

Pinal Third Grade Reading Initiative



Pilot Program

October 2019

What is the Pinal Third Grade Reading Initiative?

- Proposed project of **Achieve Pinal**
- What is Achieve Pinal?
 - Regional grassroots effort
 - Dedicated to improving educational attainment
 - Develop a competitive workforce for future jobs in Pinal County
- Achieve Pinal is a project of Pinal Alliance for Economic Growth

Why Focus on Reading?

- First children learn to read, then they read to learn
- Being able to read by end of third grade is the crucial milestone in a child's future success
- Children who cannot read well by third grade:
 - Four times more likely to leave school without a diploma
 - More prone to engage in behaviors such as truancy and aggression

Why Does Casa Grande Need a Reading Initiative?

- We have a bright economic future if:
 - We can supply workers for new businesses that want to locate here
 - Lucid, Attesa, Nikola and others
- Good paying jobs of future will require reading and analysis skills
- High paying manufacturing jobs will also require these skills
 - Instead of providing physical labor, most of those manufacturing jobs will involve programming, maintaining and fixing machines that are doing physical labor

Why Does Casa Grande Need a Reading Initiative?

- AZ Progress Meter for Third Grade Reading
 - Goal for State: 72% Reading at Grade Level
 - Currently
 - State: 44%
 - Pinal County: 38%
 - Casa Grande: 29%
- **Being able to read by end of third grade is the crucial milestone in a child's future success**

How Do We Address this Problem?

- **AARP Experience Corps Reading Literacy Program**
 - Place adult volunteers, 50+ years, in elementary school classrooms
 - Provide one-on-one tutoring, mentoring and encouragement to students who are falling behind
 - Improve third grade reading fluency
 - Fluency: ability to read text accurately and quickly
 - Comprehension follows fluency

Proven Benefits of AARP Literacy Program

- Multiple studies: Johns Hopkins and Washington Universities show effectiveness of program
 - 62% Improved ½ Year or More
 - 58% Improved School Attendance
 - 92% of Teachers: Tutors had Moderate to Strong Impact on Performance
 - Tempe and Phoenix: 96-99% Improved Fluency
- Health and Social Benefits for Volunteers
 - 96% Increased Sense of Purpose
 - Halted or Reversed Declines in Brain Volume
 - Improved Civic Engagement/Advocates for Education

Tempe and Phoenix Experience Corps Programs

- Structure
- Partnerships
- Outcomes
- National Model

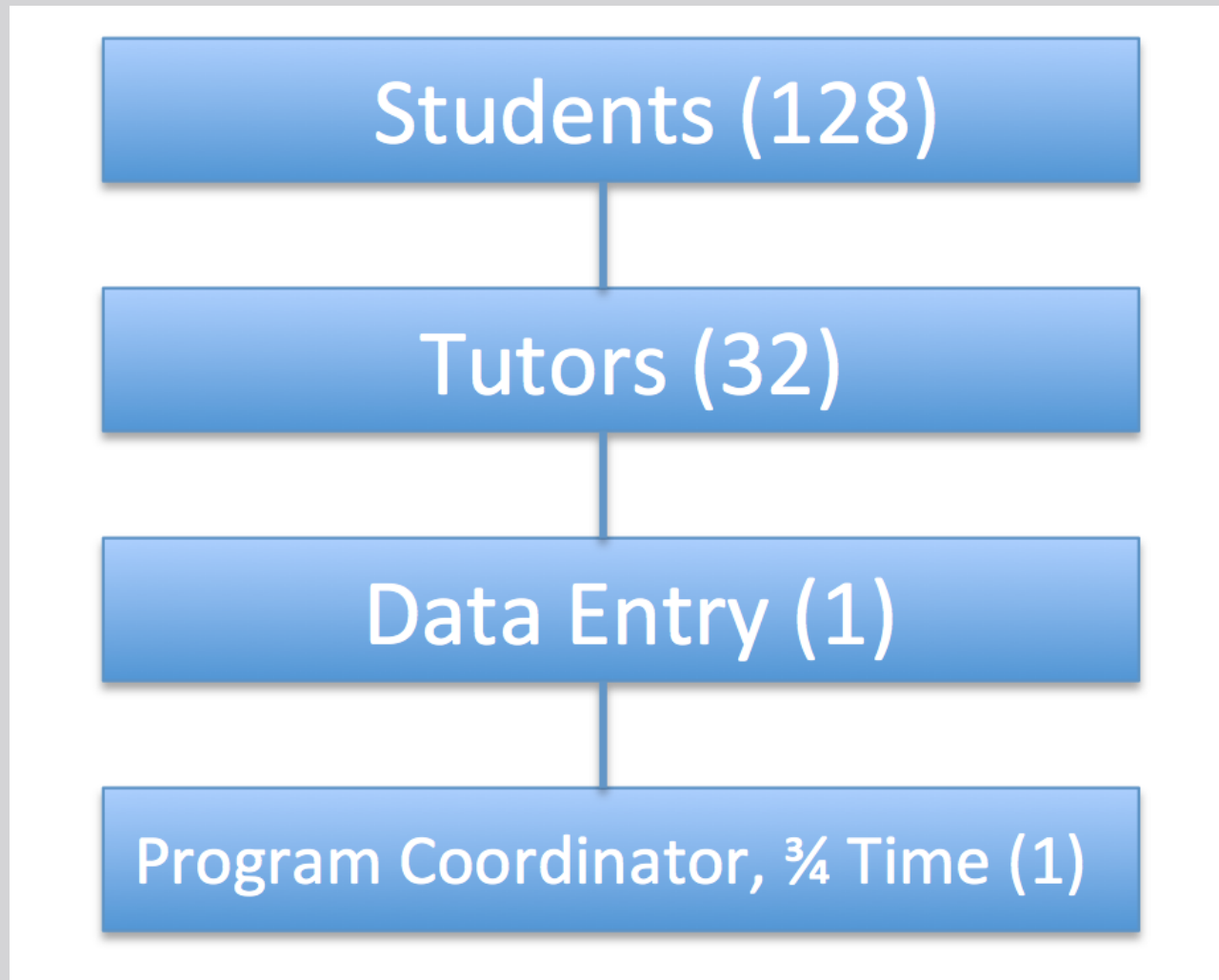
What About the Rest of the County?

- Casa Grande would be a **Pilot Program**
- Why a Pilot Program?
 - Address challenges
 - Establish a foundation for expansion
 - Make program available to other School Districts after it is on a solid footing
- Proposed Timeline
 - 1st year: 2020-2021, Evaluate results in June 2021
 - 2nd year: 2021-2022, Evaluate results in June 2022
 - 3rd year: Open program to other Districts

Who Will Host the Program?

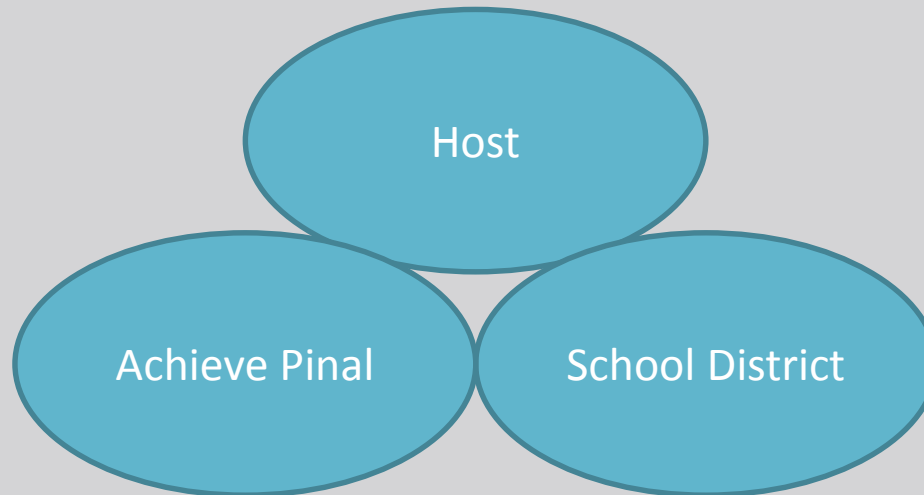
- Host provides organization, offices, and oversight for employees
- AARP looks for a very stable group: Cities, Counties, Non-profits, School Districts
- Potential Hosts:
 - City of Casa Grande
 - Casa Grande Elementary School District
 - Pinal Alliance for Economic Growth
 - United Way

How Will the Program be Staffed?



How Will the Program be Managed?

Experience Corps Advisory Board



Committee Joint Responsibilities

- Set direction for the program
- Disperse funds
- Provide general guidance to
Program Coordinator

Committee Individual Proposed Responsibilities

Host	Organization, Offices, Oversight Financial Support
School District	Tutor Training in Future Financial Support Provide Student Test Data Select students for program jointly with Project Manager
Achieve Pinal	Fundraising Manage 501c3 Outreach

AARP Foundation Experience Corps Responsibilities

- Resources
- Support

How Much Will the Program Cost?

First Year Budget

Salaries

Program Coord. ($\frac{3}{4}$ Time Contract, All Year): Salary: \$31,500

Administrative Support: Vista Costs for our Program: \$8,000

Other Costs

Launch Costs: \$2,000, supplies

Volunteer Support: \$8,000, recruitment, training (Includes \$3,000 for fingerprinting)

Total \$49,500

Who are Possible Funders?

- AARP Foundation
- Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
- Pinal Alliance for Economic Growth
- Pinal 40
- Resolution Copper
- Achieve 60 AZ
- Elementary School Districts
- Cities and Towns
- Pinal County
- Foundations
- United Way
- Utilities
- Local Businesses and Industries
- Service Organizations
- Indian Communities
- Individual Contributors

Timeline

- December 5, 2019 - Application Due
- January – February 2020 - AARP Invitation to Participate
- March 1 – Program Coordinator On Board
- Spring - Boot Camp: How to Start
- March - April - Recruitment
- Summer - Volunteer Training
- September - Program Begins

Thank You!

