Start with the opportunity to plan for future program growth. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment: Implementation of this strategy requires collaboration between the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council and NACOG – Head Start, who will provide a 50% funding match. NACOG – Head Start has also identified community partners who may be called upon to provide support for minor costs associated with building renovation. 			
SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy (How much of the total allocation will go to this strategy)			
Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$250,000		
Budget Justification:			
50% of the cost of an early child care facility, contingent upon a 50% match by NACOG – Head Start			