

The following demographics are based on the data obtained from 20 submitted questionnaires of the total 23 community members who participated in this forum. (Most percentages presented in this report do not add up to 100%, as overlap was a factor in many categories. All percentages presented are percentages of the whole group of survey respondents.)

- Participants’ Number of Children and Ages:**
- Participants who had children living at home **45%**
 - On average, these families had **1.7 children**
 - Grown children **45%**
 - No children **10%**
 - Children 1-3 years of age **15%**
 - Children 3-5 years of age **20%**
 - Children 5 years of age or older living at home **25%**
- Caregiver Role:**
- Parents **75%**
 - Caregivers **5%**
- Gender:**
- Female **100%**
- Race/Ethnicity:**
- Caucasian or White **85%**
 - Latino or Hispanic **10%**
 - Asian or Asian American **5%**
 - African-American and Native American ethnicities were not represented
- Participants’ Highest Level of Education:**
- Graduate or Professional Degree **55%**
 - Bachelor’s Degree **20%**
 - Associate’s Degree **10%**
 - Some college, without a degree **10%**
 - High School Diploma **5%**
- Participants’ places of residence:**
- Prescott **60%**
 - Prescott Valley **20%**
 - Chino Valley **15%**
 - Dewey **5%**
- Segments of Community Represented:**
- Business (private corporation) **5%**
 - Local Government (state, county, city, town) **25%**
 - Nonprofit/Service Organization **25%**
 - School (college, university, high school, elementary, preschool) **35%**
 - Self-Employed **20%**
 - Stay at home parent or guardian **10%**
 - Other: Child Care **5%**
 - Other: Mom’s Group **5%**
 - Other: Tribal Government **5%**
 - Media and Faith-Based segments were not represented

- Roles in Segments of Community Represented:**
- Consultant **5%**
 - Director **15%**
 - Manager **30%**
 - Owner **15%**
 - Staff Support **15%**
 - Trainer/Teacher/Educator **35%**
 - Other: Librarian **5%**
 - Other: Research **5%**
- What did you like most about this forum experience?**
- All were able to share ideas and concerns
 - Impressed with diversity of participants. Nice to be at a meeting with so many new faces to me.
 - Collaboration
 - Great ideas!
 - Diversity
 - Wealth of information in this room
 - Networking. Discussion of change.
 - Good ideas and enthusiasm!
 - Shared information and ideas!
 - Learning that we all want to see a change for the better. Kids come first.
 - Seeing others had similar concerns and ideas
 - Meeting new people and what is available
 - All the information I know now
 - How smoothly the process went and board to hold ideas.
 - Very organized and welcoming
 - Diverse opinions
 - The “brainstorm” element
 - How it was presented – Sticky wall, large and small groups
 - It will create positive changes.

- What would you change about this forum experience?**
- Add step to discussions putting similar ideas together to streamline ideas for clarity (like at Community Conversations)
 - Nothing except to have more of them.
 - Daytime meeting
 - To better inform my childcare parents
 - More time to brainstorm in groups. Longer meeting, like on a Saturday or Sunday.
 - I think it’s good the way it is.
 - Time – But is there any really good time for all?
 - Not a thing – Great job!
 - The room temperature – too cold... But everything else was great. Maybe a networking time afterwards?
 - Where to go from here. More opportunity to connect with other participants.
- Given what we are trying to achieve with this community forum, is there anything else you wish to contribute?**
- Thank you for the childcare!
 - I would like to invite more parents and different races.
 - Keep up the good work.
 - Research
 - Bring in the business community and the politicians!
 - Want to help create a center.

#1 IDENTIFYING BARRIERS: What are the barriers to quality, affordability and accessibility to health, early care and education of children birth to age five in our community? (In order of Priority, #1 being the highest and #9 being the lowest)

#1 LACK OF AWARENESS AND EDUCATION	#2 CHILDCARE	#3 TRANSPORTATION AND GEOGRAPHY	#4 COST OF LIVING	#5 HEALTHCARE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services available • No one-stop information source • Knowledge • Communication among agencies and parents • Information sharing and outreach process to help parents and children • Unknown support for families including homeschooling families • What parents need to know about school readiness • Knowledge about impact of caregivers on children birth to 3 years • Support and resources for those new to community • Need more teaching/classes to young parent • Education for child care providers • Lack of education and information • What parents share with children (do they need to know?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for well trained, well paid and supported child care providers • No free/subsidized childcare options • Childcare for children with special needs • Difficulty finding childcare with confidence • Families change and impacts care • Affordable quality childcare • Infant and toddler childcare • Too few daycare centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of transportation for families • Geography of county prevents people from participating in services • Isolated towns with few services • Resources centralized to Prescott, Prescott Valley and Chino Valley – need to expand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of living juxtaposed to pay scales • Inability of many families to purchase healthcare • Cost of quality child care • Lack of affordable housing • Limited earning potential for early education providers • Money – can’t afford it! • Caregivers’ low education/training levels and subsequent inability to earn living wages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inaccessibility to affordable healthcare • Parents do not want their child to have a label • Mental health support for birth to 3 • Few employers offering affordable health insurance plans (especially for preventive health) • Few transitional healthcare programs from AHCCCS eligibility to private pay • Not enough health care providers in area that accept AHCCCS, KidsCare or “Payments” • Push for pharmacological interventions for mental/emotional problems in children which is premature, unwarranted and dangerous
#6 GAPS IN SERVICES	#7 IMMIGRATION	#8 MYTHS AND BELIEFS		#9 COMMUNITY SUPPORT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All or nothing policies/attitudes – Gap in levels of support • Lack universal form • Insurance for middle income families • Homeless • All programs have eligibility criteria • Assumptions about “qualifying” for early services • Income guidelines too rigid • Regulations • Response to child care needs 24/7 to first responders in case of a global/local catastrophe • Services for ages 3-5 special needs that do not qualify for public school or preschool • Support for middle/higher income parenting - health – readiness • Ways to opening more centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration barriers • Lack of specialty providers (particularly bi-lingual) • Language • Problem solving for children left behind due to deportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belief that the best way to parent is through physical punishment and other forms of authoritarian parenting • Myth – I should know how to be a parent all on my own and be able to do it all by myself or with just the help of my mother/mother-in-law • Myth - Parenting does not effect the child’s development • Myth - The way one parent does not have an effect on the personality, self esteem, etc. of the child. Any problem is solely genetic, biological, or the fault of the schools 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community support (bonds, initiatives) • Lack of interest of professionals in community that work with new moms and young children to encourage them to take advantage of outside resources • Lack of town connect • Networking, getting connected to the community • Prescott is a “retirement” town

#2 IDENTIFYING STRENGTHS: What are the greatest strengths and assets in our community that help improve health and school readiness of young children? (In order of Priority, #1 being the highest and #6 being the lowest)

#1 PROGRAMS	#2 COLLABORATIONS	#3 ORGANIZATIONS	#4 AWARENESS & WILLINGNESS	#5 RESOURCES	#6 TRAINING & EDUCATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yavapai County Health Department programs in Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, Cottonwood • Partners for Healthy Students, Yavapai Regional Medical Center • Kinship Program, Arizona’s Children Association • Youth Services Department, Prescott Public Library • Special Needs Programming, Prescott Parks & Recreation • Parenting from your Heart • Birthing from Within! • Early intervention programs (i.e., Arizona Early Intervention and Child Find) • Hospital Program, PHS, family visits to high risk parents • Maternal Child Health Program, Yavapai County Community Health Services • AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) • County Health Department nurse home visitor program • Many quality programs countywide • Offering support to pregnant mothers and their families • University of Arizona Cooperative Extension provides current research and education in Yavapai County • Variety of places and programs to send young children • WIC • Women’s Empowerment Breakthrough (through Prescott College) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Collaborations: Yavapai Communities for Young Children, Best for Babies • Organizations, agency and education institutions working together to address early childhood education, health and well-being • High Country Early Intervention has a good relationship with other providers and preschools (speech, OT, PT, AzEIP, DDD) • Creating a relationship with OB’s – bridging the gap! • Partnership organizations (like YCYC) • Prescott Area Winter Shelter is a community collaborative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Us (organizations and citizens present at forum) • Yavapai County Health Department • Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe • Town of Prescott Valley, Community Services Department • Head Start (Early Head Start and preschool) • Yavapai Regional Medical Center • High Country Early Intervention • Certified Child Care Providers • Arizona’s Children Association • Valley Learning Center (Certified Child Care Provider) • Abia Judd Elementary, Kindergarten • Grannie’s House (Certified Child Care Provider) • Prescott Public Library • Parenting Arizona • University of Arizona Extension Services • Prescott Parks & Recreation • Yavapai College • YMCA • Yavapai College Early Childhood Development Center • Churches • Public Schools • Preschools • Joan Treadaway (Association for Healing Education) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of barriers • Motivated parents and providers • Willingness to grow and change • Many parents want to be involved and informed • Moving to regional thinking • Providers do talk to each other! • Providers who CARE • “Small” community (relative) – we should be able to reach most families • Because we have so few resources, we are challenged to be creative in solving problems for children and their families between partners, which doesn’t always include money but people power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large number of retirees • Proposition 203 (First Things First) • Scholarships available for Early Childhood Education classes • Increase in infant/toddler mental health providers and knowledge • Prescott Mommy website and email group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Childhood Education Dept., at Yavapai College • SUCCEEDS (organization + registry of certified providers + professional development) • Paula Matthew – midwife and alternative birthing classes • Library and classes they offer • Nonviolent communication parenting classes • Parenting classes – Parenting from your Heart (nonviolent communication) • Mom and toddler yoga movement classes

#3 IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE: Given our present barriers and strengths, what are some opportunities to measurably improve the outcomes for young children?

Collaboration Meeting Day	Fill the Gaps with Prop 203	Health Care Coverage	YCYC & Government Partnership
Day long collaboration meeting to address too many meetings. Maximize success of collaborations that already exist.	Use Prop 203 to fund the gaps in the “all or nothing” system. Pockets of young children who do not qualify for any programs.	Health Care coverage for all children. Use Prop 203 \$\$ to pay 100% for preventive health services for the “notch group.”	YCYC Partner with city government to help with information of services available. Use the collaboration that exists to provide resources to create awareness.
Parent Mentoring Program	Media Campaign/Outreach	Families Are us Center	Other Opportunities
<p>Offering more workshops for parents to learn about the programs we have.</p> <p><u>Action Team Sign-up:</u> Sarah Edmonds, Parenting from Your Heart, 445-7649, sedmonds@cableone.net; Jenna Israel, Birthing from Within, 273-0348, jennaisrael@yahoo.com.</p>	<p>Support the “For The Children Campaign.” Early Brain Development education (apply current neuroscience in child care settings). Improve public communication systems. Educate and inform all diverse populations. An inclusive listserve (or other system) to disseminate information about trainings, scholarships and support to caregivers and educators.</p> <p><u>Action Team Sign-up:</u> Wendy Watson, Chino Valley Head Start, 925-4113, wsquared_5@yahoo.com; Marta Stuart: University of Arizona Extension Services, 445-6590, mstuart@ag.arizona.edu</p>	<p>Classes, support, library, counseling. Clearinghouse of ALL services supported by those organizations. Expand Big Kids book and Little Kids Book. Homeschooling voucher – a way to support homeschooling families, they need support too! Encouraging parents to get support, information, take classes.</p> <p><u>Action Team Sign-up:</u> Sara Edmonds, Parenting from Your Heart, 445-7649, sedmonds@cableone.net; Anelizabeth Marlow, Grannie’s House, 772-1445, annerayne@cableone.net; Jenna Israel, Birthing from Within, 273-0348, jennaisrael@yahoo.com; Jenny Wohlrabe, In-home Provider, 759-0172, jenny_wohlrabe6@msn.com.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation for home child care • Bring in the business community! • Build collaborations in isolated towns • Create comprehensive guide to services (print and on-line) like the Little Kids Book but more so . . . This is happening now. • FUNDING, scholarships for birth and parenting classes and for Doula work, even if not low income! • Grant money • Increase home-based services in isolated towns • Inform (vote-in) legislators for needed funding for children and their families • Inform existing programs that are strengths (Head Start, Health Dept.) about alternative services and encourage their utilization • Parent/family mentor/support resource • Partner with colleges and First Things First Board and Regional Council to provide free training for college credit to child care providers! • People willing to make a change • Prescott Women’s Clinic • Regional councils • Scholarships for working parents • Screening retirees for volunteers to work with children

Other Comments: Collaboration equals strength and we need to continue to build it and produce outcomes. There is motivation for change here. Our interests are the same. Celebrate our small incremental achievements, steps to our vision (i.e., regularly well attended and highly participative meetings).