



EARLY EXPERIENCES
BUILD THE FOUNDATION
FOR A LIFETIME

SAN CARLOS APACHE 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.

“

Investing in a child is investing in our future. We all need to be actively involved, as this, in the long run, affects our communities. What we pour into them from the time they are in the womb is what we will get out of them when they are older.”

Dr. Chinwe Egbo

Pediatrician

San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation

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 SAN CARLOS APACHE REGION IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

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



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND EARLY LITERACY

12,432 Books got into the homes of infants, toddlers and preschoolers through a local distribution program.

661 Adult caregivers attended classes on the importance of nutrition and physical activity to the healthy development of young children.



QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

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



PREVENTIVE HEALTH

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

274 Fluoride varnishes applied to protect against childhood tooth decay.

1,482 Food boxes distributed to give young children access to nutritious meals.

QUALITY FIRST HEAD START IN GILSON WASH HELPS BOY GAIN THE SKILLS NEEDED TO BE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

Cherita Williams worried that her 4-year-old son Sebastian would not have the social skills to play well with others and follow directions in time for kindergarten.

“Sebastian just did not like to share,” Williams said.

As soon as he was eligible, Williams enrolled him in the nearby Gilson Wash Head Start in the First Things First San Carlos Apache Region. The Gilson Wash Head Start participates in Quality First, a signature program of FTF, which partners with child care and preschool providers to improve the quality of early learning across Arizona. Quality First funds improvements that help children thrive, such as training for teachers to expand their skills and create learning environments that nurture the social and academic development of young children.

Hearing that the center focused on social skills as well as academic skills was encouraging, Williams said.



“As time went by, I noticed different little things like Sebastian would come home singing and talking about what fun he had playing with his friends,” she said. “His behavior with his younger brothers has improved so much. Sebastian even sits with them and helps them turn the pages of books, helps them wash their hands and counts out loud with them. He has really blossomed!”

Sebastian finished his year at Head Start, where Williams noticed that he not only plays well with others, but has gained some self-control, can follow directions and can also write his name. He tells his mom how excited he is to start kindergarten.

“He came home toward the end of the school year and said, ‘After building study today my friends and I were building a tall tower, and when I grow up mom, I want to build you a castle!’” Williams said. “I have such a confidence now that my son will not only do fine but will excel in kindergarten and beyond.”

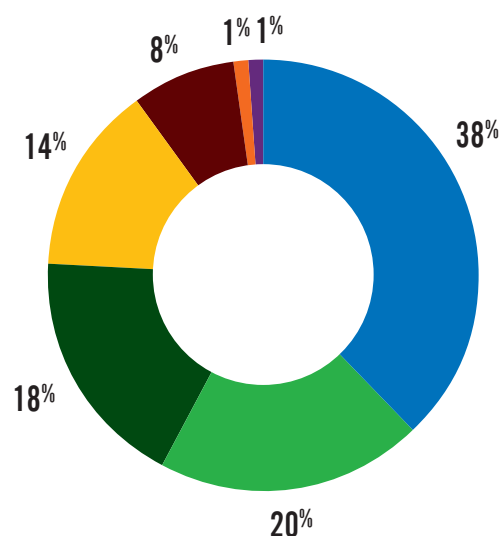
Read more local stories at firstthingsfirst.org/regions

SAN CARLOS APACHE REGIONAL COUNCIL

The FTF San Carlos Apache 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

Preventive Health	\$316,011
Strengthening Families	\$161,887
Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$146,290
Parent and Community Awareness	\$122,579
Workforce Development and Training	\$59,935
Research and Evaluation	\$13,284
Coordinating Support	\$4,778
TOTAL	\$824,764



FIRST THINGS FIRST SAN CARLOS APACHE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Flora Talas,
Chair

Delphine Rodriguez,
Vice Chair

LaToya Beatty,
FTF Regional Director

Members

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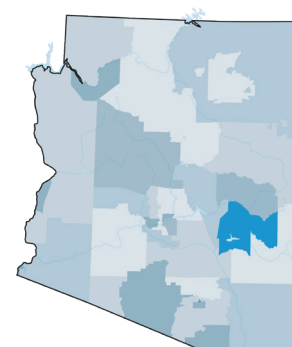
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The boundaries of the San Carlos Apache Region are defined to be those of the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation. The region covers almost 3,000 square miles in east-central Arizona. Most of the region lies within Gila and Graham counties, although there is a small, uninhabited section in Pinal County. The reservation, which was established in 1871, is divided into four districts: Seven Mile Wash, Gilson Wash, Peridot and Bylas. The San Carlos Apache Region includes Legislative District 7. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)

Learn more at: FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/San-Carlos-Apache