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STRONG START TUCSON KICKOFF EVENT

Local Leaders Launch Campaign to Improve the Lives of Children in our Community.

Tucson, AZ, November 15, 2016– The Strong Start Tucson campaign kickoff event will be held this **Thursday November 17th, 5:30-7:00 PM at Make Way for Books, 700 N Stone Ave.** The event is open to the public. Strong Start Tucson is a city-wide ballot initiative campaign. The initiative seeks to create a dedicated, sustainable funding source to provide financial assistance to allow 100% of Tucson’s eligible three and four-year-olds to attend high-quality preschool by increasing the city’s sales tax by half a cent. Campaign organizers plan to bring this initiative directly to Tucson voters in the November 2017 elections.

“Never before have I worked on a project that will impact the community and our education system the way Strong Start Tucson will. I am incredibly excited to get this effort underway. I get excited because we know from research done by economists, educators and others that high quality preschool makes a measurable impact in eliminating poverty, ensuring children are successful in kindergarten and increasing high school graduation rates. We have studied other communities and their successes with accessible high quality preschool. We know Tucsonans value children’s futures. The Strong Start Tucson campaign is the result of our values put into action,” said Bill Berk, Owner Outer Limits School.

When Strong Start Tucson is approved by Tucson voters next fall, all Tucson parents of three and four-year-old children will be able to enroll their children in a high quality preschool. The amount of tuition assistance provided to families will be based on financial need. Visionary cities, counties and even some states across the country recognize the value of preschool to promote children’s success, reduce poverty and even improve the economic climate of a region.

Penelope Jacks, Community Leader and Committee Chair, said, “As we move forward it is important to continue to hold forth a bigger vision for Tucson. The citizens of this forward thinking community have consistently demonstrated strong support for ideas that speak to a better future for children. This is truly who we are as a City. All children deserve the chance to reach their full potential.”

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Penelope Jacks at 603.6911 or email at penelope@strongstarttucson.org.

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Strong Start Tucson is a political action committee in support of a citizen’s initiative to create a fund that will enable 100% of Tucson’s eligible three and four-year-old children to receive preschool tuition assistance.