

**GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY 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 FTF Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council collaborated with both the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) tribal government and Gila River Health Care to identify and prioritize the needs of families residing in the Gila River Community. This included identifying the needs of under-resourced and underserved children and their families, especially those most vulnerable populations such as single-parent households, teen parents, grandparents raising grandchildren and those families living in rural isolation. Data from the 2020 Regional Needs and Assets Report demonstrates that nearly three-quarters (74%) of young children in the GRIC Region live in a single-parent household, a higher proportion than in all Arizona reservations combined (64%). More than half (54%) of households with young children in the region are single-female households, a proportion more than twice that of Arizona overall (24%). Of the children living in a grandparent’s household in the region, close to two-thirds (65%) live with a grandparent who is responsible for them. Additionally, a higher proportion of births in the region were to mothers who were younger than 18 (6%) and younger than 20 (15%) compared to births across the state (2% and 6%, respectively).

Based on the focused discussions with the Community, and the available data, the regional council prioritized those strategies that had access to, and are anticipated to have the greatest impact on, the aforementioned vulnerable populations. Identified strategies include: Well-Child and Family Care (WCFC), Home Visitation, Family, Friend and Neighbor Care, Quality First (QF) and Quality First Scholarships. In implementation of these strategies, the regional council will specifically target teen parents, grandparents raising grandchildren, single female parents and care providers in isolated communities within the region.

The Well-Child and Family Care Strategy will assist and support families in navigating potential barriers within the health system. The regional council plans to serve 100 children through WCFC’s tiered system that is offered through Zero - Three’s Healthy Steps program. The regional council is very excited to see this strategy at work, for it will not only transform Gila River Indian Community health system culture, but also engage families prenatally and support families that are in need of further services to better their overall well-being. Historically, the Well-Child and Family Care Strategy has been very successful with engaging teen parents and providing support early in pregnancy to age 5.

The Home Visitation Strategy will provide resources and offer in-home support to both teen parents and first-time parents. The regional council will serve 35 children through the Parents as Teachers Home Visitation model.

The Family, Friends and Neighbor Care Strategy will provide support and serve grandparents, and other non-parental caregivers, raising children in Gila River Indian Community, especially those providing services in rural isolated communities. In addition to supporting caregivers, the Family, Friends and Neighbor Care Strategy is anticipated to increase collaboration between regional caregivers and the Gila River Indian Community Education and Health departments, which will supplement by providing education on such topics as childhood obesity and healthy lifestyles, and supporting families on their child’s transition to kindergarten with consistency and limited absences.

Finally, in alignment with the Gila River Indian Community’s priorities, the regional council has chosen to support culture and language preservation. The Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities Strategy will support current activities and programs that target language and culture specific to GRIC’s cultural values. This particular strategy will look to expand current programs that support families through book drives, professional development in GRIC’s culture and traditions, and extend to community events that further promote language, literacy and culture.

**Regional Allocation and Proposed Funding Plan Summary SFY24 – SFY27  
Gila River Indian Community Regional Partnership Council**

Allocations and Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027
FY Allocation	\$574,373	\$574,373	\$386,139	\$574,279
Population Based Allocation	\$424,498	\$424,498	\$383,687	\$424,498
Discretionary Allocation	\$149,875	\$149,875	\$2,452	\$149,781
Carry Forward From Previous Year	\$773,916	\$762,972	\$907,129	\$717,862
<b>Total Regional Council Funds Available</b>	<b>\$1,348,289</b>	<b>\$1,337,345</b>	<b>\$1,293,268</b>	<b>\$1,292,141</b>
Strategies	Approved Allotted	Approved Allotted	Approved Allotted	Projected Allotted
Quality First Academy	\$2,000	\$1,835	\$2,000	\$2,000
Quality First Coaching & Incentives	\$58,700	\$55,880	\$29,263	\$29,263
Quality First Scholarships	\$228,800	\$228,800	\$252,012	\$252,012
Child Care Health Consultation	\$13,600	\$16,585	\$19,813	\$19,813
Well Child and Family Care	\$150,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$120,000
Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Home Visitation	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities	\$45,597	\$75,597	\$75,597	\$75,597
Statewide Evaluation	\$23,847	\$23,847	\$23,847	\$23,847
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$752,544</b>	<b>\$752,544</b>	<b>\$752,532</b>	<b>\$752,532</b>

Fiscal Year	2020	2024	2025	2026	2027
% to Board Priorities		76.89 %	80.88 %	80.88 %	80.88 %
% to Quality First*	7.46%	9.87 %	9.87 %	6.78%	6.78 %
Fiscal Year	4 Year Average				
% to Board Priorities	79.88%				
% to Quality First*	8.33%				

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

Justification for not meeting 2020 Quality First %: The number of providers enrolled in Quality First in the region has not decreased, however, due to the increase in quality ratings and the model costs savings, the SFY27 investment in the strategy does not equal or exceed those of SFY20 as required by the Board.