



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



HUALAPAI 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:



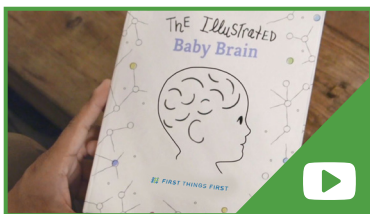
STRENGTHEN FAMILIES in their role as their child's first teacher.



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 HUALAPAI TRIBE REGION

“After studying the needs of young children and families in our community, the Hualapai Regional Partnership Council funded three strategies in 2017: parenting outreach and awareness, home visitation and Quality First. We also worked to build awareness of early childhood development. And we've focused on the physical and mental health of infants and toddlers as well as the early identification, intervention and support for families with children with developmental needs. Other strategies were to increase family involvement for developing early language and literacy skills.

One of the greatest accomplishments in 2017 included tribal departments building partnerships among each other, so collaboration could take place. A great example was our early literacy approach where a partnership between regional council members, Read On Hualapai and The Peach radio station, a home visitation program and Boys and Girls Club collaborated so our families and children are able to hear bedtime stories on the radio read by the different departments and community members. The story is followed by a lullaby, which is sung in Hualapai.”

Barbara Tinhorn
Chair, Hualapai Regional Partnership Council

2017 HUALAPAI TRIBE REGION HIGHLIGHTS



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND EARLY LITERACY

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



QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

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

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

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



PREVENTIVE HEALTH

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

FOUR PEACH SPRINGS MOTHERS, ALL SISTERS, FIND SUPPORT FOR THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN THROUGH HOME VISITATION PROGRAM

Rochelle Kennedy enrolled in the Maternal Child Health program two years ago when she was pregnant with her daughter, Mia. Kennedy learned so much from her home visitor that she recommended the program to her sister, who then recommended the program to another sister, who then recommended the program to another sister.

Although it is not uncommon in tribal regions for families to receive similar services, this is the first time the Hualapai home visitation program, which is funded by the First Things First Hualapai Tribe Region, has served four sisters at the same time. Between them, the sisters have six children under the age of 5. Families play a pivotal role in shaping their children's lives, something the sisters say they have learned from the in-home visits that focus on providing them with parenting information and support.

Kennedy said her parent educator helped her better understand the stages of development that her 2-year-old daughter is going through. She said her parent educator listens to her concerns and offers advice rather than judgment on topics such as managing temper tantrums and transitioning children off of using a bottle.

"Although I can go to a doctor for help, there are very few places I can go that will compliment my child's growth instead of looking for something wrong," Kennedy said.

Her sister, Emmaline Powskey, has two girls under the age of 5. Powskey said the home visitation program has improved her relationship with her daughters.

"I can become overwhelmed with the small things, so having someone there to break down situations alleviates that," Powskey said. "I have learned how to cope, reassure, and be in the moment with my daughters. This has helped me greatly understand that I am a big influence on their lives."




**MORE LOCAL
STORIES**

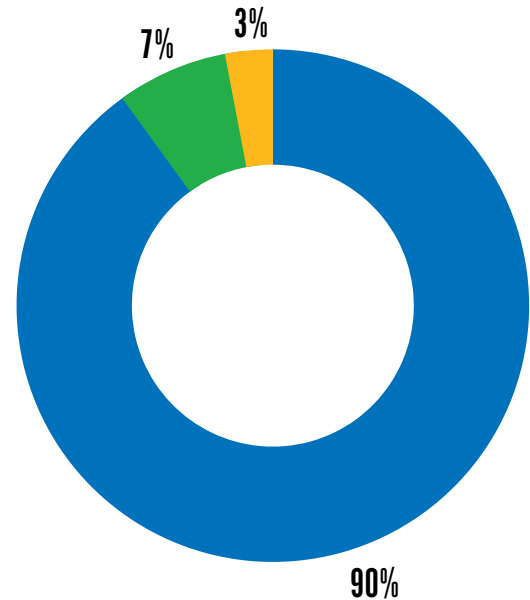
firstthingsfirst.org/regions/hualapai-tribe

FIRST THINGS FIRST HUALAPAI TRIBE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

The First Things First Hualapai 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

 Strengthening Families	\$82,334
 Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$5,978
 Research and Evaluation	\$2,690
TOTAL	\$91,002



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Barbara Tinhorn, *Chair*

Jaime Cole, *Vice Chair*

Zavier Benson

Jamie Navenma

Omaovensí Coochwytewa

Amelia Walema

Leon Ghahate

Lucille Watahomigie

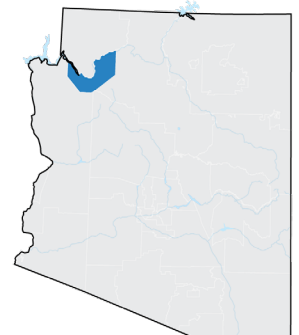
Charlene Imus

Jacqueline Flores,
FTF Regional Director

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The boundaries of the Hualapai Tribe Region are the same as those of the Hualapai Indian Reservation. Although the reservation includes lands in Coconino and Yavapai counties, most of the population live in or near Peach Springs in Mohave County. Separate pieces of the reservation lie to the south of Peach Springs, near Valentine and Wikieup. The Hualapai Tribe Region includes Legislative District 7. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)



Learn more at: firstthingsfirst.org/regions/hualapai