

Save the Children

Serving New Mexico Native American Children
Indian Affairs Committee Update
July 21, 2011

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Presentation Summary

- Overview
- Current Program and Partnership Descriptions
- Results
- Funding
- Closing
- Questions and Answers

About Save the Children

Leading independent organization creating lasting change for children

Founded in Appalachia in 1932, celebrating over 75 years of service to children

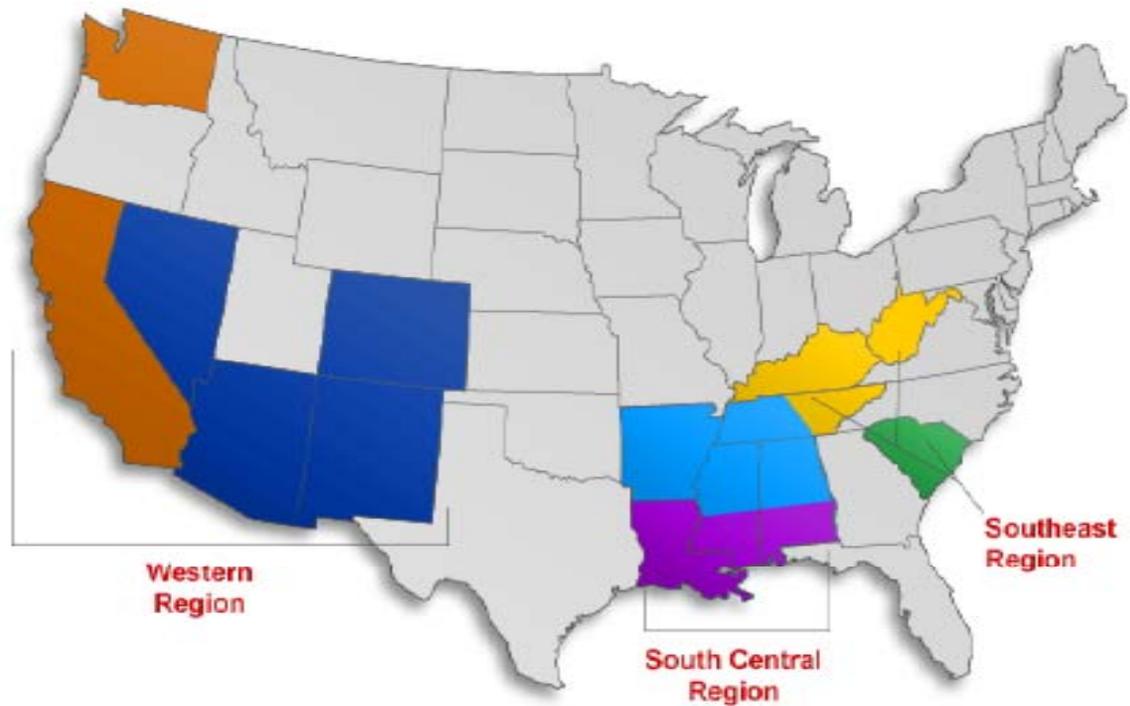
In more than 50 countries, including 14 states in the US

Serve more than 37 million children and 24 million adults



U.S. Programs

- Early Childhood: *Early Steps to School Success*
- Literacy in school tutoring: *Literacy Block*
- *CHANGE – Physical Activity and Nutrition*
- Children in emergencies and crisis



Serving Disadvantaged Rural Communities

- High % of poverty
- Isolation
- High unemployment
- Lack of community resources
- Receive less per capita federal funds and private charitable funding than urban areas
- Parents have limited formal education
- Transportation issues
- High risk factors



Six Decades of Support to Native American Communities in SW

- Work began in response to the Navajo Blizzard of 1948
- Ongoing partnerships have included nutrition, education, childcare support, etc.
- Multiple generations of sponsored children
- 2004-2005 evolved to the current literacy-focused school partnerships
- Served more than 3,000 Native American children in this unique partnership with Native American communities and the State of New Mexico



2010-11 Partnerships

- Our target students are struggling readers in grades K-6 (most participating students are in grades 2-4).
- In the 2010-11 school year 528 children participated, with several thousands other students at the same schools benefitting from books and other resources.
- **Over 60%** of participating children achieve annual literacy gains equivalent to four extra months of school.

2010-2011 Partner Schools

Ashiwi Elementary
Church Rock Academy
Crownpoint Elementary
Cubero Elementary
Dowa Yalanne Elementary
San Diego Riverside Charter
Thoreau Elementary
Tohatchi Elementary
Twin Lakes Elementary



Secret to Success: A Unique Partnership



The Heart of the Program - The Literacy Block

Each Day Students Practice:

- 10 minute read aloud
 - Hearing good reading, observe think-aloud strategies (predicting, summarizing, asking clarifying questions, making inferences, etc.), building background knowledge, encounter new vocabulary
- 20 minutes of fluency building and vocabulary practice
 - Increases accuracy & speed, improves expression and phrasing, provides vocabulary practice
- 30 minutes of guided independent reading
 - Builds confidence, promotes choice, fosters love of reading
- 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity & healthy snack

Literacy Block Goals

- Children reading at or above grade level
- Build capacity of local staff and schools to support literacy growth
- Provide professional development for locally-hired staff
- Use data to constantly evaluate and improve program outcomes



Measurable Results for Native American Children in New Mexico

- **Children are Reading Better**

Targeted struggling readers are making critical gains. Over 60% of all participating children achieve annual literacy gains equivalent to four extra months of school.

- **Supporting Communities**

Currently this partnership supports 36 on-site school staff who are locally hired. These positions are primarily paraprofessionals who can use this opportunity to begin a career in education.

- **Investments in Literacy**

School libraries grow with new books and technology. Over \$36,000 of books were provided to NM schools this year.

- **Children are Healthier**

All participating children receive a health snack and a half hour of fun, vigorous physical activity every day.

Delivering Measurable Results for Native American Children:

SITE	STATE	Total # of Children (active & inactive)	# of children with 2 NCE growth	% growth (either from STAR or M&E)	% growth regularly participating children	% growth target population
CUBERO	NM	83	48	58.00%	66.00%	72.00%
SAN DIEGO RIVERSIDE	NM	56	24	43.00%	54.00%	54.00%
THOREAU	NM	78	60	77.00%	78.00%	79.00%
TOHATCHI	NM	44	24	55.00%	61.00%	63.00%
CHURCHROCK	NM	90	60	67.00%	64.00%	67.00%
CROWNPOINT	NM	71	46	65.00%	68.00%	68.00%
TWIN LAKES	NM	44	29	66.00%	71.00%	71.00%
ASHIWI	NM	63	44	70.00%	70.00%	71.00%
DOWA YALANNE	NM	71	46	65.00%	66.00%	73.00%
		600	381	63.5%	67.2%	70%

Cultural Connection

We are working to strongly support New Mexico Native American communities:

- Portion of funding for books is dedicated specifically to culturally-designed materials.
- Activities include bringing in local storytellers, incorporating local traditions, etc.
- Local hiring brings local perspectives and ownership.
- We value past feedback and are working to constantly improve.



A Smart Investment for NM Native American Children

Q: *How can the schools in our partnerships receive more in funding than the state provides each year for this program?*

A: We raise private contributions to invest in our partner communities. However, state funding is critical—national fundraising is not possible without this demonstrated state buy-in.

“Rural Literacy Program” Funding Overview

Unique investment partnership requires dollar-for-dollar match, provided up-front to the state.

This year, 2011, **NM would directly receive \$600,000 of programs from Save the Children with a \$300,000 investment.**

Additional in-kind support increases the value of the match.

Program is run through the Indian Education Division of PED and subject to periodic competitive RFP.

Program Future

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...however, state buy-in is the cornerstone of our ability to attract private investment. Annual funding cuts endanger our ability to continue!

Considerations

We encourage the dialogue on funding alternatives:

State leaders are divided on the best use of IEA funds and viable alternatives...

-but-

...the central goal should continue to be increasing opportunities for Native American children



Summary

- We have a long and proud history partnering with SW Native American communities to provide vital services and support.
- We are delivering significant & measurable results for NM Native American Children in need.
- We are Supporting NM Native American Communities through investment partnership.
- We are a smart investment, but state support is essential to private investment.



Save the Children

Question
&
Answer

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