



**EARLY EXPERIENCES
BUILD THE FOUNDATION
FOR A LIFETIME**

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE 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 quality child care is a way to ensure all children get the opportunity to experience quality curriculum, one-on-one care and healthier classroom environments. Children go into kindergarten equally prepared to succeed."

Laurel Endfield

Chair

White Mountain Apache Tribe 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 WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE REGION IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

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



QUALITY PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

- 375** Children attended preschools and child care programs participating in Quality First.
- 66** Children birth to age 5 received a Quality First scholarship to attend high quality preschools and child care programs.
- 18** Early childhood educators received college scholarships to improve their skills in working with infants, toddlers and preschoolers.



PREVENTIVE HEALTH

- 156** Children received screenings to detect vision, hearing, and developmental issues to prevent learning challenges later on.
- 1,026** Fluoride varnishes applied to protect against childhood tooth decay.
- 1,050** Children received screenings to detect cavities and any oral health issues that might affect their overall health.

QUALITY FIRST PARTNERS WITH CHILD CARE PROVIDERS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EARLY LEARNING IN THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE REGION

In the First Things First White Mountain Apache Tribe region, families can find information about 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.

Quality First funds 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 who attend quality early care and education 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 White Mountain Apache Tribe region offers Quality First scholarships to some of the children enrolled in a Quality First program. These scholarships, though limited, are designed to help eligible families afford quality early care and education for their young children.

In fiscal year 2018, more than 375 children in the White Mountain Apache Tribe region had access to a higher standard of early learning through preschool and child care programs by participating in Quality First. And 66 of those children received a Quality First scholarship.

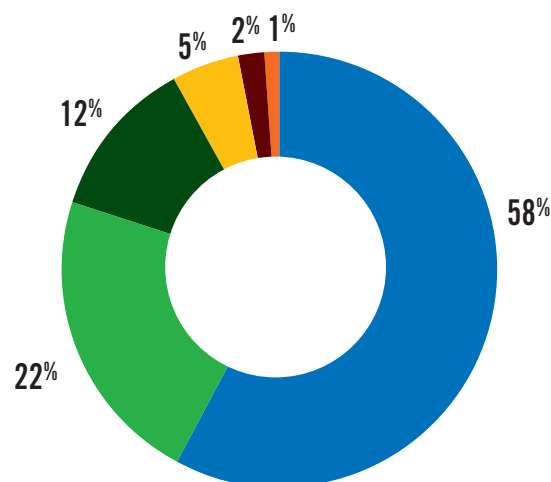
“Learning environments that nurture the emotional, social and academic development of every child.”

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE REGIONAL COUNCIL

The FTF White Mountain Apache Tribe 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	\$422,089
Strengthening Families	\$157,754
Preventive Health	\$85,580
Workforce Development and Training	\$43,207
Research and Evaluation	\$16,199
Parent and Community Awareness	\$4,114
TOTAL	\$728,944



FIRST THINGS FIRST WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Laurel Endfield,
Chair

Dawnafe Whitesinger,
Vice Chair

Kim VanPelt,
Chief Regional Officer
kvanpelt@firstthingsfirst.org
602.771.5001

Members

Jandi Craig

Terrie Parker

Mary Kline

Richard Sanchez

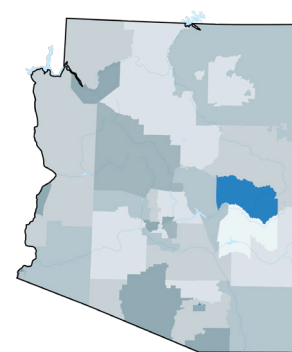
Derrick Leslie

Ardith Titla

Mona Lupe

Andrea Woolridge

Michelle Martinez



The boundaries of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Region are the same as the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. The region covers more than 2,500 square miles in Apache, Gila and Navajo counties. The larger communities in the region are Whiteriver, Cibecue, North Fork and Canyon Day. The White Mountain Apache Tribe Region includes Legislative District 7. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)

Learn more at: FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/White-Mountain-Apache-Tribe