

## **First Things First Public Policy Priorities**

### **Priority 1: INVESTMENT in the Early Childhood Health and Education System**

FTF supports increased local, state and federal investments to develop, enhance and sustain evidence-based early childhood programs and developmentally appropriate innovations that promote the best possible outcomes for children birth to 5 years old.

### **Priority 2: RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION of Early Childhood Workforce**

FTF supports proposals that promote recruitment and retention of a highly-qualified early childhood workforce by expanding access to professional development and postsecondary education for health and education professionals and incentivizing those professionals to work with the young children and families most in need.

### **Priority 3: ACCESS to Quality Early Learning**

FTF supports proposals that enhance the quality of early care and education settings and promote access to quality early learning programs, especially in rural, tribal and low-income communities.

### **Priority 4: HEALTH CARE SERVICES for Young Children and Expectant Mothers**

FTF supports proposals that maintain and increase access to health care services – including oral health care – for children birth to age 5 and prenatal care to promote a healthy childbirth.

### **Priority 5: INFORMATION AND SUPPORT for Families of Young Children**

FTF supports proposals that increase access for families to information, referrals and services for early childhood education, health and human services.

### **Priority 6: PRESERVATION AND EXPANSION of Arizona's Early Childhood System**

FTF supports the preservation and expansion of funding and programs that collectively and positively contribute to the early childhood system. FTF supports proposals that facilitate coordination and collaboration among partners to more efficiently and effectively serve young children and their families.