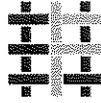


Yuma



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YUMA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL FUNDING PLAN SUMMARY

Regional Allocation: \$5,684,715

Allocation includes population and discretionary (community frontier and emergency response) allocations

Prioritized Needs	Proposed Strategies	Portion of Regional Allocation	Recommendation to the Board
Critical shortage of therapeutic services for children identified with special needs	Strategy 1 – Increase access for therapeutic services – Incentives for therapists	\$187,500	Approved 12/08
Limited capacity of qualified early childhood education workforce to address the needs of children identified with special needs	Strategy 2 – Increase capacity of qualified early childhood education workforce to address the needs of children with special needs—Technical Assistance & Training for early care and education providers	\$231,000	Approved 12/08
Lack of awareness of eligibility and access procedures to obtain services for children identified with special needs	Strategy 3 – Assist families in accessing services for their children, from birth through five, identified with special needs	\$201,711	Approved 12/08
Limited training and loss of a well educated and prepared Early Childhood Development and Health workforce	Strategy 4 – Provide for a well educated and prepared early childhood development and health (ECDH) workforce through TEACH.	\$152,400	Approved 12/08
Limited continuing education availability for a well educated and prepared Early Childhood Development and Health workforce	Strategy 5 – Expand continuing education for a well educated and prepared early childhood development and health (ECDH) workforce.	\$110,000	Approved 12/08
Lack of current information on early childhood development and health for parents	Strategy 7 – Increase parent awareness and education of early childhood development and health, with an emphasis on brain development, through the utilization of the Arizona Parent Kits and Brain Boxes.	\$741,586	Approved 12/08
Lack of access to and awareness of importance of early prenatal care	Strategy 8 – Increase access to and awareness of importance of early prenatal care.	\$261,318	Approved 12/08

Limited center based enrollment opportunities for school readiness preparation of children entering kindergarten	Strategy 9 – Increase center based enrollment opportunities for school readiness preparation of children entering kindergarten.	\$650,600	Approved 12/08
Limited home based enrollment opportunities for school readiness preparation of children entering kindergarten	Strategy 10 – Increase home based enrollment opportunities for school readiness preparation of children entering kindergarten.	\$45,500	Approved 12/08
Limited knowledge and information about the importance of investing in early childhood development and health	Strategy 11 – Increase knowledge of the importance of investing in early childhood development and health through communications campaign.	\$208,000	HOLD
Supporting families facing financial hardship	Emergency Response: Food Boxes	\$24,000	Approved 2/09
Supporting families facing financial hardship	Emergency Response: Child Care Scholarships	\$936,276	Approved 2/09
Supporting families facing financial hardship	Emergency Response: Expedited Home Visiting	\$727,935	Approved 2/09
Improve quality of early care and education programs	New Strategy: Quality First!	\$325,875	Recommend Approval 8/09
Improve quality of early care and education programs	New Strategy: Child Care Health Consultation	\$202,000	Recommend Approval 8/09
Limited training and loss of a well educated and prepared Early Childhood Development and Health workforce	New Strategy: Professional Career Pathways Program (scholarships for early care and education teachers not eligible for TEACH)	\$77,000	Recommend Approval 8/09
	Monitoring & Evaluation	\$30,000	HOLD
	Regional Needs & Assets	\$25,000	HOLD
	Subtotal of Expenditures	\$5,137,701	
	Fund Balance	\$547,014	
	Grand Total	\$5,684,715	



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July 29, 2009

RE: Yuma Regional Partnership Strategy 13 – Expand Quality First

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board,

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council is presenting a Quality First strategy for your consideration. The strategy is an addition to our original Funding Plan approved on January 27, 2009.

Quality First is being implemented throughout the state of Arizona to ensure all children have access to high quality care imperative for their positive growth and development. Yuma County currently has 57 licensed child care centers, 18 small group home providers and over 200 home care providers. The FTF statewide Quality First Initiative is funding 5 centers and 8 homes. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council believes that Quality First is an important investment that will significantly improve the quality of early care and education and ultimately improve outcomes for children. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council desires to fund an additional 3 centers and 10 homes for participation in Quality First for FY2010.

The Council intends to target programs not currently participating in quality improvement or accreditation programs. The council also wishes to target programs that provide services for enrolled infants and toddlers, a percentage of which receive child care subsidy and/or participate in Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). This strategy will allow the Yuma Regional Partnership Council to fund additional centers and homes beyond available state initiative allocations and build on FTF statewide quality improvement efforts.

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council is requesting approval for the addition of Strategy 13 – Expansion of Quality First to the FY2010 Funding Plan and the allocation of \$325,875 to cover the cost of implementing this strategy (3 centers at \$32,125 each and 10 homes at \$22,950 each). The Regional Partnership Council recognizes

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the need for access to high quality programs. This strategy will improve the quality of existing programs throughout the Yuma Region and contribute to reaching our goal of increasing the availability and affordability of early care and education settings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Madeleine Coil

Madeleine Coil, Chair

Strategy 13: Expand the number of center and home care providers in Yuma Region participating in Quality First.

The First Things First Board approved Quality First as Arizona's Quality Improvement and Rating System (QIRS) for early care and education centers and homes. Because so many of Arizona's youngest children are enrolled in child care, early education and preschool settings, the quality of programs is undeniably important. Quality First is being implemented throughout the state of Arizona to ensure all children have access to high quality care imperative for their positive growth and development.

Yuma County currently has 57 licensed child care centers, 18 small group home providers and over 200 home care providers. The FTF statewide Quality First Initiative is funding 5 centers and 8 homes. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council believes that Quality First is an important investment that will significantly improve the quality of early care and education and ultimately improve outcomes for children. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council desires to fund an additional 3 centers and 10 homes for participation in Quality First for FY2010.

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

Key Measures:

1. Total number of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system
2. Total number of children enrolled in early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system
3. Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system with a high level of quality as measured by an environmental rating scale
4. Total number and percentage of early care and education programs participating in the QIRS system improving their environmental rating score

Target Population:

With an increase in funding for 3 child care centers and 10 child care homes providers within Yuma County for FY2010, the Council wants to target programs not currently participating in a quality improvement or accreditation programs. The council also wishes to target programs that provide services for enrolled infants and toddlers, a percentage of which receive child care subsidy and/or participate in Child And Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Selection criteria have been identified in collaboration with FTF Quality First staff, driven by the Yuma Regional Council funding plan and in alignment with statewide quality and access goals.

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	3 centers 10 homes	TBD	TBD

Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012:

1. # of centers served through Quality First/actual service #8
2. # of homes served through Quality First/actual service #18
3. # of Quality First centers improving their rating score by one level or more
4. # of children served at early care and education settings rated at level 3 or higher.

• How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists:

FTF will fund 5 centers and 8 homes through the QIRS statewide grant. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council will build on the state system by funding an additional 3 centers and 10 homes in the county. This strategy will allow the Yuma Regional Partnership Council to fund additional centers and homes beyond available state initiative allocations thereby increasing access to high quality programs.

• What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment:

This strategy will align with the statewide initiative as it will be an expansion of the QIRS system within Yuma County.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$325,875
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Budget Justification:

Based on information on cost for Quality First provided by FTF

3 centers at \$32,125 each

10 homes at \$22,950 each

The Regional Partnership Council recognizes the need for access to high quality programs and this strategy will improve the quality of existing programs throughout the Yuma Region.



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July 29, 2009

RE: Yuma Regional Partnership Strategy 12 – Expansion of CCHC

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board,

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council is presenting Child Care Health Consultation strategy for your consideration. The strategy is an addition to our original Funding Plan approved on January 27, 2009.

This strategy will provide much needed support to early care providers through the expansion of Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) services. A CCHC service delivery model works with child care providers to improve the health and safety of children cared for in those setting. Through linkages with the community, children, families and child care providers have the benefit of increased access to health services and information. Currently in Yuma region a .5 FTE CCHC is available to assist 13 providers participating in the Quality First initiative. There are a total of 57 licensed child care centers and 18 small group home centers in the Yuma region. According to staff of Child and Family Resources, Inc. there are approximately 200 home care providers.

Currently there are 57 regulated child care centers, 18 licensed small group homes and over 200 certified home care providers in the Yuma region and only 13 are receiving services from a CCHC through the Quality First initiative. Services would target the child care centers and homes not participating in Quality First with consideration given to meet the diverse cultural needs of a border region plus the Cocopah Tribal and the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribal Nations. This strategy will build and complement the statewide Consultants working with local Quality First participants. The additional consultants will serve centers and home based child care centers that are not currently enrolled in Quality First. This strategy builds on the model that has been implemented in



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Pima County, allowing for increased collaboration among agencies that have participated in this model.

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council is requesting approval for the addition of Strategy 12 – Expansion of Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) to the FY2010 Funding Plan and the allocation of \$202,000 to cover the cost of implementing this strategy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Madeleine Coil

Madeleine Coil, Chair

Strategy #12: Expansion of Child Care Health Consultation

Children throughout the Yuma region have many health-related needs. According to the Arizona Department of Health Services in 2008 in regard to communicable diseases in Yuma County there were 17 cases of Salmonella in children birth through five years of age with only 11 cases in children 5-19. Twenty-four percent of all food-borne illnesses are in children birth through four years of age and there was a 41% increase in food-borne illnesses in this same age group from 2006 to 2008. In the area of oral health 69% of Yuma County children have experienced dental decay compared to 62% for Arizona. These children had an average of 4.71 teeth with decay and 45% of Yuma County children have untreated dental decay. The 2007 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) reports 47% of 2007 respondents reported being overweight which supports concerns of similar increases in childhood obesity and the related health impacts.

This strategy will provide support to additional early care providers through the expansion of Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) services. This strategy will build and complement the statewide CCHC working with local Quality First participants. The additional consultants will serve centers and home based child care programs that are not currently enrolled in Quality First. This strategy will improve health outcomes for children birth to five years of age and will provide their families with health information and referrals.

A CCHC service delivery model works with child care providers to improve the health and safety of children cared for in those settings. Through linkages with the community, children, families and child care providers have the benefit of increased access to health services and information. Currently in Yuma region a part time CCHC is available to assist 13 providers participating in the Quality First initiative. There are a total of 57 licensed child care centers and 18 small group homes in the Yuma region. According to staff of Child and Family Resources, Inc. there are also approximately 200 home care providers.

First Things First has identified numerous outcome studies and publications that validate the impact of child care health consultation on early care programs. A CCHC is a health professional with specialized knowledge of early childhood development, child care regulations, community health and social services. The CCHC will be a degreed professional who has the appropriate qualifications to carry out the diverse tasks of the position. In addition to their academic degrees as health professionals, the consultants receive 60 hours of instruction related to the skills required to work in child care settings, how to assess quality, meet the needs of children with special needs, injury prevention, oral health, nutrition, mental health and supporting emotional development in the child care setting. Expert information is communicated with families of children in child care with referrals and follow-up for community based services. The CCHC coordinates with community Health Educators and/or Promotoras for the provision of group education on various topics for child care providers as well as parent groups in their local neighborhood areas.

Goal: FTF will collaborate with existing Arizona early childhood health care systems to improve children's access to quality health care.

Goal: 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.

Key Measures:

1. Total number and percentage of children receiving appropriate and timely oral health visits
2. Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health
3. Percentage of families who report they are satisfied with the level of coordination and communication among agencies serving their children

Target Population (Description of the population to reach):

Currently there are 57 regulated child care centers, 18 licensed small group homes and over 200 certified home care providers in the Yuma region and only 13 are receiving services from a CCHC through the Quality First initiative. Services would target the child care centers and homes not participating in the Quality First initiative. Services will be provided in a manner that meets the diverse cultural needs of a border region plus the Cocopah Tribal and the Fort Yuma Quechan Tribal Nations.

	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
Proposed Service Numbers	40 Centers 100 Home Care Providers	52 Centers 150 Home Care Providers	62 Centers 200 Home Care Providers

Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012

1. Total number and percentage of early care and education centers with access to a Child Care Health Consultant.
2. Total number of home based early care centers with access to a Child Care Health Consultant.
3. Total number of centers improving or attaining goals related to health and safety in early child care
4. Total number of infectious disease outbreaks in child care centers and homes

How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists:

This strategy will build and complement the statewide CCHC working with local Quality First participants. The additional consultants will serve centers and home based child care centers that are not currently enrolled in the Quality First. This strategy will improve health outcomes for children birth to five years of age and will be able to provide their families with health information and referrals.

What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment:

This strategy aligns with the statewide initiative since it will utilize the infrastructure of the child care health consultants. This strategy builds on the model that has been implemented in Pima County, allowing for increased collaboration among agencies that have participated in this model. This strategy

also builds upon the Train the Trainer model from North Carolina, which was implemented in Pima County, and will facilitate and train CCHC's for the Yuma region on a routine basis.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy (How much of the total allocation will go to this strategy)

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$202,000
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Budget Justification: Describe how the allocation for the strategy was determined including characteristics unique to the region. (Note: Councils may want to consider evaluation and community outreach and awareness expenses. If these are included provide a breakdown of amounts in this section.)

\$200,000 = 2 FTE Child Care Health Consultants (East County, South County, Yuma & Tribal)
\$2,000 = Mileage add-in due to geographic size of the region (5,522 square miles)



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July 29, 2009

RE: Yuma Regional Partnership Strategy 14 – Entry Level CDA-Career Pathways

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board,

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council is presenting a Entry Level CDA-Career Pathways strategy for your consideration. The strategy is an addition to our original Funding Plan approved on January 27, 2009.

The Council wishes to expand efforts to address the professional development needs of child care providers within the region. The Council included a T.E.A.C.H. strategy and a Community-Based Training strategy in its FY2010 funding plan. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council wishes to add this workforce entry level strategy for obtaining the Child Development Associates credential to engage all sectors of the regional workforce in quality improvement. Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP) scholarships would be made available to those who do not qualify for a T.E.A.C.H. [®]ARIZONA scholarship and would cover only early childhood coursework that prepares recipients to be eligible to obtain a Child Development Associate credential.

According to the 2008 Yuma Regional Needs and Assets Assessment Report, in 2007, fifty-one (51) % of Preschool teachers had no CDA and 81% of Assistants had no CDA. The report identified a number of barriers that restrict access to teacher education, including enrollment fees and scholarship support to defray the costs of required coursework. The Yuma Council recognizes, as a priority, the need to support the professional development of the early care and education workforce. Many providers do not have entry level early childhood development and health skills. The Professional Career Pathways Project scholarship program offers scholarships to a limited number of family child care and center-based providers. The proposed funding will increase the number of scholarships available in the region to family child care providers and center-based providers.

Within the region the opportunity exists to collaborate with Arizona Western College which provides the coursework to prepare for the CDA. The incorporation of



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this strategy into the Yuma Regional Partnership Council FY2010 Funding plan will contribute to the FTF goal to build a skilled and well prepared early childhood development workforce and to increase retention of the early care and education workforce. The Yuma Regional Partnership Council is requesting approval for the addition of Strategy 14 – Entry Level CDA-Career Pathways to the FY2010 Funding Plan and the allocation of \$77,000 to cover the cost of implementing this strategy (an average cost of \$2,200 for 35 scholarship opportunities).

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Madeline Coil

Madeleine Coil, Chair

Strategy #14

Increase the number of childcare providers applying for a Child Development Associate's credential.

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council wishes to expand on efforts to address the professional development needs of child care providers within the region. Because young children, including infants and toddlers, spend so much time in settings outside their own homes, it is especially important to ensure that early care providers and teachers understand what promotes learning and healthy social and emotional development, and know how to help when development is not progressing as it should. Whether babies, toddlers, and preschoolers are cared for by other family members, by neighbors, or in formal center-based care, every encounter with a young child is an opportunity to promote learning, and social and emotional competence. Unfortunately, many of those caring for young children do not have the information or the experiences they need to help children maximize learning, identify developmental delays, or to address difficult or inappropriate behaviors.

The key to quality child care is linked to the education and stability of the early childhood workforce. The preparation and ongoing professional development of early educators is a fundamental component of a high quality early learning system. There is an extensive body of research showing that the education and training of teachers and administrators is strongly related to early childhood program quality and that program quality predicts development outcomes for children¹.

According to the 2008 Yuma Regional Needs and Assets Assessment Report, in 2007, fifty-one (51) % of Preschool teachers in the region had no CDA credential and 81% of Assistants had no CDA credential. The report identified a number of barriers that restrict access to teacher education, including enrollment fees and scholarship support to defray the costs of required coursework. The Yuma Council recognizes, as a priority, the need to support the professional development of the early care and education workforce.

The Yuma Regional Partnership Council understands the need for higher quality, stable and more capable childcare professionals, and that support and financial assistance for college coursework will lead to higher staff quality and better retention. The Regional Council further understands that this support will result in increased college retention and success for students pursuing credentials or college degrees.

The Regional Council included a T.E.A.C.H. strategy and a Community-Based Training strategy in its FY2010 funding plan. Now, we wish to add this workforce entry level strategy for obtaining the Child Development Associate's credential to those strategies, in order to more broadly engage all sectors of the workforce, within the region, in quality improvement. In addition, this strategy provides Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP) scholarships to those who do not qualify for a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship.

Professional Career Pathways Project:

Professional Career Pathways Project (PCPP) scholarships would be made available to those who do not qualify for a T.E.A.C.H. ARIZONA scholarship and would cover only early childhood coursework that prepares recipients to be eligible to obtain a Child Development Associate's credential. PCPP has been supported in the state for over ten years and has assisted hundreds of practitioners to obtain their Child Development Associate's credential, Community College Certificate of Completion and two-year degrees.

The Professional Career Pathways Project, a scholarship program offered at community colleges throughout Arizona for Early Childhood Education classes. Over the past year the demand for scholarships has grown and many of the scholarships are in Maricopa County where the tuition rate is higher, therefore the number of available scholarships in the Yuma region has diminished.

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 leading to the Child Development Associate's (CDA) credential, an Associate of Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Education or other related education goals.

Participants are required to work with an Early Childhood Education advisor to identify a Pathway (Goal) and pursue the Early Care and Education coursework that accomplishes that Pathway. In addition, participants must complete all courses paid for by the Professional Career Pathways Project with a grade of "C" or better to be eligible for continued scholarship assistance. All coursework must meet the requirements to obtain the Child Development Associate, certificate of completion or two-year degree in early childhood, or related field. No funding, however, is available for General Education courses.

The Professional Career Pathways Project Offers:

- Tuition for 1 to 6 credits per semester (Total of 12 credits per school year)
- Textbook stipend of \$10 per credit each semester
- For Department of Economic Security (DES) certified Family Child Care and Department of Health Services (DHS) licensed Family Group Home providers: the PCPP will pay the cost associated with either the— initial CDA (*Child Development Associate Credential* assessment fee (\$325) or the initial NAFCC (National Association of Family Child Care Accreditation) fee (\$495)

References:

¹Ohio Department of Education (January 2006). *Critical Issues in Early Educator Professional and Workforce Development*. Columbus, OH: This paper was funded by the Department under the commission of the School Readiness Solutions Group. This paper was developed by Jana Fleming.

Goal:

1. FTF will build a skilled and well prepared early childhood development workforce.
2. FTF will increase retention of the early care and education workforce.

Key Measures:

- Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education settings with a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development.
- 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.

Target Population:

Early childhood development and health professionals working in the Yuma Region.

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	35	TBD	TBD

Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012

1. Number of professionals pursuing CDA credential in early childhood education/Actual service number.
2. Number of early care and education teachers retained for three years/Actual number of professionals.

• How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists:

Many providers do not have entry level early childhood development and health skills. The Professional Career Pathways Project scholarship program offers scholarships to a limited number of family child care and center-based providers. The proposed funding will increase the number of scholarships available to family child care providers as well as center-based providers.

• What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment:

Contracts between the Department of Economic Security and community based training agencies provide a range of training. Many of these include competencies that prepare providers for the Child Development Associate’s credential. For many, this would be a starting point of professional development; with encouragement and success providers could then proceed to enroll in college coursework to continue their educational pathways.

Many opportunities exist to collaborate with community colleges that are providing the coursework to prepare for the CDA.

SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy

Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$77,000
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Budget Justification:

PROFESSIONAL CAREER PATHWAYS PROJECT

Calculation of an average costs per scholarship included the tuition costs, textbook stipends, cost to apply for the CDA credential, mentoring to help the candidate compile the resource file and to complete the formal observation and costs to administer the program.

An average of \$2,200/participant was used.

35 slots allotted at a costs of \$77,000