



EARLY EXPERIENCES
BUILD THE FOUNDATION
FOR A LIFETIME

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY 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.

“

Early childhood is when a child's brain develops. We want all of our children to develop their brains and bodies from the moment they are born. Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community values all tribal members and wants all our children to be healthy and to have a well-rounded education starting as early as possible.”

Christine McIntier

Chair

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
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 SRP-MIC REGION IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

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



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND EARLY LITERACY

- 158** Parents and caregivers attended workshops to learn about parenting and early childhood and supportive resources.
- 64** Parents and caregivers attended workshops about how to transition their child into kindergarten.



QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

- 1** Early childhood professional received college scholarships to improve their skills in working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers.



PREVENTIVE HEALTH

- 174** Food boxes distributed to families with infants, toddlers and preschoolers to meet food insecurity needs.

SUMMER TRANSITION PROGRAM HELPS PREPARE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY BOY BE SUCCESSFUL IN KINDERGARTEN

Cheyenne Enos thought her son, Brady, was ready for kindergarten, but decided to do a test run at the First Things First Pre-Kindergarten Summer School.

Brady had different ideas about starting kindergarten.

“He was actually running down the hallways, because he didn’t want to go to class,” said Enos, who soon realized that her son had difficulty behaving in a class setting.

The four-week program, funded by the First Things First Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council, gives pre-kindergarten students a chance to get classroom experience and interact with other students and teachers.

It also gives teachers an idea of how to prepare for the incoming students and it walks parents through what to expect for school communications and homework.



Enos, who is a second grade teacher, sat in on her son’s class to see if she could help him. She instructed him on how to hold a pencil and sit in circle time, but Brady’s behavior still disrupted the class.

“I realized he had attention issues and couldn’t focus. He was also very hyper,” said Enos. “I could see the teachers struggling with him. He struggled academically the first two weeks.”

Brady had never been to preschool, so Enos didn’t realize the classroom setting would be such a challenge. Soon after, Brady was diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and received treatment. There was an instant improvement.

“It was like night and day,” said Enos. “He was able to participate. The joy on his face was amazing.”

The summer school is designed for children like Brady, who haven’t been to preschool and also children with special needs.

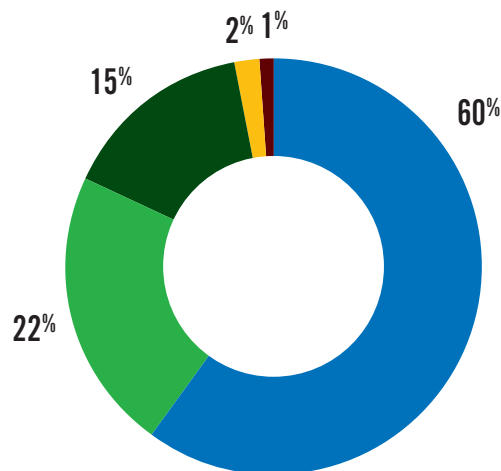
“It was a gift because we learned two months in advance of starting official kindergarten that Brady had ADHD,” said Enos. “He was well, ready to go, and he’s been successful in school ever since.”

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY REGIONAL COUNCIL

The FTF Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community 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

Strengthening Families	\$81,121
Preventive Health	\$30,407
Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$21,000
Research and Evaluation	\$2,456
Parent and Community Awareness	\$1,298
TOTAL	\$136,282



FIRST THINGS FIRST SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Chair

Kevin Poleyumptewa,
Vice Chair

Darlene Vinarskai,
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Crystal Banuelos

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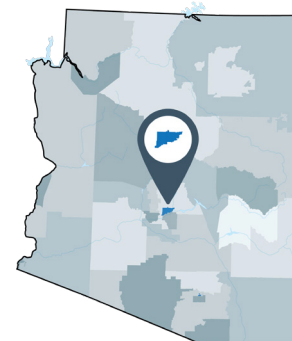
Felicia Jimerson

Edith Eubank

Virginia Loring

Paula Flores

Felicia Panana



The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, a sovereign tribe located 15 miles northeast of Phoenix, is one of 10 Arizona tribes that have chosen to be designated as its own First Things First region. The region has the same boundaries as the Salt River Reservation and covers about 85 square miles, entirely within Maricopa County, bordering the cities of Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa and Fountain Hills. The Community is home to the Pima ("Akimel O'Odham," River People) and the Maricopa ("Xalychidom Pipaash," People who live toward the water). Legislative districts include: 26. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)

Learn more at: FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Salt-River-Pima-Maricopa