

Gila County Early Education Funds Partnership Quarterly Report 12/14/07

Please list each task/goal that your partnership has worked on in the past quarter. What progress have you made and what challenges have you faced in working toward each?

On March 23, 2007, Pinal Gila Community Child Services, Inc was funded \$25,000 to begin the Gila County School Readiness Partnership. The grant year is April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

Partnership Building exercises the members have completed have included:

- Appreciative Interview Guide
- Team Ice Breaker
- Peak experience working in partnership exercise
- Three wishes for the partnership exercise
- Peak experience with early childhood development exercise

Partnership meetings are conducted monthly, where the Partnership members come together to discuss what information they have shared within the last month. Partnership members also discuss what the region's young children most need, what agencies and programs are useful, and what the Partnership can do to educate the community on the importance of early childhood development and health. Partnership members' ongoing work to raise community awareness is also reported back at the monthly meetings.

At the August 21, 2007 meeting members discussed the following: defining "partnership" and ideas to build on our partnership; partnership quarterly report and quarterly report of logic model; Gila County Early Education partnership link on www.pgccs.org website; reaching out to other cities, towns and smaller communities; creating Gila County resource booklet using Kim's KinKARE resource guide; and ideas to provide partnership development training.

At the September 18, 2007 meeting members discussed the following: educating the community on child development screenings; participating in the Globe Health Fair with Ann and Ricki conducting the booth; creating "Your Baby Can't Wait" campaign with early child development screening tool (to be created by Kim); building participation from all parts of Gila County. A parent resource list (courtesy of Globe, Miami and Payson Head Start) was handed out to members at this meeting. Kim's Gila County resource booklet was emailed to members of the partnership after this meeting.

At the October 16, 2007 meeting members welcomed new members and discussed the following: Payson groups have met to decide key professionals participating in the partnership; location of meetings to include northern Gila County; "Your Baby Can't

Wait” logo used by the partnership; partnership information and flyers will be distributed at Head Start open houses; reestablishing representation from San Carlos; how to discuss early child development with possible funding sources (handout of graph from New Directions Institute); building involvement from school districts; established what our message is- Early Childhood Matters. At this meeting, members also networked and shared information about agencies, programs, and upcoming events.

At the November 29, 2007 meeting members discussed the following: peak experiences with early childhood development; the needs of the community; who would be the best representatives for the regional council; list of the County’s top needs that this Partnership wants to encourage action on; changing location, time, and structure of the partnership meetings.

PGCCS has Gila County Early Education link on website. The link contains meeting agendas and meeting minutes, partnership member contact list, and informational flyers.

A success story:

During this quarter, the Partnership has been able to bring all parts of the County together to work as one team. In many ways the northern and southern parts of the County are different, geographically and demographically; yet the members of the Partnership have joined together toward a common goal. The November 27th meeting was a record-breaker, in that more members were present from northern Gila County. This Partnership has opened the doors for a Regional Council to begin operating in unity to benefit the children within the entirety of the Gila County Region.

Please attach any tools or materials your partnership has developed, as well as any publicity you have received (i.e. newsletters, newspaper articles.)

Attached:

- Gila Partnership Informational Flyer
- Screening Tool for Early Childhood Development
 - 0-6 months
 - 6-12 months
 - 1-2 years
 - 2-3 years
 - 3-5 years
- “Your Baby Can’t Wait” Flyer
- InPayson.com ad
- “Your Baby Can’t Wait” banner (picture from Globe Health Fair)
- Member Contact List
- Gila Partnership web page on PGCCS website
- Gila Partnership Meeting Notice