



Investing in Our Future: Positive Outcomes of Early Childhood Investments

Arizona’s early childhood agency, represents a commitment Arizonans made to our youngest children – that they would have the support they need to start school healthy and ready to succeed. Many young children in Arizona face significant barriers to their success, including poverty, trauma and lack of access to needed resources. In the FTF Phoenix North Region, there are **65,304 children** (under age 6), with **24% living in poverty**. Here is how FTF is working to support young children and their families in this region.



90% of a child’s brain grows before kindergarten.
Early childhood matters.



FTF invests in proven programs and innovative strategies through grants to community organizations that provide services to children and families. Some of the FTF-funded services in this region include Parents As Teachers, family resource centers and LENA START.

Regional Key Impact Highlights [State Fiscal Year 2023]



Strengthening Families and Early Literacy

4,214 Families of newborns received the Arizona Parent Kit, filled with tips and tools to help support their child’s healthy development.

3,591 Families or caregivers served by receiving referrals or by participating in activities at family resource centers.



Preventive Health

1,485 Children monitored to receive appropriate screenings to detect vision, hearing and developmental issues to prevent learning challenges later on.

473 Children received fluoride varnishes applied to protect against childhood tooth decay.



Quality Preschool and Child Care

9,133 Children attended preschools and child care programs participating in Quality First.

1,110 Children birth to age 5 received a Quality First scholarship to attend high-quality preschools and child care programs.



Scan to read the family story

Quality First scholarship helps Phoenix siblings thrive at Spanish immersion preschool

When Meagan Marmon returned to work after her maternity leave ended, she felt confident her infant son would be in good hands at the child care center his sister attends. "I've seen a huge growth in her development in the time she's been going there," the Phoenix mother said of 3-year-old Mila.

The First Things First Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council funds Quality First to help early care and education providers in our state improve the quality of their programs in ways that help young children learn, grow and thrive.

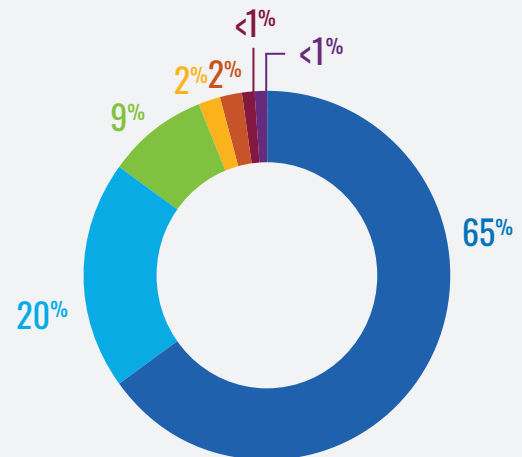


Strengthening Families

Positive early experiences, like nurturing relationships with parents and caregivers, promote healthy brain development and learning. First Things First expands families' access to the information, services and supports they need to help their young children achieve their fullest potential.

State Fiscal Year 2023 Total Regional Program Expenditures

Quality Child Care and Preschool	\$9,348,053
Strengthening Families	\$2,850,637
Preventive Health	\$1,303,489
Research and Evaluation	\$338,588
Workforce Development and Training	\$322,009
Parent and Community Awareness	\$122,553
Coordinating Care	\$70,088
Total	\$14,355,417



FTF Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council

FTF regional partnership councils are made up of volunteers who study the unique needs of the local community and inform how funds should be used.

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FirstThingsFirst.org/Regions/Phoenix-North

