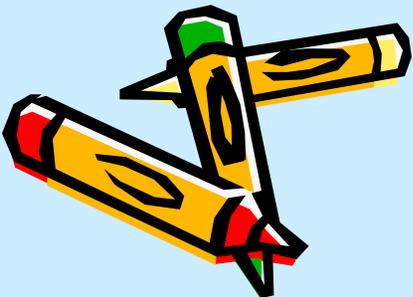
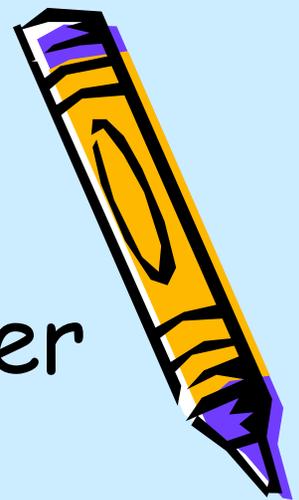


# Cradle to Crayons

Maricopa County Child Welfare Center



# Cradle to Crayons

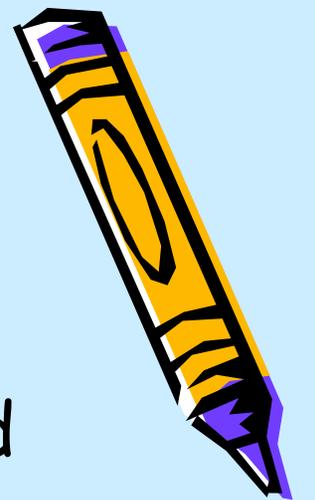
What We Know.....

Infants and toddlers are widely recognized as our most vulnerable population

Intervention is more effective and less costly when provided earlier rather than later in a child's life

Early, secure and consistent relationships with adult caregivers contribute to healthy brain development

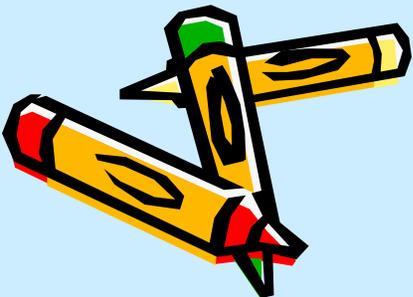
Later academic success is directly related to a young child's early emotional and social development



# Cradle to Crayons

## Children Under the Age of Five Years:

- \*Highest fatality rates as a result of abuse and neglect
- \*Stay in the system longer
- \*Higher rates of system re-entry
- \*Higher rates of developmental delay and neurological impairment
- \*High levels of stress during critical periods of brain development



# Cradle to Crayons

## Why?

Since July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011.....

- 1,793 Dependency Petitions filed in Maricopa County involved at least one child under 3 years of age. This represents 45% of all petitions filed and a total of 2,136 children.
- 2,212 Dependency Petitions filed in Maricopa County involved at least one child under 5 years of age. This represents 56% of all petitions filed and a total of 2,989 children.



# Cradle to Crayons

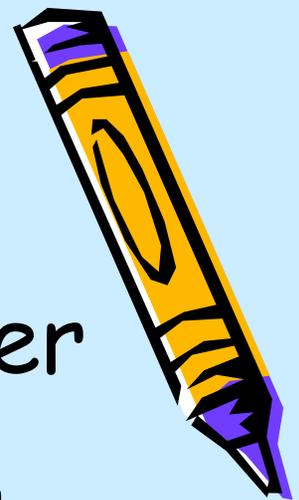
## What Maricopa County Juvenile Court is doing:

- Assigning specific judicial officers to manage baby cases with specialized training in 0-3
- Concurrent planning on every case
- Ordering more frequent hearings
  - Ordering more frequent parent contact
- Identifying appropriate community stakeholders for involvement in family treatment
  - Dependency Drug Court
  - Two juvenile court facilities with a total of 4.5 judicial officers-- anticipate expansion within next six months



# Cradle to Crayons

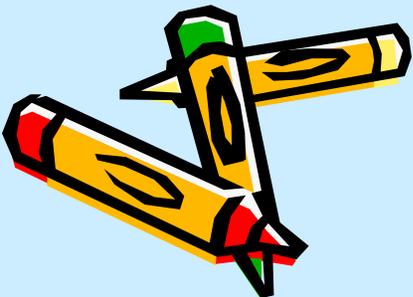
## Maricopa County Child Welfare Center



A collaborative project with community partners to improve outcomes for high-risk infants, toddlers and their families.

An initiative with strong judicial leadership and coordination of appropriate and convenient services for both children and their families

**Goal:** Provide infants and young children with stable, nurturing and forever families.

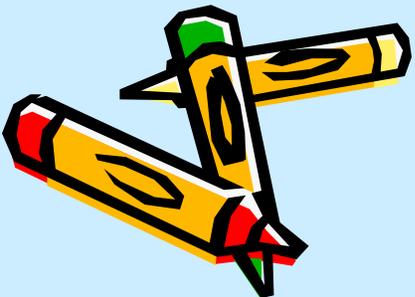


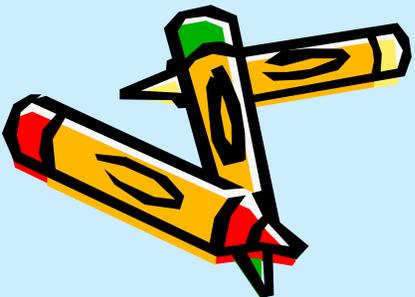


Maricopa County  
Cradle to Crayons  
Child Welfare Center

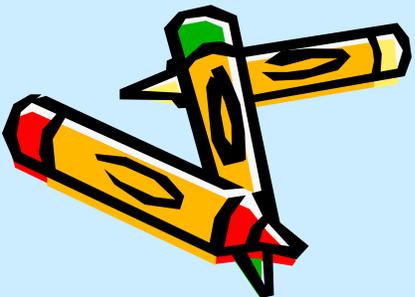
**3445**  
West Durango Street



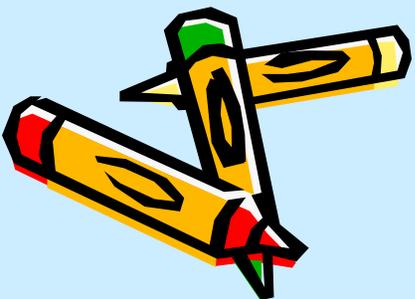


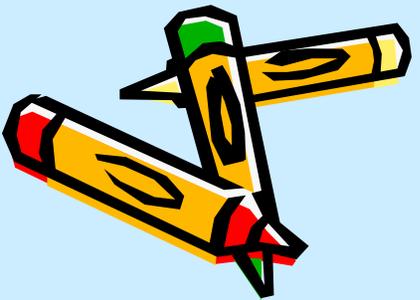










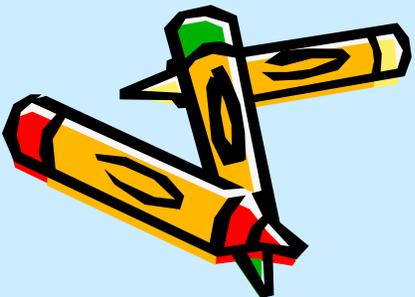


# Cradle to Crayons

## Maricopa County Child Welfare Center

### Problems:

- Caretaker history of mistreatment
- Unskilled young parent(s)
- Languishing in system
- Poor bonding and attachment
- Uncoordinated service delivery



# Cradle to Crayons

Maricopa County Child Welfare Center

- Frequent, meaningful contact between parent and child
- Help heal and thrive
- Prevent abuse
- Provide a developmental environment
- Ensure successful entry into pre-school





**Maricopa County  
Cradle to Crayons  
Child Welfare Center**

**Judicial Leadership**

**Expedited Court Oversight and Direction**

**Family Time Coaching**

**Child/Parent Interaction**

**Community Services Resource Coordination**

**Community Coordinators assigned to Cradle to Crayons Judicial Divisions**

**Early Childhood Pre-School Readiness**

**Mental Health Service Coordination**

**Substance Abuse Services**

**Dependency Treatment Court Program**

