

Increasing Immunization Coverage Rates Among Child Care Workers

Tonya M. Toussaint, RN, BSN, MS

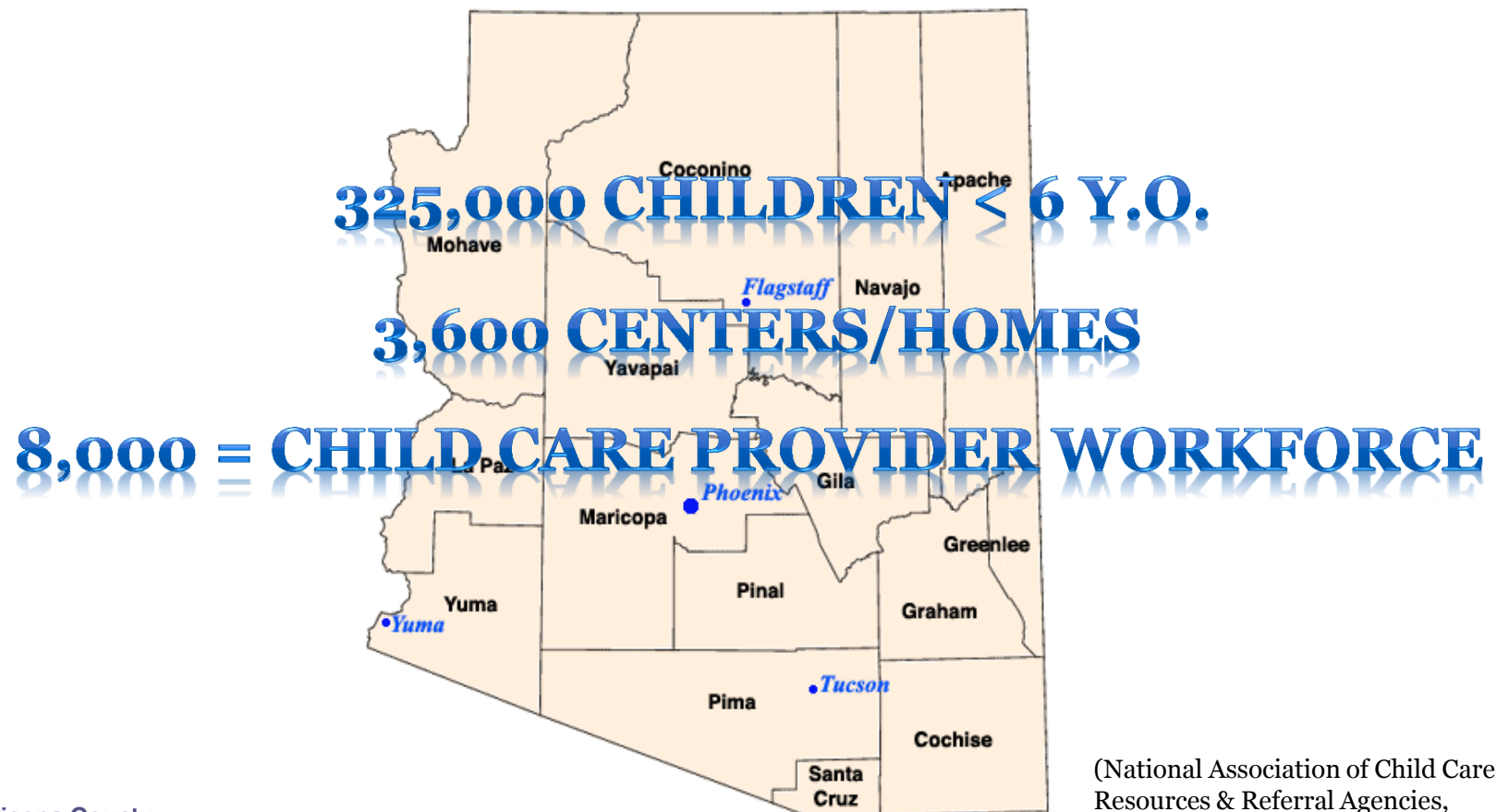
Maricopa County Department of Public Health

Child care providers play a significant role in child development.

Children in high-quality child care programs perform better in math and reading.

(NACCRRA, 2012)

Arizona's Child Care Workforce



Workforce Characteristics

Demographics

- Female
- Married
- Parent
- Some formal education beyond high school
- Over half view work as profession or personal calling
- Nearly half employed with same program for at least 5 years

Compensation

- Among lowest paid in U.S. labor force
 - Average annual income
 - Arizona **\$19,970**
 - U.S. **\$20,940**
 - Federal poverty level
- \$17,170**
- 52.4% receive health benefits

Quality in Child Care



- Key indicators of child care quality: retention, training, and compensation.
 - Providers earning more benefits less likely to be punitive and detached.
 - Higher levels of compensation associated with positive development experiences for children.
- Higher levels of education and training result in children being better prepared for school.
 - Formal education strongest predictor of ability to engage children.
 - Providers with specialized training more likely to be nurturing.

(NACCRRRA, 2012; The Gallup Organization, 2003).

Arizona Child Care Regulations

- Minimum of 18 training hours mandated each year
 - Significant relationship between training hours and child care quality
 - Limited opportunities for affordable professional development
- New requirement for proof of immunity to pertussis
 - Significant rise in AZ pertussis cases
 - Limited access to affordable adult vaccines

Child Care Health Consultation

CCHCs

- Registered nurses
- On-site assessment of health practices/routines
- Health records review
- Health policy review and development
- Staff/parent trainings
- Community resource and referral

Outcomes

- Fewer child/staff sick days
- Increased compliance with universal precautions
- Higher immunization rates
- Improved immunization record-keeping

Community-Based Trainings

1. Improve quality of out-of-home care settings through evidence-based health and safety training.
2. Increase child care worker access to adult immunization.

Community-Based Trainings



- Collaboration
 - MCDPH Office of Community Health Nursing
 - Rio Salado College
- Child care provider health and safety training
 - Best practices (regulations vs. CFOC)
 - Medication Administration, Safe Sleep, Arrival Health Check, etc.
 - Free training hours

Community-Based Trainings

- Overview of pertussis
 - New state regulation
 - Rise in number of cases
 - Increased risk for children < 5 years old
 - Importance of cocooning
- At the end all participants are offered ...

Free TDaP

Outcomes

- Monthly training sessions
- 15 – 25 participants per class
- Training hours may be applied to Rio Salado's Child Development Associate (CDA) certification
- Credit by evaluation – Rio Salado's Early Childhood & Human Development program

450 doses of TDaP since 2010

Sustainability

- Funding
 - Initial: 317 discretionary funding
 - Fee fund
 - Vaccine administration fees

References

- The Gallup Organization. (2003). Child care quality and workforce characteristics in four Midwestern states.
- The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies. (2012). The child care workforce. Retrieved May 7, 2012 from http://www.naccrra.org/sites/default/files/default_site_pages/2012/ccgb_cc_workforce_jan2012.pdf.
- The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies. (2011). 2011 child care in the state of Arizona.

Contact Information

Tonya Toussaint

Maricopa County Department of Public Health

TonyaToussaint@mail.maricopa.gov

Wearepublichealth.org