



## # FIRST THINGS FIRST

2019 IMPACT REPORT

# Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



Early experiences build the  
foundation for a lifetime





# of a child's brain growth happens 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.



First Things First programs help tribal parents become champions for their young children. When parents understand what kids need to be ready for school - physical and emotional health, foundations for reading, and most important, supportive, positive family relationships - they help to insure that their little ones are a success in school and in life."

**John Jensen**

Vice Chair of FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council

## Fiscal Year 2019 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region Impact Highlights

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



### Strengthening Families and Early Literacy

**414**

Books were given to parents and caregivers of infants, toddlers and preschoolers through a local distribution program.

**54**

Adults attended parenting activities to learn more about the importance of early childhood development.



### Quality Preschool and Child Care

**21**

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

**3**

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

## Additional strategies:



### 45 Preschoolers

participated in early learning activities through a Summer Transition to Kindergarten program.



### 53 Parents and caregivers

attended workshops about how to transition their child into kindergarten.

## Summer transition to kindergarten helps Pascua Yaqui Tribe children be ready

A program designed to help more children living in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe be ready for kindergarten launched this summer.

The First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council funded a Summer Transition to Kindergarten program, which provided four weeks of classroom experience for children who either did not attend preschool, needed extra support because of social and emotional issues or for children with very limited preschool experience in order to prepare them for the transition successfully to kindergarten.

There were 45 children who participated in the summer program. The children, ages 3-5, were divided up into three classrooms at the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start with two teachers each. The program also provided bus transportation, breakfast and lunch for all participants.

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who participated in the  
summer program.**

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Throughout the four weeks, teachers focused on school readiness with techniques that supported social and emotional growth, such as getting the children used to interacting with one another, how to use the bathroom by themselves and following a set

schedule. They also provided a fun academic structure concentrated on reading, writing and math activities. Some of the activities, such as counting, incorporated a Pascua Yaqui language and cultural component, such as teaching them how to say animal names. The children received not only hands on classroom experience, but had field trips to the Children's Museum Tucson where they participated in science activities.

"I thought it went really well for the first year," said Andrea Gonzales, education and curriculum supervisor for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start. "We were able to do what was intended in providing a transition opportunity into kinder. In providing educational opportunities for kids, who have not had experience, I think was an eye opener for parents and grandparents that will help them better prepare their child for the future."

Shardae Murillo, whose son Jacobo, participated in the program, said she felt the program prepared him for what to expect in kindergarten and the basics of what it is going to be like by learning a little bit of everything, including colors and numbers.

Parents were also provided resources to help them help their children be ready to enter kindergarten, such as information on physicals and immunizations.

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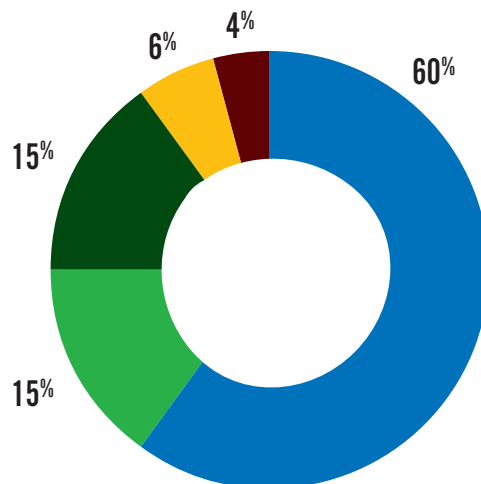
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# FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Council

The FTF Pascua Yaqui 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.

## FY19 Total Regional Program Expenditures

Workforce Development and Training	\$126,232
Strengthening Families	\$32,226
Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$32,138
Parent and Community Awareness	\$14,536
Research and Evaluation	\$5,642
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$210,774</b>



## FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council

**Chair**  
Cecilia Garcia

**Vice Chair**  
John Jensen

### Members

Marcus Diaz

Andrea Romero

Martha Guy

Marilynn Correa Sando

Francisco Muñoz

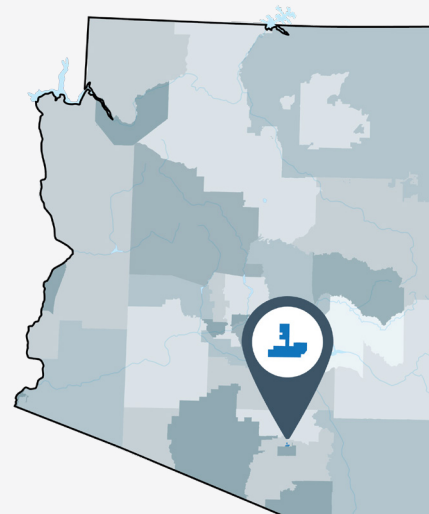
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The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is defined by the borders of the Pascua Pueblo Reservation in Pima County. The region covers approximately 2.2 square miles. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is one of 10 Arizona tribes that has chosen to be designated as its own First Things First region. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region includes Legislative District 4. (Legislative districts are not necessarily congruent with regional boundaries.)



Learn more at: [FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Pascua-Yaqui-Tribe](https://FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Pascua-Yaqui-Tribe)