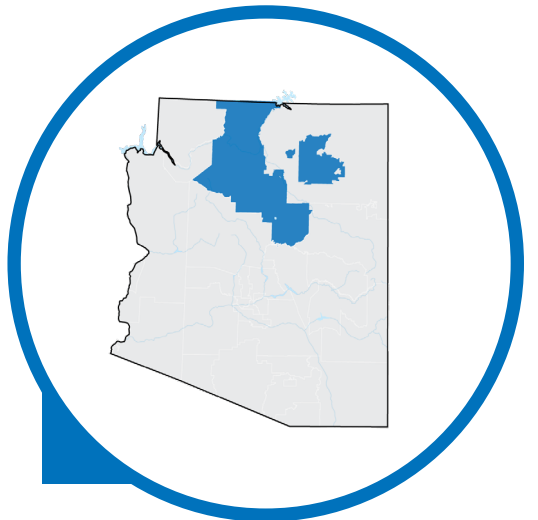




**90%** OF A CHILD'S BRAIN DEVELOPS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN.



# COCONINO 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:



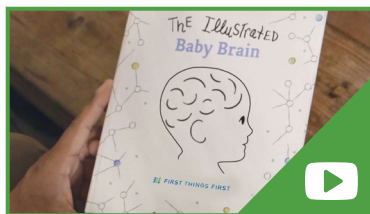
**STRENGTHEN FAMILIES** in their role as their child's first teacher.



**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 COCONINO REGION

“After studying the needs of young children and families in our community, the Coconino Regional Partnership Council implemented several strategies in 2017, including Quality First, care coordination and oral health. One exciting strategy includes parent education to support parents in meeting the developmental and health needs of their children. We also provide more access to quality child care.

Among the many accomplishments of all our partners in 2017, the Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) has continued to successfully engage parents and caregivers of children ages birth to 5, to increase their knowledge of positive parenting practices. Through this work, parents throughout the Coconino Region are developing skills for enriching their child's health and development.”

Steve Peru  
Chair, Coconino Regional Partnership Council

# 2017 COCONINO REGION HIGHLIGHTS



## STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND EARLY LITERACY

**1,526** Families of newborns received the Arizona Parent Kit, filled with tips and tools to help support their child's healthy development.

**114** Families received voluntary in-home coaching from trained providers to improve their parenting skills.



## QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

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

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



## PREVENTIVE HEALTH

**1,468** Children received screenings to detect vision, hearing, and developmental issues to prevent learning challenges later on.

**947** Fluoride varnishes applied to protect against childhood tooth decay.

## PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM HELPS FREDONIA GIRL BECOME A PROBLEM SOLVER

Danielle Smith and her husband wanted to ensure they had the parenting skills needed to form positive relationships with their two daughters and get them ready to be successful in school.

Smith's youngest daughter Zoey was age 1, when she found out about the 1234 Parents! parent education program at Fredonia Elementary School, which provides education and support to parents with children ages birth to 5. First Things First funds the program in the Coconino region.

Over the course of five sessions, the program covers topics such as: developing a loving relationship, communication and positive discipline, ages and stages and language and reading skills.

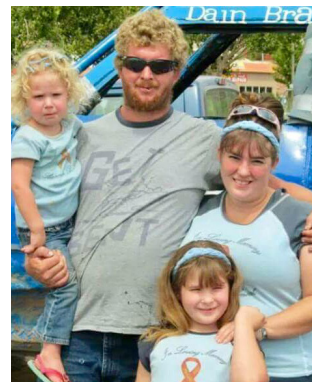
"One of the most important and first things that I learned was being able to get down to their level," Smith said. "When you are trying to get your child's attention, if you can kneel down or sit down and be eye-to-eye with your child and let them know you are not lording over them."

The instructor encouraged the parents to give their children meaningful compliments.

"Not just saying, 'Hey, good job,' you have to verbally tell them, 'I really enjoyed watching you do your homework, you did a really good job and I can see how you worked it out.'" Smith said.

The classes have helped Zoey, now age 5, to be ready to start kindergarten.

"Zoey has learned to be a problem solver and learned to voice things," Smith said. "I think she will do really good in kindergarten."








**MORE LOCAL  
STORIES**

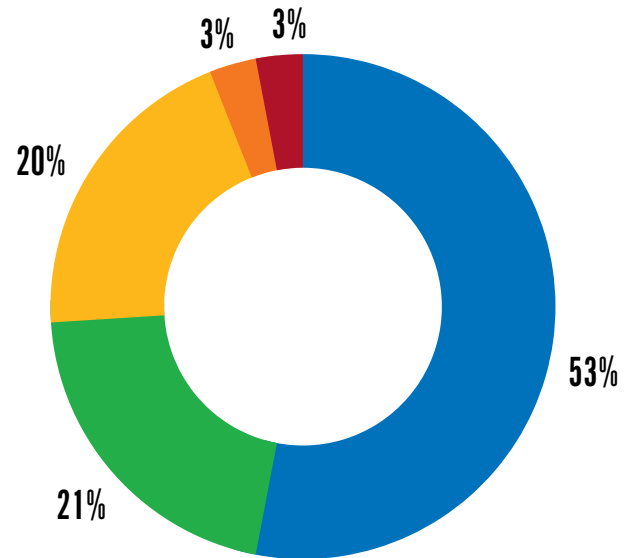
[firstthingsfirst.org/regions/coconino](http://firstthingsfirst.org/regions/coconino)

# FIRST THINGS FIRST COCONINO REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

The First Things First Coconino 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	\$1,140,170
	Preventive Health	\$462,333
	Strengthening Families	\$433,032
	Parent and Community Awareness	\$75,363
	Research and Evaluation	\$58,729
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,169,627</b>

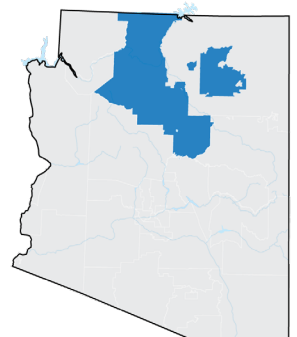


## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Steve Peru, <i>Chair</i>	James Scott Deasy, <i>Vice Chair</i>	
Beth Frost	Kelly McCue	Paula Stefani
Beth Johndrow	Ross Nicholls	Edmond Tilousi
Robert Kelty	Noreen Sakiestewa	Debbie Winlock

Peter Van Wyck  
FTF Regional Director  
pvanwyck@firstthingsfirst.org  
928.637.0412

The Coconino Region includes most of Coconino County, minus the Navajo Nation and the Hualapai Reservation, plus Winslow, the Hopi Reservation, Havasupai Reservation and the Kaibab Band of Paiute Tribe. While the majority of the region's young children live in or near Flagstaff, many live in towns or rural areas. The Coconino Region includes Legislative Districts 6 and 7. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)



Learn more at: [firstthingsfirst.org/regions/coconino](http://firstthingsfirst.org/regions/coconino)