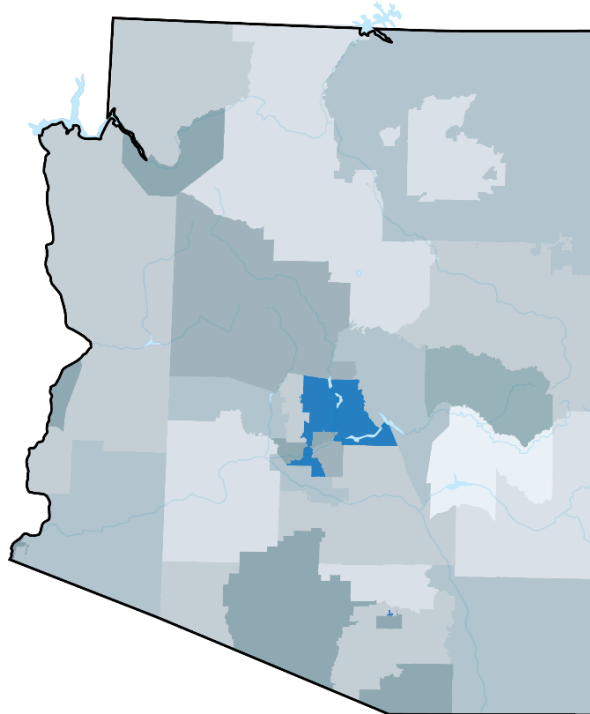


FIRST THINGS FIRST

East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council
Population birth through age 5: 53,928



State Fiscal Year 2026 Funding Plan

SFY 2024 – 2027 Strategic Plan Update

Presented to the First Things First Board
January 21, 2025



Mission

First Things First is an essential leader and partner in creating a family-centered, equitable, high-quality early childhood system that supports the development, well-being, health and education of all Arizona’s children, birth to age five.

Vision

All Arizona’s children are ready to succeed in school and in life.

Regional Partnership Councils

First Things First’s statewide Board and its 28 regional partnership councils share the responsibility of ensuring that early childhood funds are invested in strategies aimed at improving educational and health outcomes for young children. Regional partnership councils identify the unique needs of their communities and decide how to best support young children and families in their areas. Regional councils, comprised of local volunteers, provide vision and leadership, governance and oversight. They identify, implement and fund strategies and build collaborations aimed at helping young children across Arizona succeed in school and life.

East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

Lenay Dunn, chair, representative of a philanthropic organization

Barbara Milner, vice chair, early childhood educator

Juan Aristizabal, at-large representative

Lisa Bautista, at-large representative

Victoria Corlett, tribal public official/employee

Dora Correal, health services provider

Trinity Donovan, member of the business community

Rebecca Henderson, public school administrator

James Herrera, parent of a child age 5 years or younger

Lynn Hockenberger, representative of the faith community

Delanyo Smith, child care provider

Rebecca Heitkamp, regional director, First Things First

Jennifer Pike, administrative specialist, First Things First

Regional Allocation and Proposed Funding Plan Summary SFY24 – SFY27
East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

Allocations and Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027
FY Allocation	\$7,238,612	\$7,238,612	\$7,323,489	\$7,173,018
Population Based Allocation	\$6,114,627	\$6,114,627	\$5,526,763	\$6,114,627
Discretionary Allocation	\$1,123,985	\$1,123,985	\$1,796,726	\$1,058,391
Carry Forward From Previous Year	\$1,382,666	\$1,132,676	\$717,828	\$550,693
Total Regional Council Funds Available	\$8,621,278	\$8,371,288	\$8,041,317	\$7,723,711
Strategies	Approved Allotted	Approved Allotted	Proposed Allotted	Projected Allotted
Quality First Academy	\$47,500	\$43,722	\$47,500	\$47,500
Quality First Assessment		\$11,979		
Quality First Coaching & Incentives	\$1,460,950	\$1,395,955	\$1,460,950	\$1,460,950
Quality First Scholarships	\$3,125,000	\$3,125,000	\$3,125,000	\$3,125,000
Child Care Health Consultation	\$323,000	\$379,794	\$323,000	\$323,000
Children's Health Systems Change	\$94,999	\$117,666	\$117,666	\$117,666
Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation	\$501,840	\$501,840	\$501,840	\$501,840
Family Resource Centers	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000
Family Support & Literacy Systems Change	\$29,166	\$29,166	\$29,166	\$29,166
Home Visitation	\$825,244	\$825,244	\$825,244	\$825,244
Home Visitation Coordinated Referral System	\$86,000	\$63,333	\$63,333	\$63,333
Partnering with Child Welfare Systems	\$16,666	\$16,666	\$16,666	\$16,666
Statewide Evaluation	\$297,865	\$297,865	\$297,865	\$297,865
Educational Promotion and Brand Awareness	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Media	\$48,750	\$48,750	\$48,750	\$48,750
Total	\$8,141,980	\$8,141,980	\$8,141,980	\$8,141,980
Total Unallotted/Unawarded/Unexpended:	\$479,298	\$229,308	(\$100,663)	(\$418,269)

Fiscal Year	2020	2024	2025	2026	2027
% to Board Priorities		94.97 %	94.69 %	94.69 %	94.69 %
% to Quality First**	17.62%	22.49 %	22.49 %	22.49 %	22.49 %
Fiscal Year	4 Year Average				
% to Board Priorities	94.76%				
% to Quality First**	22.49%				

* Per FTF State Board direction, allotments reflect the budgeting of projected spending, therefore in some years’ total allotments may exceed total means of financing. However, actual expenditures against the allotments are expected to be fully supported by revenues, and each year the region is anticipated to end with a carry forward balance which is reflected in the subsequent year’s carry forward balance.

**Includes Quality First Academy, Quality First Coaching and Incentives, Quality First Assessment and Child Care Health Consultation.

EAST MARICOPA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

Please describe how the Regional Partnership Council's SFY24-27 Strategic Plan promotes equity and support of under-resourced and underserved children and their families.

The East Maricopa Region lies entirely within Maricopa County and spans urban communities to the east of Phoenix as well as less densely populated, suburban and rural communities reaching towards the edges of the Maricopa County boundary. This diverse, expansive region includes: three cities — Chandler, Scottsdale and Tempe; five towns — Carefree, Cave Creek, Fountain Hills, Guadalupe and Paradise Valley; three unincorporated places — Goldfield Ranch, Rio Verde and Sun Lakes; two Phoenix neighborhoods — Ahwatukee and Paradise Valley Village; and one Indian reservation — the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.

The regional council has committed to using a trauma informed care approach to their work in early childhood as evidenced by the following Statement of Commitment they have created:

We recognize that traumatic events in people's lives have a profound impact psychologically, academically and physically and we understand there are informed and intentional practices to help identify, address and bring healing. We also understand that trauma affects people in many different ways. The East Maricopa Region is committed to consistently deepening its understanding, strategies and resources with a trauma-informed lens.

In the development of the SFY24-27 Strategic Plan, the FTF East Maricopa Regional Council was intentional in ensuring that children and families that are the most vulnerable and who historically have not had access to family support and early education resources are provided these opportunities. The regional council used data from the 2022 Regional Needs and Assets Report, as well as several other regional reports and identified three geographic areas with a high percentage of vulnerable families - Guadalupe, downtown Chandler and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. To support these families most in need, the regional council has strategically prioritized the following investments:

- Family resource centers in Guadalupe and downtown Chandler.
- 40 families receiving home visitation services in Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.
- Coordination with other regional councils in Maricopa County in the implementation of the Partnering with Child Welfare Systems Strategy.

With an intentional focus on serving the most vulnerable children in the region, the regional council is demonstrating its commitment that all children birth to age 5 have access to resources that will support their healthy development.

SFY26 FUNDING PLAN UPDATE / CHANGE TABLE
EAST MARICOPA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

DESIRED OUTCOME: ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY, CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION.

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Quality First

- Quality First Academy (prioritized)
- Quality First Coaching and Incentives (prioritized)

Access to Quality Care

- Quality First Scholarships (prioritized)
- Early Learning Systems Change (prioritized)

Successes:

Quality First:

In SFY24, Quality First implemented a revision to the model resulting in service levels that are based on the needs of participating centers and homes, more targeted administration support, and additional hours for Child Care Health Consultation.

Together, First Things First and the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) developed and facilitated information sessions and resources for Quality First participants to discuss the end of the federal funds and what SFY25 would look like for their participation, whether continuing or not.

Six regulated early care and education programs funded through the federal pandemic relief funds were able to maintain their participation in SFY25 from existing vacancies in the region and the efficiencies from the revisions.

At the end of SFY24, 90.4% of participating programs were achieving/maintaining quality levels.

Quality First Scholarships:

First Things First increased the Quality First Scholarship reimbursement rate to the cost of quality in SFY25, informed by a study conducted in 2021. This increase supports a robust and stable network of child care providers and continues the reimbursement rate that providers were receiving through federal pandemic relief funding.

Coordinated planning with the DES allowed for 125 children statewide to be transitioned from Quality First Scholarships to DES Child Care Assistance in advance of the end of the federal funds.

Challenges:

Quality First:

Federal pandemic relief funding to support a statewide expansion of Quality First ended before the start of SFY25. In the East Maricopa region, 85 programs were funded through the federal pandemic relief funds which resulted in 79 participants transitioning to the Quality First waitlist starting July 1, 2024. All programs moved to the waitlist that have a rating expiring in SFY25 will have the opportunity to be reassessed to maintain a valid star rating.

Quality First Scholarships:

Reimbursing Quality First Scholarships at the 2021 cost of quality has resulted in fewer scholarships in SFY25 (approximately half the number) for the same amount of funding from the previous year. In planning for SFY26, regional partnership councils had to consider the regional impact the reduction had and make decisions to ensure that additional reductions in funding do not disrupt the system in significant ways.

First Things First and the DES will continue to work towards ways to support access to quality early learning to ensure efficient use of funds to serve as many children as possible.

DESIRED OUTCOME: INFORMATION, SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Educating Families and Caregivers

- Home Visitation (prioritized)

Navigating and Connecting Families to Resources

- Family Resource Centers (prioritized)
- Family Support and Literacy Systems Change (prioritized)
- Home Visitation Coordinated Referral System (prioritized)

Successes:

Home Visitation:

Regionally, home visitation is provided by two grant partners. The grant partner for Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation is contracted to serve 40 families. Agreements were made with this grant partner to adapt the screening expectations around postpartum depression and intimate partner violence to ensure cultural sensitivity. Instead of in-home screening, both topics were presented as training to the community in event settings and were well received. New families have been added to this program and it continues to support the community. The second regionally funded home visitation grant partner has had a stable year of staffing and continues to enhance the skills of their home visitors, through targeted training, to meet the needs of the varied communities in the region.

Family Resource Centers:

Five family resource centers support the region in the communities of Chandler, Guadalupe, Tempe and Scottsdale. Following a grantee summit in the spring of 2024, grantees have been engaged in shadowing and resource sharing. Creative examples of regional work by the family resource centers include:

- Chandler’s Valleywise Center has been creative in the utilization of its space by offering events on consecutive days such as their crafty camper event aimed to promote imagination, creativity and literacy. 140 participants took home 400 books and each child received a bag of crafts to keep them engaged throughout the summer.
- The Chandler CARE Center has been actively recruiting at local pediatric offices and community events. In the spring they held their first baby shower for expecting parents and seven community-based organizations attended to provide resources for moms-to-be.
- New leadership at the family resource center in Guadalupe has been busy engaging with the community from tribal cultural ceremonies and festivals with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe community to coordination with AZPBS to provide Triple P education to community families.
- Thrive to Five in the Tempe Elementary School District continues to partner with parents of young children in English Language Learner classes. These parents report growth in confidence when they receive parenting guidance and participate with their young children in early literacy activities in both languages.

- Scottsdale’s family resource center has been busy collaborating with the Neighborhood Outreach Access to Health (NOAH) community health center to provide assistance with applications for AHCCCS and KidsCare. Their littlest scientist classes are well attended and they recently added Once Upon a Cuento, a bilingual story time.

Family Support and Literacy Systems Change:

The Arizona Family Resource Center Network (AZFRN) is being led by Prevent Child Abuse Arizona (PCAAZ). PCAAZ led the facilitation and support of the AZFRN for its first year in SFY24. This system change effort is a cross-regional collaboration between six Maricopa County regional councils, including East Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Phoenix North, Phoenix South, Southeast Maricopa and Southwest Maricopa. To date, there have been many successes which included the following:

- The AZFRN facilitated the first family resource center summit in August of 2024. A total of 120 AZFRN members from 47 family resource centers attended the event. The goal of the summit was to provide members of the AZFRN an opportunity to collaborate and exchange information about their individual locations, attend professional development workshops and hear an update on the national movement to uplift family resource centers.
- Delivered four, two-day Standards of Quality Certification trainings. The nationally-adopted Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support Certification is designed to be used by all family strengthening and support stakeholders, including public departments, foundations, community-based organizations and families, as a tool for planning, providing and assessing quality services. The goal is that the implementation of the standards will help ensure that families are supported and strengthened through quality practice. There were a total of 112 participants that successfully completed both trainings and received their certificates.
- Implemented a variety of professional development opportunities, including a six-part virtual training on six protective factors and a Raising a Reader certification training with 34 participants.
- Conducted two communities of practice meetings for family resource center staff.
- Developed a family resource center awareness and advocacy committee focused on coordinating tours for elected officials.
- Prevent Child Abuse Arizona has been instrumental in convening state partners including the AZFRN Advisory Council, the Arizona Department of Economic Security and the Department of Child Safety among others, all in the effort to support prevention efforts for children and families. Long-term sustainability and support for family resource centers is at the forefront of these conversations as a means to support families with young children.

Home Visitation Coordinated Referral:

This strategy is funded as a cross-regional collaboration between six Maricopa County regional councils, including East Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Phoenix North, Phoenix South, Southeast Maricopa and Southwest Maricopa. The grant partner implements the Parent Partners Plus (PPP) program and continues to streamline connecting families with the most appropriate home visitation program. PPP also manages the waitlist of families seeking home visitation services and refers them to appropriate community resources. Waitlisted families are regularly engaged to receive information about other community resources. Since its inception, PPP has served over 25,000 caregivers.

PPP convenes home visitation grant partners to work more intentionally and collaboratively in the community. Currently, 10 FTF-funded and 19 non-FTF-funded home visiting programs in Maricopa County participate in the Home Visitation Coordinated Referral (HVCR) Alliance. Additionally, PPP continues to coordinate opportunities among home visitation providers with branding, marketing, outreach and recruitment with consistent messaging.

PPP hosted a strategic planning session for the PPP Advisory Group members in December 2023 to gain their perspective on strategic priorities for the upcoming year. In advance of this meeting, alliance members completed the

Wilder Collaboration Factors survey to identify areas for improvement in the collaboration. The survey showed strengths, including members seeing the collaboration as being in their self-interest, mutual respect and trust, flexibility and open and frequent communication. Areas for improvement included having multiple layers of participation and an appropriate cross-section of members. The PPP Advisory Group adjusted the alliance meetings to allow more staff participation at all levels of alliance member programs. PPP implemented these changes through June 2024. In July 2024, PPP hosted an alliance meeting and invited program staff/home visitors in addition to the manager, who usually attends, to allow for more staff participation at different levels. The focus of the meeting was self-care for home visitors and included time for networking with staff from other programs.

Challenges:

Recruitment and retention of staff, across the family support field statewide and nationally, has been an ongoing challenge that is not unique to the programs nor the region. Often, staff for this field are parents with their own challenges around child care and options to find jobs that can be done virtually may be preferred over those that require in home delivery. When turnover happens, it takes months for new staff to be certified in various programs and screenings.

DESIRED OUTCOME: WELL-PREPARED, HIGHLY SKILLED AND APPROPRIATELY COMPENSATED PROFESSIONALS

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Professional Development for ECE Professionals

- o Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (prioritized)
- o Child Care Health Consultation (prioritized)

Successes:

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation:

This strategy includes a highly trained and committed team of consultants that continue to serve the East Maricopa Region. A waitlist exists and these sites are consistently triaged to determine the level of need or urgency in order to decide which sites may benefit from consultation sooner. A theme within the region is that many child care providers and families of the enrolled children experienced heightened stress due to the end of the scholarships available to them, as the Department of Economic Security’s American Rescue Plan funding ended on June 30, 2024. Mental health consultants are assisting directors in coping with those changes and identifying resources for families. Additionally, with the assistance from mental health consultants, many child care directors and teachers increased their capacity to improve in developing processes for identifying children who present with developmental delays, mental health and signs of trauma. Successful work with early care and education directors and teachers in supporting crucial conversations with parents and/or guardians and making referrals to school districts for evaluations and/or mental health/child development providers is occurring regularly at most centers served.

Child Care Health Consultation:

This strategy was active in providing services to a significant number of sites, including the expansion sites, within the East Maricopa Region. A large number of assigned sites were able to complete the components of the health and safety assessments and create a health and safety action plan and are receiving appropriate health and safety supports.

Challenges:

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation:

Hiring qualified mental health professionals continues to be challenging. Within East Maricopa, just as a qualified part-time staff was hired to begin in October, another long-time consultant put in a resignation to relocate to another state and the search for another 30-hour consultant began. It has been reported that the job market for mental health

professionals have become very competitive since the pandemic as the new graduates are asking for at least a 20% higher salary and they also have telehealth options so that they can work virtually. Early childhood mental health and infant mental health is a niched field that many of the mental health graduate schools do not cover so there are fewer graduates with that specialization. The grantee has attempted where possible to provide services and support to waitlisted centers using supervisors and virtual connections.

Child Care Health Consultation:

Within Child Care Health Consultation, keeping up with centers that are going through re-assessment and ensuring that all documents are updated was a challenge as well as high caseloads with the expansion sites and cancellations by participants.

DESIRED OUTCOME: PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT.

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Building Awareness of the Importance of the Early Years

- Educational Promotion and Brand Awareness (prioritized)
- Media (prioritized)

Successes:

Education Promotion and Brand Awareness:

The East Maricopa regional staff have been intentional about the implementation of this strategy in the region. While new and innovative sponsorship opportunities have taken place such as a Chandler Unified School District Early Childhood Education Summit and the Scottsdale Ultimate Family Play Date, there is also a lot of new momentum in expanding the audience within the business and economic development sector. Regional council members have been invited and encouraged to participate in community meetings and events. Regional staff and the regional council have actively been engaging with government, business leaders and chambers in the region. Some initial successes include a podcast arranged with the First Things First CEO and the Tempe Chamber. Site visits of child care centers are being planned for SFY26. The First Things First Government Affairs team has presented to the regional council on legislative issues and have provided a training to the council on advocating for early childhood in the community.

Media:

In SFY24, targeted media efforts in the East Maricopa Region raised awareness about the importance of early childhood development, connecting families to resources and empowering communities to support children from birth to age 5. Building on this success, the SFY25 media campaign was designed to expand these efforts with ads placed on grocery carts in ten local stores, digital billboards at two key locations and toppers, posters and icebox wraps at five gas stations throughout the region.

DESIRED OUTCOME: ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY PREVENTATIVE AND CONTINUOUS HEALTH CARE.

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Health Resource Coordination

- Children’s Health Systems Change (non-prioritized)

Successes:

Children’s Health System Change- Oral Health Systems Change

The Oral Health Systems Change Strategy focuses on promoting medical-dental integration in health settings for families with children birth to age 5. This effort is a cross-regional collaboration between six Maricopa County regional

councils, including East Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Phoenix North, Phoenix South, Southeast Maricopa and Southwest Maricopa.

There are three overarching goals for this systems change strategy.

Goal 1: Promote education and awareness through a targeted oral health media campaign. First Things First's Communications staff partnered with an external marketing agency to create a web page and digital content promoting the importance of taking care of baby teeth and seeing a dental provider at an early age. The content drives users to the Baby Teeth Matter website where parents and caregivers can learn more about pediatric oral health and connect them to a provider. The campaign launched from February - June 2024 and consisted of display and video social ads, 50% in English and 50% in Spanish. The campaign had high interaction rates and the most successful ad platforms will be relaunched in the SFY25 media campaign in January 2025.

Goal 2: Promote medical-dental integration (MDI) by implementing a pilot project at a community health center located in Maricopa County. The lead consultant is contracted with Neighborhood Outreach Access to Health (NOAH) to implement a medical-dental integration (MDI) pilot project at their Palomino Health Center located in Phoenix. The MDI pilot project activities for NOAH consist of:

1. Enhancing oral preventive care and MDI knowledge through training and collaboration among medical and dental care providers. Medical providers, including pediatricians and medical assistants, participated in Smiles for Life training sessions in Sept-Oct 2024 with follow-up training in March 2025.
2. Increasing MDI services for children birth to age 5 through:
 - a. Participating in monthly MDI coaching sessions to review and improve clinical procedures, workflows, data collection, patient experience and program outcomes.
 - b. Creating and providing patient education resources on the importance of preventive oral health measures. These materials are currently in production with a goal of dissemination in early 2025.
 - c. Increasing the number of pediatric medical patients, birth to age 5, receiving dental screenings, fluoride varnishes and referrals. This is primarily done through a dental hygienist who integrates dental services into well-child visits.

The project with NOAH officially launched in April 2024, and within the first six months of implementation, there were 1,300 children total (533 children birth-age 5) who received an oral health screening and 679 children total (262 children birth-age 5) who received a fluoride varnish. NOAH continues working to improve knowledge, practices and data collection with the hope of increasing provider knowledge and improving overall patient health.

Goal 3: Convene an MDI committee consisting of government, nonprofit and private community and health organizations. The contracted consultant convenes an MDI committee two to three times annually to provide project updates and collaborate on oral health systems change best practices and recommendations. This committee originated the vision and plans for the oral health media campaign in conjunction with the MDI pilot project.

Children's Health System Change Strategy - Early Childhood Nutrition Team:

The Children's Health System Change - Early Childhood Nutrition Team (ECNT) Strategy is a cross-regional collaboration between six Maricopa County regional councils, including East Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Phoenix North, Phoenix South, Southeast Maricopa and Southwest Maricopa. The goal of the ECNT in each region is to coordinate efforts so that families with young children, prenatal to age 5, in Maricopa County will be supported in providing nutritious food and establishing healthy eating habits while creating a community-based system of support for children's health.

The Early Childhood Nutrition Team (ECNT), is broken up into three areas.

1. An advisory group works cross-regionally to support the overarching goals of increasing coordination between early childhood programs and food service providers to reduce food insecurity among families with children

birth to age 5. Members across the six regional teams, policy team and advisory group, were asked to individually complete the Wilder Collaborations Factory Inventory which is made up of 20 research-based factors that influences successful collaborations. The results showed that all teams scored collaboration, skilled leadership and trust as strengths of their work. Members also felt their work within the ECNT was meaningful and that they had concrete attainable goals for their respective teams.

2. The ECNT has a policy team that includes representatives from First Things First and the Arizona Department of Health Services to identify key areas to align messaging and identify best practices and tips to support early childhood providers to implement best practices and provide nutritious food. In quarter one of SFY24, a Safe Feeding infographic was piloted with eight early care and education providers. This infographic was designed to display best practices related to food environment, food preparation and feeding practices in an early childhood education center. It included using the most up-to-date best practice modeling information from entities such as the Institute of Child Nutrition and the US Department of Agriculture. This will be a supportive tool in centers to ensure providers are reminded of and following best practices related to safe feeding.
3. Lastly, each regional area has its own ECNT addressing food insecurity at a local level. The regional team within the East Maricopa Region, focused on the community of Guadalupe, convenes a monthly meeting of providers and partners within this community. This includes participants from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Meetings have been focused on establishing collaboration of resources in the community with a plan of creating an intentional outreach campaign to all of the residents of the community. Although there have been some challenges in recruiting key stakeholders from the Guadalupe community, there are efforts to be more intentional with outreach and recruitment efforts including a community tour in December that included discussion around delivery of this strategy within the community.

Children’s Health System Change – Trauma Informed Care Strategy:

This strategy was intentionally funded by the FTF East Maricopa Regional Council to provide trauma awareness among early childhood educators within the region. In the spring 2024, a Trust Based Relational Intervention training was held over three days. This specialized trauma training is unique and new to many providers in the region. A total of 26 participants attended the three days of training. The training was offered initially to Quality First sites within the region and then to grantees within the region and finally to Quality First sites and grantees in adjoining regions. The participants were made up of six child care site directors, about 10 early childhood care providers from Quality First sites and the remainder were professionals that work directly with children birth to age 5 from around Maricopa County. The attendees reported that the training was very applicable. One director of a large regional preschool reported that she trained her 50 teachers and aides on various techniques from the training. The regional partnership council has a standing subcommittee for this strategy and will be reconvening to consider opportunities and next steps for this strategy in 2026.

DESIRED OUTCOME: COORDINATED, INTEGRATED, AND COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Child Welfare Prevention /Intervention

- Partnering with Child Welfare Systems Change (non-prioritized)

Evaluation

- Statewide Evaluation (non-prioritized)

Successes:

Partnering with Child Welfare Systems Change:

This systems change effort is a cross-regional collaboration between six Maricopa County regional councils, including East Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Phoenix North, Phoenix South, Southeast Maricopa and Southwest

Maricopa. Through strategy implementation, the regional councils partner with Maricopa County Juvenile Court to provide the necessary training and staff development to enhance the education and understanding of how to best support families with young children within the child welfare system.

In SFY24, some of the trainings delivered include:

- An 18-month Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) training
- A Cradle to Crayons (C2C) virtual Court Procurement and Circle of Security training and a collaboration with Zero to Three to have two individuals assigned to provide technical assistance for the C2C/Safe Babies calendars in Maricopa County.

Additional trainings for systems partners have included Effects of Abuse and Neglect on Child Development, A Trauma Responsive System: Working with Young Children and their Parents Who Have Experienced Substance Use and Trauma, C2C Approach and Services and Understanding the Dynamic of Domestic Violence in Child Welfare. Additionally, Trauma-Responsive Courts provided for a Dependency Brown Bag training attended by 80 judges and attorneys.

Statewide Evaluation:

The 2024 Regional Needs and Asset Reports were delivered in June 2024 and approved by the Board in August 2024.