



**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY**

1717 W. Jefferson - P.O. Box 6123 - Phoenix, AZ 85005

Janet Napolitano  
Governor

Tracy L. Wareing  
Director

July 20, 2007

Ms. Debbie Davenport  
Auditor General  
Office of the Auditor General  
2910 North 44 Street, Suite 410  
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Dear Ms. Davenport:

The Department of Economic Security wishes to thank the Office of the Auditor General for the opportunity to respond to the recently completed audit of the Office of Prevention and Family Support located within the Division of Children, Youth and Families.

The Department is pleased your office recognized the excellent job the Office of Prevention and Family Support is doing to ensure providers are in contract compliance, which ultimately means program families receive high quality services.

The Division of Children, Youth and Families is dedicated to the Department's mission which states "The Arizona Department of Economic Security promotes the safety, well-being and self-sufficiency of children, adults and families" and understands that prevention is the first step to ensuring child safety in the community. We are confident that our nationally recognized and credentialed Healthy Families Arizona home visitation program and our Promoting Safe and Stable Families program are effective programs that assist families achieve a better outcome in life thus ensuring child safety.

The Department agrees with and is currently implementing the recommendations.

If you have any questions, please contact Ken Deibert, Deputy Director, Division of Children, Youth and Families, at (602) 542-3598, or me at (602) 542-5757.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Wareing  
Director

Attachment

***ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY'S RESPONSE  
TO THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT  
ON PREVENTION PROGRAMS***

The Department's response to the Auditor General recommendations is described below.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:**

The Division should develop and implement a process to verify PSSF program contractors' compliance with the contractual requirements for a 25 percent in-kind match and 10 percent administrative expenditure limitation.

**DES Response:**

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

A process has been developed and was implemented in July 2007 to address this finding of the audit.

**RECOMMENDATION 2:**

The Division should continue to include direct observations of service provision during its PSSF program site visit monitoring.

**DES Response:**

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

A process has been developed and was implemented in March 2007 to address this finding of the audit.

**RECOMMENDATION 3:**

The Division should ensure PSSF program contractors adequately demonstrate client services are being provided as reported.

**DES Response:**

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

A process has been developed and was implemented in June 2007 to address this finding of the audit.

**RECOMMENDATION 4:**

The Division should continue to base payment for HFAz program site visit on the submission of the written site reports.

**DES Response:**

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

A process has been developed and was implemented in February 2007 to address this finding of the audit.

**RECOMMENDATION 5:**

The Division should continue to centralize documentation on HFAz and PSSF program contractor performance issues and ensure that issues noted by all personnel monitoring the contracts in included.

**DES Response:**

The finding of the Auditor General is agreed to and the audit recommendation will be implemented.

A process has been developed and was implemented in May 2007 to address this finding of the audit.