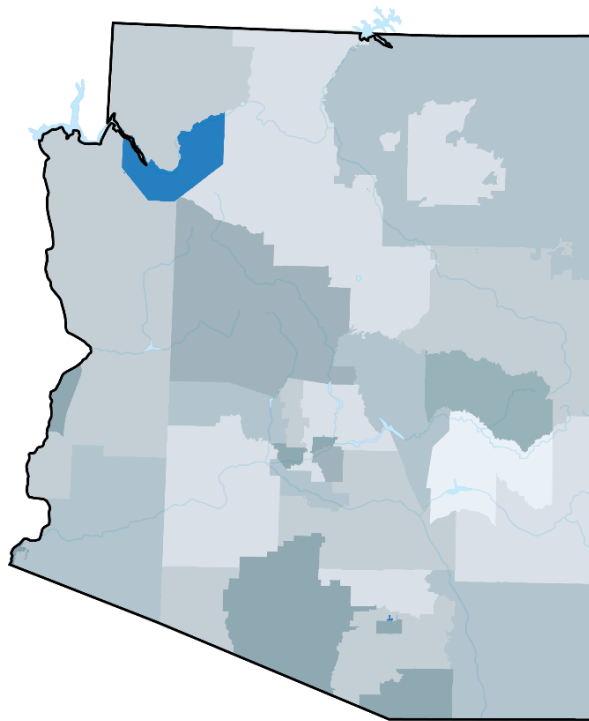




FIRST THINGS FIRST

Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council
Population birth through age 5: 198



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 5.

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.

Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council

Chira Walema, chair, at-large representative

Renee Beecher, vice chair, health services provider

Lyndee Hornell, at-large representative

Fannie Hunt, early childhood educator

Cliffiny Mowa, child care provider

Wanda Quasula, representative of the faith community

William Santiago, public school administrator

Sienna Silas, parent of a child age 5 years or younger

open, representative of a philanthropic organization

open, member of the business community

open, at-large representative

Tara Gene, regional director, First Things First

Kim Corbin, administrative specialist, First Things First

Regional Allocation and Proposed Funding Plan Summary SFY24 – SFY27
Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council

Allocations and Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027
FY Allocation	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$169,762	\$150,000
Population Based Allocation	\$50,234	\$50,234	\$45,405	\$50,234
Discretionary Allocation	\$99,766	\$99,766	\$124,357	\$99,766
Carry Forward From Previous Year	\$81,054	\$89,828	\$62,809	\$76,112
Total Regional Council Funds Available	\$231,054	\$239,828	\$232,571	\$226,112
Strategies	Approved Allotment	Approved Allotment	Proposed Allotment	Projected Allotment
Quality First Academy	\$500	\$460	\$500	\$500
Quality First Assessment		\$3,865		
Quality First Coaching & Incentives	\$9,350	\$4,921	\$9,350	\$9,350
Child Care Health Consultation	\$3,400	\$4,004	\$3,400	\$3,400
Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation	\$6,120	\$6,120	\$6,120	\$6,120
Book Distribution	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Family Support & Literacy Systems Change	\$45,401	\$45,401	\$45,401	\$45,401
Home Visitation	\$116,000	\$116,000	\$116,000	\$116,000
Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Statewide Evaluation	\$6,229	\$6,229	\$6,229	\$6,229
Total	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000
Total Unallotted/Unawarded/Unexpended:*	\$11,054	\$19,828	\$12,571	\$6,112

Fiscal Year	2020	2024	2025	2026	2027
% to Board Priorities		93.53 %	93.53 %	93.53 %	93.53 %
% to Quality First**	0.00%	6.02 %	6.02 %	6.02 %	6.02 %
Fiscal Year	4 Year Average				
% to Board Priorities	93.53%				
% to Quality First**	6.02%				

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

*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.

HUALAPAI TRIBE 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 Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council has established the SFY24-27 Strategic Plan with the use of data reports that give a better understanding of the needs of children birth to age 5 and their families. A majority of the tribal community lives in Peach Springs or the surrounding area. The community is very close knit and isolated from many services. This environment guided the discussion on the gaps of services and needs of families. Some of the challenges families face is the lack of a grocery store, hospital and emergency services, which are about 50 miles away. With such limited resources and services, the regional council really wanted to make sure there was connection and collaboration among early childhood service providers and agencies. With the work of the program coordination specialist, service providers have created connection through the use of referral forms to ensure children are receiving the services needed. In the next phase of implementation, a resource list will be created for families describing services in the community, in nearby Kingman and statewide resources. All the programs supported by the regional council will be listed on the referral form and resources list. The program coordination specialist will work with providers to see how best to share the resource list with the community but for now, it will be available as a hard copy. The focus of this strategic plan is on approaches to connect various components of the early childhood system in the community such as the culture, early literacy, family support and access to family resources components. The FTF Hualapai Tribe Regional Council's intentions are to make sure all children and families in the region have increased access to resources and support.

SFY26 FUNDING PLAN UPDATE / CHANGE TABLE
HUALAPAI TRIBE 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)

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.

The Hualapai Region has one child care center in the region and that program is participating in Quality First. In SFY24, the child care center reached a 4-star rating, increasing from a 2-star rating.

DESIRED OUTCOME: INFORMATION, SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Educating Families and Caregivers

- Home Visitation (prioritized)
- Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities (prioritized)

Navigating and Connecting Families to Resources

- Family Support and Literacy Systems Change (prioritized)

Language and Literacy

- Book Distribution (non-prioritized)

Successes:

Language, Literacy and Culture in the Tribal Communities

The Hualapai Cultural Center has developed several board books to engage parents and children in learning the Hualapai language. In SFY25, the FTF Hualapai Regional Council added to the scope of work to further support families and children by holding community events to engage them with the books that have been developed. In addition, the Hualapai Cultural Center will provide opportunities for families and children birth to 5 years old to engage in learning the Hualapai language with games and activities that promote early literacy and learning of the tribal language. The regional council is looking forward to the impact of community engagements to encourage language development.

Family Support and Literacy Systems Change

In SFY24, the FTF Hualapai Tribe Regional Council with the FTF La Paz/Mohave Regional Council are collaborating on the Family Support and Literacy Systems Change Strategy. This strategic partnership connects families to essential resources through several key initiatives: the creation and regular updating of region-specific resource guides, the development of a coordinated referral system to direct families to the most suitable services, enhanced interagency

collaboration, and education for early care, education, health and family support providers on community resources to enable effective referrals.

A new program coordination specialist in the FTF La Paz/Mohave and Hualapai Tribe regions was hired, which has helped to overcome delays in implementation in SFY24 due to staffing challenges. With this new hire, the local referral form and resource list has been finalized and has started to be implemented in the community.

In addition, the collaboration with Peach Springs Unified School District has been delayed in establishment of a resource hub. The program coordination specialist has started to engage with the school district on the vision of a resource hub in the community.

Challenges:

Home Visitation

In SFY24, the home visitation program continued to struggle to meet contract service unit numbers. The program continues evolving their promotion and outreach with different strategies and constant collaboration with early childhood providers' referrals. The program has seen a slight increase in participation due to these efforts. The home visitation staff continues to figure out the hesitation of parent's participation in the program. Some challenges voiced were the parent's availability to do home visitation visits and the length of participating in the program. Despite the challenge of meeting service unit numbers, the regional council feels there is a need in the community for the home visitation service to support families understand their child's development through daily home activities.

Book Distribution

The implementation of the Book Distribution Strategy in SFY24 started with a grant agreement with the Peach Springs Unified School District. However, with unforeseen decreases in staff capacity to get the book distribution program started, the school district decided that they would not be able to implement this strategy. The regional council identified another grantee to implement the book distribution. The regional director worked with the Hualapai Department of Education and Training Center director to develop a grant agreement to implement the Book Distribution Strategy beginning in SFY25. They will be working in collaboration with the training center's food distribution program to distribute books to their clients that have children birth to age 5 during the once a month food distribution event.

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

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Professional Development for ECE Professionals

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

DESIRED OUTCOME: COORDINATED, INTEGRATED, AND COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM

Strategy Areas and Funded Strategies

Evaluation

- Statewide Evaluation (non-prioritized)

Challenges and Successes:

Statewide Evaluation

Due to Hualapai Tribal Council elections, the tribal council decided to wait to approve the Regional Needs and Asset Report until the new tribal council members were elected and inaugurated. The 2024 Regional Needs and Asset Report was delivered in September 2024 and approved by the Board in December 2024.