Governor Ducey’s

Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment

March 14, 2019

Governor’s Executive Tower
2nd Floor Conference Room
Fostering Advocates Arizona is guided by young adults who have experienced foster care. It’s our goal to ensure all young people have the information, resources and support they need to successfully transition into adulthood.

www.fosteringadvocatesarizona.org
2019 Fostering Advocates: What We Do!

www.fosteringadvocatesarizona.org
Public Policy
And
Advocacy

READ OUR
TOP 5 PRIORITIES
& RECOMMENDATIONS
BY YOUTH WHO LIVE FOSTER CARE

“I bounced around schools a lot as a teenager and never had the opportunity to build long-term relationships like my peers who were not in foster care. I missed out on normal life experiences like going to prom and hanging out with friends. These experiences are important to developing one’s own identity.”
—Brittany H

READ MORE

www.fosteringadvocatesarizona.org
Resource Library
Workshops, Trainings and Presentations
Successes

Tuition Waiver

Young Adult Transitional Insurance (AHCCCS)

Normalcy

Training
Extended Foster Care

More than 900 young adults age out without legal permanency.

Young people are more successful with extended care.
Top 5 Benefits of Extended Care

1. SUPPORT
   - Identify goals
   - Explore interests and passions

2. EDUCATION
   - Program information
   - Scholarship assistance
   - Application guidance

3. FINANCES
   - Help with living expenses
   - Money management

4. EMPLOYMENT
   - Resume writing
   - Job application support

5. COMMUNITY
   - Connect with mentors
   - Network with alumni

www.fosteringadvocatesarizona.org
Recommendations

- Increase DCS Case Specialist Accessibility & Expertise
- Allow Young Adults to Evolve & Grow
Recommendations

• Expand Available Affordable Housing Options
• Raise the Independent Living Subsidy Payment
• Adjust Re-Entry Policies
Thank You!
Governor Ducey’s  
**Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment**

March 14, 2019  
Governor’s Executive Tower  
2nd Floor Conference Room
CHILD SAFETY AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT COUNCIL MEETING
AZ STATE CAPITOL EXECUTIVE TOWER | MARCH 14, 2019

Healthy Families Arizona
Presented by Rebecca Ruffner
Arizona is a Leader in HF America

A Proud Legacy of Success for Families and Young Children

Since 1991, Healthy Families Arizona (HFAz) has been supporting new parents who face substantial challenges in raising healthy infants and toddlers.

In 2001, Arizona had the first state system in the country accredited by Healthy Families America. HFAz has been re-accredited three times since.
Over 2 Decades of Strong Outcomes

Including:

• Healthy child development
• Safety of the home
• Positive parenting
• Family self-sufficiency

... for thousands of young families whose lives are full of potent risk factors.
From Pilots to State System

- 1991 – Prevent Child Abuse America looks to Hawaii Healthy Start to address rising rates of infant abuse and neglect in US

- 1992 – Arizona launches first Healthy Families pilots in Prescott and Tucson, funded by DES Child Abuse Prevention Fund

- 1993 – Healthy Families Az expands to more communities; designated a “promising program” by national researchers
• 1996 – HFAz Advisory Board established to assure quality and growth of statewide system for all parents of at-risk newborns
• 2006 – 58 teams in 150 communities
Two Decades of Arizona Research

• 1994 – Ronald McDonald Children’s Charities funds $2M Healthy Families America national research network, 25 states – Arizona’s home visiting research has contributed significantly
Healthy Families in 2018

- 43 teams
- 13 counties
- 260 zip codes
- 4,330 families

Healthy Families Arizona Program

Northern Region
- Mohave County
  - Child and Family Resources (3 teams)
- Yavapai County
  - Verde Valley Medical Center (1 team)
  - Yavapai Regional Medical Center (1 team)
- Coconino County
  - Coconino County Health Department (1 team)
- Navajo/Apache County
  - Northland Therapy (1 team)

Southwestern Region
- Yuma County
  - Child and Family Resources (2 teams)
- Maricopa County
  - Southwest Human Development (10 teams)

Central Region
- Pinal County
  - Child and Family Resources (3 teams)
- Maricopa County
  - Southwest Human Development (10 teams)

Southeastern Region
- Graham County
  - Child and Family Resources (2 teams)
- Cochise County
  - Child and Family Resources (1 team)
- Santa Cruz County
  - Child and Family Resources (1 team)

Pima Region
- Pima County
  - Child and Family Resources (4 teams)

10/1/18
1 out of 7 US children will experience child abuse / neglect (CDC Natl Center on Injury Prevention)

28% of Arizona children live in poverty (State of Babies, Zero to Three / Child Trends 2019)

52% of Arizona births are funded by AHCCCS

Poor children are 5x more likely to experience abuse & neglect
# Risk Factors for Mothers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risk Factors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Births (19 years or less)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Births to Single Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Than High School Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Health Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receives AHCCCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late or No Prenatal Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Yearly Income</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preventing ACEs

- 5 out of 10 ACEs are forms of child abuse and neglect
- Infants who are substantiated and removed from family have experienced 2-5 ACEs
ACEs Disrupt Healthy Development

Early abuse and neglect disrupts brain circuitry, leading to social and emotional impairments, high-risk behaviors as adolescents, adult disease and early death.
Attachment is a Protective Factor

• Infants who don’t have a secure attachment with a primary caregiver in the first year of life may suffer from emotional and cognitive disruptions in their development.

• Lack of a safe, stable, nurturing family leaves young children vulnerable to the cradle-to-prison pipeline.
Parents Enrolled Prenatally

Healthy Families Arizona Evaluation
Infant Risk Factors

- Born <37 Weeks Gestation: Prenatal 12.2%, Postnatal 16.3%
- Birth Defects: Prenatal 0.5%, Postnatal 0.8%
- Low Birth Weight: Prenatal 8.6%, Postnatal 13.6%
- Positive Alcohol/Drug Screen: Prenatal 2.8%, Postnatal 15.3%

Healthy Families Arizona Evaluation Report
Highlights 2018, LeCroy & Milligan Associates Inc.
Most Families Stay 2 Years

Healthy Families Arizona Evaluation Report
Highlights 2018, LeCroy & Milligan Associates Inc.
The Healthy Families Arizona immunization rates for both 1- and 2-year-olds has increased approximately 2 percentage points since last year.
Developmental Screening

**Percent Screened**

![Bar chart showing percent screened over months from 2012 to 2018.]

**Percent Assessed Delayed**

![Bar chart showing percent assessed delayed over months from 2012 to 2018.]

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Healthy Families Arizona Evaluation Report
Highlights 2018, LeCroy & Milligan Associates Inc.
Parents in Healthy Families report significant changes at 6 and 12 months in:

- Improved home environment
- Improved use of resources
- Improved parent/child behavior
- Increased parenting efficacy
- Improved problem-solving
- Increased personal care
- Commitment to parenting roles
- Reduced maternal depression
- Social support (at 6 months)

Overall improvement at 6 and 12 months
Healthy Families Az Faces Challenges

• Currently no investment of state dollars ($12M cut 2009)

• Loss of $3M Sept. 30, 2019 (IVE waiver ends)

• Would result in fewer families served in FY 2020, layoffs of trained staff

• At a cost of approximately $3,500 per family per year, HFAz is cost-effective in the short and long term for Arizona
HFAz engages parents who need and want help keeping their babies safe and healthy

Over two decades of positive outcomes for thousands of families

Meets or exceeds 95% non-abuse rate annually

Prevents ACEs, builds healthy brain circuitry for infants and toddlers

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March 14, 2019

Governor’s Executive Tower
2nd Floor Conference Room
Supporting Resilience for the Very Young: Building a Trauma Informed System of Child Care in Arizona

ROSE PHILLIPS, SOUTHWEST HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
GINGER SANDWEG, FIRST THINGS FIRST,
MICHAEL WISEHART, DES, CHILD CARE ADMINISTRATION
Overview

- Trauma in Early Childhood
- Expulsion and Suspensions from Child Care
- Quality Child Care Supports Trauma Informed Approach
- AZ’s Progress toward a trauma informed child care system
Supporting Quality and Trauma Informed Child Care

First Things First

- Quality First Coaching
- Mental Health Consultation (Smart Support)
- Inclusion for Children with Delays
- Scholarships

DES CCA Expulsion Prevention Program
Challenges and Barriers

- FTF
- Mental Health Consultation
- DCS
- DES
DCS Childcare

60% of children in DCS custody are placed in 5% of the available childcare centers in Maricopa County
  ◦ 113 childcare centers
  ◦ Only 27 of these have mental health consultation available to them

37% of children in DCS custody are in Quality-rated childcare centers

There is no mental health consultation available in the West Valley or Pima County
  ◦ 4 out of the top 5 zip codes for placement of children 0-5 are in these areas
FY2020 Executive Recommendation

**Request:** The Executive Budget includes an increase in funding for the DES child care subsidy program to increase the child care subsidy rate and to serve children on the waitlist.

The additional funding will:
- Serve approximately 400 DES children per month from the waitlist and increase the average child care subsidy rate from $365 per month to $438 per month.
- Increase the average DCS child care subsidy rate by 16%, from $406 per month to $470 per month, for approximately 10,000 children in foster care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Children Served</th>
<th>Projected Monthly Cost</th>
<th>Increase from Current Rate</th>
<th>Total Annual Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addl. Authorizations from Waitlist</td>
<td>5,268</td>
<td>$428</td>
<td>$73</td>
<td>$27,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase to DES Provider Rate</td>
<td>23,744</td>
<td>$438</td>
<td>$73</td>
<td>$19,300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase to DCS Provider Rate</td>
<td>9,761</td>
<td>$470</td>
<td>$64</td>
<td>$7,400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiered Reimbursement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
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</table>
Rates Comparison

Maximum Child Care Reimbursement Rates by State

For Arizona, the Maximum Child Care Reimbursement Rate is for an infant in Maricopa County served for a full day. Adjusted for cost of living.
Child Care Subsidy Utilization

The percentage of authorized children that are receiving child care services.

While authorizations have increased, utilization has been steadily declining since 2014 among all populations.

Factors for decreased utilization:
- Rates: clients pay the difference
- Proximity to providers and transportation accessibility
- Provider capacity

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1. Parent Contribution based on rates for an infant enrolled in full-time care in Maricopa County.
Reimbursement Rate

Reimbursement Rates are intended to ensure affordable access to care

- Rates are based on the Market Rate Survey (MRS) which is conducted every two years
- Current DES rates are based on the MRS conducted in 2000

Factors that impact the reimbursement rates include the age of the child, provider type, geographic region, and use of childcare (full or half day)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Licsened Center Daily Rate</th>
<th>Group Home Daily Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75th percentile of 2000 MRS</td>
<td>Median of 2010 MRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-1yr</td>
<td>$30.20</td>
<td>$40.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1yr &lt; 3yrs</td>
<td>$26.60</td>
<td>$36.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3yr &lt;6yrs</td>
<td>$23.80</td>
<td>$32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6yrs &lt; 13yrs</td>
<td>$23.40</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
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</table>

*Maximum daily reimbursement rates for full day infant care in Maricopa County*
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