



## 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 12 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).

### **ADCS Mission and Vision Statement**

Vision: Children thrive in family environments free from abuse and neglect

Mission: Successfully engage children and families to ensure safety, strengthen families, and achieve permanency.

### **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**

All council services must reach primary and secondary prevention categories and are culturally relevant. Councils are required to meet 6 times a year. In addition, each council must complete one each of two activities throughout the year. The two chosen activities should occur during April (Child Abuse Prevention Month) and the other in the Fall (September- November). The activities are as follows:

- ◇ Parent workshops for parents and families
- ◇ A community event such as a block party or family fun day

Councils may elect to choose additional activities such as tables at resource fairs, using promotional items, distributing resource information, attend prevention activities and conferences for professionals. 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 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.