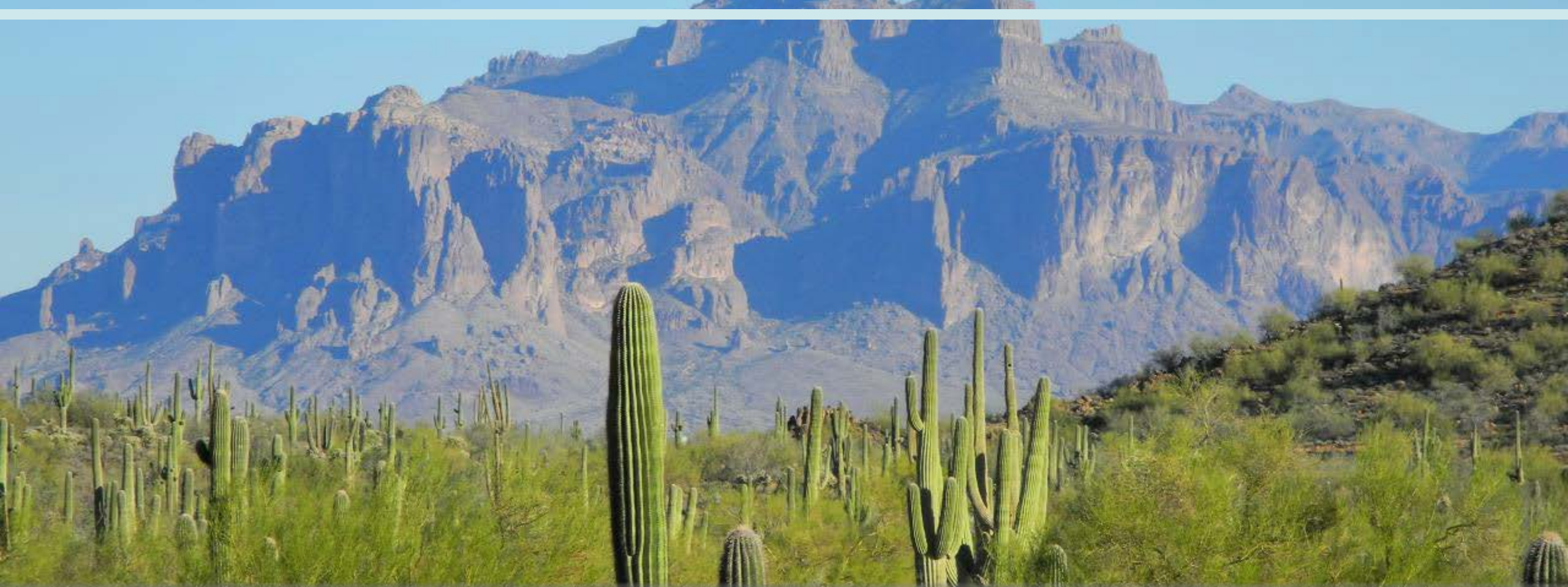




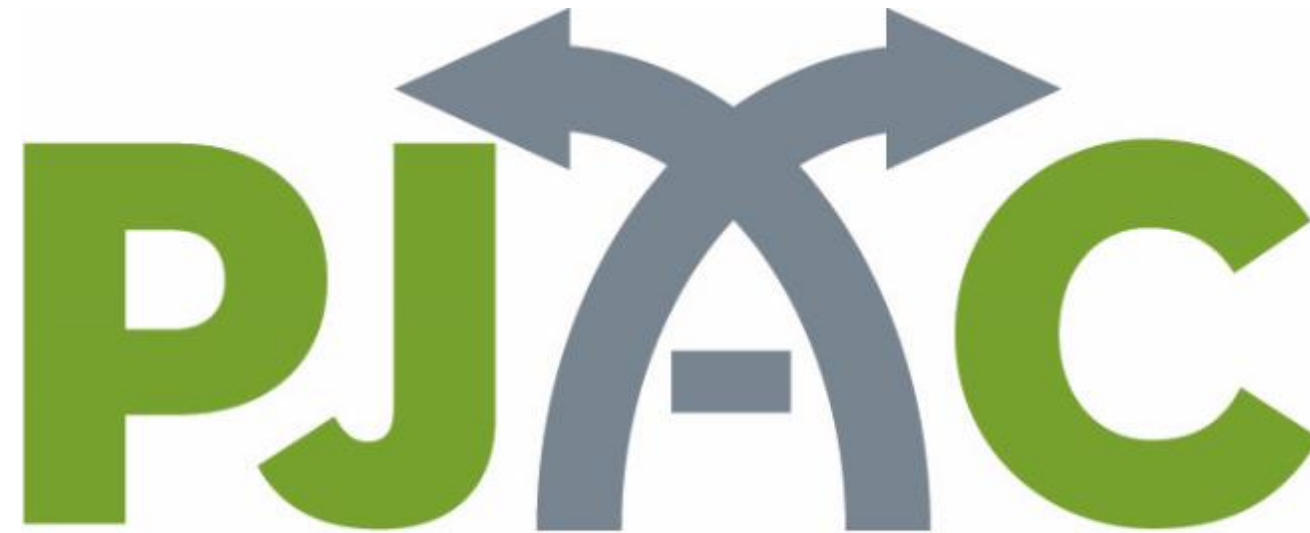
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



Arizona Division of Child Support Services

Maricopa County, Arizona



PROCEDURAL JUSTICE-INFORMED
ALTERNATIVES TO CONTEMPT

Jonell Sullivan, Project Director Arizona



Laws and Processes


- The Final Rule – Ability to Pay
- Standard Contempt Review
- Arizona Management System
- Legal Decision/Parenting Time

- A.R.S. §25-509 C. The attorney general or county attorney shall not seek or defend any ancillary matters, such as custody or parenting time, raised in these proceedings...



Implementation Experiences



 New Relationships

 Existing Relationships



 Greatest Need

 Not Needed (yet)

Proposal vs Reality of Implementation



What Was Happening: Field Offices, case workers (CWs) and AG staff (AGs), were communicating ineffectively with our clients.

What We Did: Conducted side-by-sides and worked with the CWs and AGs on implementing new verbiage and setting a different expectation for our clients

What Was the Outcome: We helped alleviate future upset and confusion



Unexpected Challenges



Impact the Judicial Contempt Review for Ability to Pay

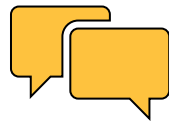


Case managers, at first, felt defeated by strict parameters.

Digging deeper helped clear up the process.

Communication within DCSS

Fairly good with Maricopa County



Not so good with the rest of the state and AG/Courts

Case Review



Deep Dive Case Review required to make sure all inaccuracies are uncovered that could potentially affect the outcome, not enough time to conduct.

We expanded the timeframe, reducing the occurrence of inaccuracies coming to light in our cases.

Procurement



Working on a solution to filing parenting plans with the courts, as our AGs are prohibited by statute to do this, and found out it's not as simple as we first thought.

Training for our case managers is very specific and tailored.

Community Partnerships should be built prior to reaching out.

Case Attention = Resolution



Voice

Outcome

Lessons
Learned

Successes



Baseline Characteristics

- Average age of the Paying Parent is 40 years old
- 93.1% are Male
- Average number of cases 1.4
- Average monthly obligation owed \$439.00
- Average Arrears owed \$44,635.00
- Percentage of previous contempt filings 38.8%



Review Domestic Violence Processes



Standard Practices

New Practices



Culture Changes/System Changes



**Relationship
building with the
Arizona
Coalition to End
Sexual and
Domestic
Violence**

**Child Support
Professional
Specific Family
Violence training
developed.**



Thank you!

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