

# **Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils**

## **Program Description**

Since 1991, the Department has provided funding to Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils to educate communities and to provide information about child abuse/neglect and its prevention. There are currently 17 funded councils located throughout the state of Arizona.

The purpose of a Regional Council is to increase public awareness of the problem through educational campaigns and advocate for effective programs and policies to prevent child abuse and neglect. A Regional Council is comprised of community representatives from the professional, business and civic sectors who volunteer their time to address the need for child abuse prevention in their community. A Regional Council meets on a regular basis (at least quarterly).

## **Program Eligibility**

There is no eligibility criteria for Regional Councils and Councils are made up of volunteers in each community. Information and educational campaigns are targeted to the general public.

## **Program Goals and Services**

Each council must complete these activities each year:

- Income Tax Check Off Campaign, raising money for prevention efforts (Campaign runs from January-April)
- April Child Abuse Prevention Month Campaign, spreading awareness of the traumatic effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences and the healing effects of the Protective Factors (Campaign runs in April)
- Quarterly Distribution of Local Community Resource Guides about activities that strengthen the Protective Factors

Councils may elect to choose additional campaigns on topics such as Adverse Childhood Experiences, Never Shake a Baby, Earned Income Tax credit education, Character Counts, Who do You Trust with Your Child, Safe Sleep and Internet Safety. The Regional Councils are 501 C-3 organizations and can do additional fund raising to support these efforts.

## **Demographics of Population Served**

Regional Prevention Councils serve children and families from all demographics in their geographic areas. Most councils have materials available in Spanish.

## **Program Outcomes**

The 17 Regional Child Abuse Prevention Councils estimate they have impacted millions of individuals through education and public awareness activities. Some examples include: newspaper and radio advertising, school newsletters, distribution of resource guides, information provided at resource fairs, community presentations, movie theatre billboard advertising, working with city and county officials to create proclamations and sponsoring conferences and family fun days.