



90% OF A CHILD'S BRAIN DEVELOPS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN.

PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGION

2017 IMPACT REPORT



THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

From birth to age 5, the brain develops faster than at any other time in life. And how a child's brain develops in these early years will have a lasting impact on their future.

Science has shown that children with positive, nurturing experiences in their early years go on to be healthier and more successful in school and in life. They're more ready for kindergarten. They're more likely to graduate from high school and go on to college. They're more prepared for a successful career and to be contributing members of their communities.



That's why Arizonans created First Things First – to support the development and learning of our youngest children. First Things First invests in proven programs and innovative strategies that:



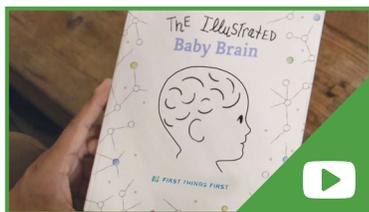
STRENGTHEN FAMILIES in their role as their child's first teacher.



IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EARLY LEARNING in child care and preschool programs.



PROMOTE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT to ensure that kids arrive at kindergarten ready to succeed.



WATCH OUR VIDEO

to learn more about early childhood brain development.

<http://www.firstthingsfirst.org/why-early-childhood-matters/the-first-five-years>

EARLY CHILDHOOD IN THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGION

“As a result of strategic planning discussions for 2017 about the regional needs and assets and the opportunities to provide more services for families and children in the region, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council decided to implement parenting and community outreach and awareness. The regional council also focused on improving child care and education by investing in Quality First, Quality First scholarships, registry and college scholarships and professional development for early childhood professionals.

Some of the successes in 2017 included professional development opportunities for teachers and caregivers on the reservation by partnering with the Tribal Education Department and other community partners. This work will help ensure that there are more tribal teachers with college degrees when caring for children ages birth to 5.”

Cecilia F. Garcia
Chair, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council

2017 PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGION HIGHLIGHTS



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND EARLY LITERACY

192 Resource guides were distributed to families, so parents could easily access support services and resources to help care for their children.

1,109 Books were given to parents and caregivers of infants, toddlers and preschoolers through a tribal partner.



QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

141 Children attended preschools and child care programs participating in Quality First.

16 Children birth to age 5 received a Quality First scholarship to attend high quality preschools and child care programs.

35 Early childhood professionals received support through professional development opportunities to enhance the quality of teacher-child interactions.

8 Early childhood professionals received college scholarships to improve their skills in working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP HELPS PASCUA YAQUI TEACHER GIVE HER YOUNG STUDENTS A STRONG EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

After working for about a decade as an early childhood teacher at the Pascua Yaqui Head Start, Maria Jones had a decision to make.

New regulations require early childhood teachers to have a bachelor's degree to continue in the classroom. Jones had earned her child development associate credential years ago and held an associate degree in early childhood education, but the cost of pursuing a bachelor's degree was daunting. Then she heard about a college scholarship funded by First Things First (FTF).

The FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council supports professional development opportunities for early childhood educators, including college scholarships. Jones became a recipient of the FTF College Scholarship in 2016.

"It is such an amazing opportunity for people like me who were scared away because of cost, because it gave me a chance to complete my dream," Jones said.

Jones became interested in early childhood education in high school and volunteered at the Pascua Yaqui Head Start. It was there that she learned how important it was to develop a strong educational foundation during the early years.

After graduating high school, Jones married and moved away, but returned years later with her family. Jones began volunteering again at the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start with the goal of becoming a full-time teacher and earned her credentials.

After a decade of working with young children, Jones will complete her early childhood education degree from Northern Arizona University in December 2017. She intends to continue working for the Pascua Yaqui Head Start to instill a love for learning in her young students.

**MORE LOCAL
STORIES**

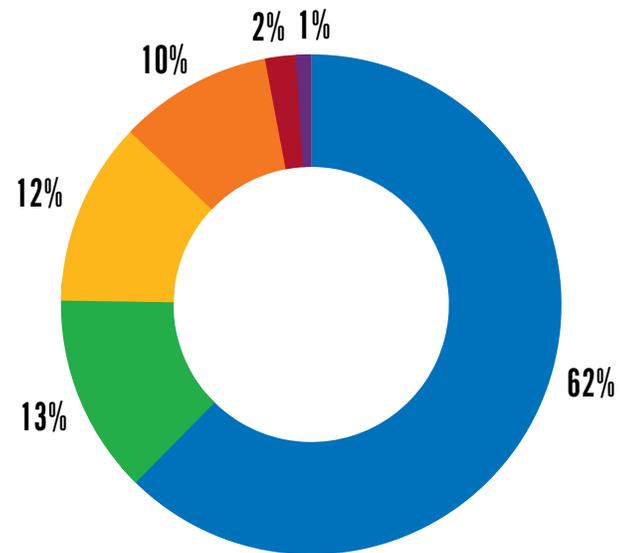
firstthingsfirst.org/regions/pascua-yaqui-tribe

FIRST THINGS FIRST PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

The First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council is made up of volunteers who study the unique needs of the local community and decide how funds will be used to best support the development, education and health of young children birth to age 5. First Things First invests in proven programs and innovative strategies through grants to community organizations that provide services to children and families.

FY17 PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$96,588
Workforce Development and Training	\$20,254
Strengthening Families	\$18,116
Research and Evaluation	\$14,998
Parent and Community Awareness	\$2,444
Preventive Health	\$1,173
TOTAL	\$153,573

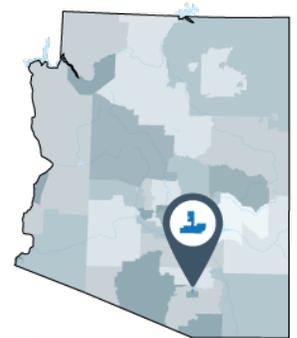


REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cecilia F. Garcia, *Chair* John Jensen, *Vice Chair*
 Juanita Ayala Francisco G. Muñoz Marilynn Sando
 Veronica Darnell Amalia A. M. Reyes
 Shanna Ioane Tautolo William Rosenberg

Tiburcia Yocupicio-Chambers,
FTF Regional Director
 tychambers@firstthingsfirst.org
 520.628.6899

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is defined by the borders of the Pascua Pueblo Reservation in Pima County. The region covers approximately 2.2 square miles. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is one of 10 Arizona tribes that has chosen to be designated as its own First Things First region. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region includes Legislative District 4. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)



Learn more at: firstthingsfirst.org/regions/pascua-yaqui-tribe