



EARLY EXPERIENCES
BUILD THE FOUNDATION
FOR A LIFETIME

COCHISE REGION

2018 IMPACT REPORT

 FIRST THINGS FIRST

90% OF A CHILD'S BRAIN DEVELOPS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

From birth to age 5, a child's brain develops more than any other time in life. Research shows that the quality of a child's early life experiences shape how their brain develops.

First Things First partners with families and communities to help our state's youngest children prepare for kindergarten and beyond.

“

The best investment in any young person's future is from birth to 5 years old. The crucial educational, social, cognitive and physical developments cemented during these crucial years – before they enter the k-12 system—benefit society as a whole for the long-term future of Arizona. When kids arrive at school prepared to succeed, we all benefit.”

Laura Killberg

Chair

Cochise Regional Partnership Council

That's why Arizonans created First Things First

HOW WE WORK



Early Childhood Funds

Allotted by FTF State Board



Local Decision-Making

Each region has 11 volunteer regional partnership council members representing their community. Based on the area's early childhood needs, each council prioritizes goals and strategies to help children birth to age 5 and their families.



28 FTF Regions

represent diverse communities across AZ

Partnerships with Local Early Childhood Providers

First Things First offers grant opportunities; providers implement programs and services in communities.



Community Collaborations

Regions also collaborate with organizations and entities to build a network of programs and services to better support young children.



THIS RESULTS IN MORE KIDS READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

FISCAL YEAR 2018 COCHISE REGION IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Here are a few highlights of the proven programs and innovative strategies from this region.



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND EARLY LITERACY

- 784** Families of newborns received the Arizona Parent Kit, filled with tips and tools to help support their child's healthy development.
- 161** Families received voluntary in-home coaching from trained providers to improve their parenting skills.



QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

- 1,232** Children attended preschools and child care programs participating in Quality First.
- 388** Children birth to age 5 received a Quality First scholarship to attend high quality preschools and child care programs.



PREVENTIVE HEALTH

- 315** Children received screenings to detect vision, hearing and developmental issues to prevent learning challenges later on.
- 1,516** Fluoride varnishes applied to protect against childhood tooth decay.

FIRST THINGS FIRST PARTNERS WITH CHILD CARE PROVIDERS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EARLY LEARNING IN THE COCHISE REGION

In the First Things First (FTF) Cochise region, families can access quality child care through First Things First's signature program Quality First, which partners with child care and preschool providers to improve the quality of early learning across Arizona.

With funding allocated by the FTF Cochise Regional Partnership Council, Quality First provides quality improvements that research proves help children thrive, such as training and coaching for teachers to expand their skills and to help create learning environments that nurture the emotional, social and academic development of every child. Research shows that children exposed to quality early care and education, no matter the setting, are more ready for kindergarten, do better in school and are more likely to graduate and go on to college.

Quality First also helps preschools and child care centers to improve the way teachers work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers to create positive and consistent relationships that give young children the individual attention they need.

In addition, the Cochise region offers Quality First scholarships to some of the children. These scholarships, though limited, are designed to help eligible families afford quality early care and education for their young children.

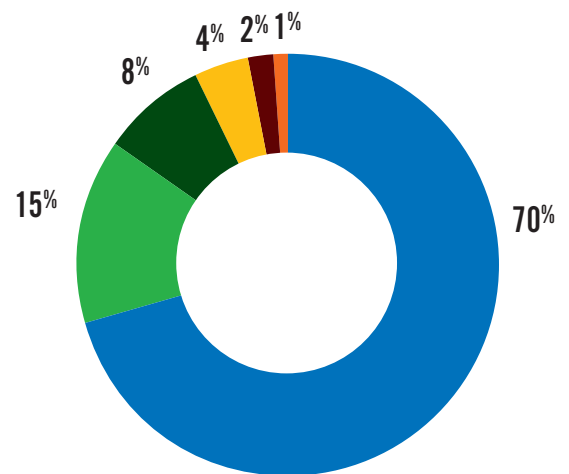
In state fiscal year 2018, more than 1,232 children in the Cochise region had access to a higher standard of early learning through preschool and child care programs by participating in Quality First, and 388 of those children received a Quality First scholarship.

COCHISE REGIONAL COUNCIL

The FTF Cochise 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. FTF invests in proven programs and innovative strategies through grants to community organizations that provide services to children and families.

FY18 TOTAL REGIONAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$1,855,065
Strengthening Families	\$374,291
Preventive Health	\$205,165
Workforce Development and Training	\$96,954
Research and Evaluation	\$52,281
Parent and Community Awareness	\$29,836
TOTAL	\$2,613,591



FIRST THINGS FIRST COCHISE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Laura Killberg,
Chair

Tommy Simpson,
Vice Chair

Melissa Avant,
FTF Regional Director

mavant@firstthingsfirst.org
520.378.3280

Members

Danielle Brownrigg

Anthony Reed

Lisa Holland

Brandi Samaniego

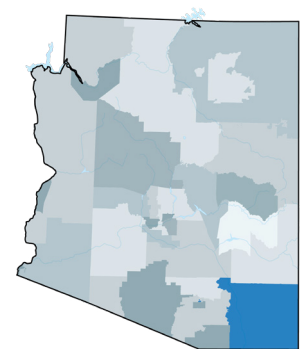
Peter Huisking

Lori Silk

Darlene Melk

Nancy-Jean Welker

Kelly Norris



The Cochise Region includes all of Cochise County and the northeastern corner of Pima County. The Cochise Region includes Legislative District 14. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)

Learn more at: FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Cochise