

## **Update on Arizona's Plan for the ACA Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program**

**June 24, 2011**

The Inter Agency Leadership Team completed the Updated Plan as required by the grant and submitted it June 6, 2011. The reviewers are reading it now and will notify us of any necessary additions or of the acceptance of the grant. Once the plan is accepted we will begin the process of issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Nurse Family Partnership for three of the Community Health Analysis Areas in Tucson, an Interagency Service Agreement for Healthy Families in Casa Grande/Coolidge and an Inter Governmental Agreement with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to implement Family Spirit, a promising practice.

We have hired a Program Manager who will be here in early July. She comes to us with a Master's in Public Health, experience in maternal and child health, systems building and a strong evaluation background.

In the meanwhile, we have received notification of a competitive grant opportunity to build on the formula based funding. The Inter Agency Leadership Team met and decided we will apply for the competitive funds and focus on expanding evidence based home visiting services to more of the Community Health Analysis Areas determined to be at high risk. If funded, we will use the same methodology for determining the communities and the models of home visiting; we will look at high risk ranking based on the indicators, existing home visiting programs in the areas, the number of young children in the communities and we will meet with the communities to learn what the communities see as risk and their desires when it comes to home visiting.

A portion of the funds would also go to help Arizona enhance the statewide system of home visiting that is in place now. Part of the system building would include developing program standards that would reach across all home visiting models, developing core competencies for home visitors and supervisors and supporting that with professional development and integrating home visiting services with other family supports. This would be done in conjunction with the Home Visiting Task Force and build on the [Updated Plan and the Vision for Early Childhood Home Visiting Services in Arizona](#).

The competitive grant application is due July1, 2011.