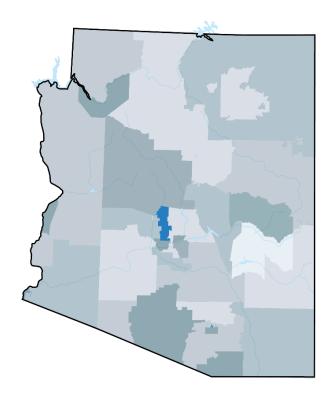


Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council

Population birth through age 5: 66,831



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

FTF'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.

Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council

Lyn Bailey, chair, public school administrator

Kathleen Sprute, vice chair, early childhood educator

Sharon Armstrong, child care provider

Eric Bucher, at-large representative

Megan Epley, member of the business community

Kathryn Grandprey, representative of the faith community

Julie Rhein, at-large representative

Ana Roscetti, representative of a philanthropic organization

Liz Salazar, health services provider

Claire Todd, parent of a child age 5 years or younger

Wendy Resnik, at-large representative

Kendra Smiley, regional director, First Things First

Sophia Acosta, administrative specialist, First Things First

Regional Allocation and Proposed Funding Plan Summary SFY24 – SFY27 Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council

| Allocations and Funding Sources | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| FY Allocation | \$13,104,298 | \$13,104,298 | \$12,707,598 | \$13,042,744 |
| Population Based Allocation | \$10,414,361 | \$10,414,361 | \$9,413,118 | \$10,414,361 |
| Discretionary Allocation | \$2,689,937 | \$2,689,937 | \$3,294,480 | \$2,628,383 |
| Carry Forward From Previous Year | \$2,930,064 | \$2,649,758 | \$1,991,928 | \$937,395 |
| Total Regional Council Funds Available | \$16,034,362 | \$15,754,056 | \$14,699,526 | \$13,980,139 |
| Strategies | Approved Allotted | Approved Allotted | Proposed Allotted | Proposed Allotted |
| Early Learning Systems Change | \$97,522 | \$97,522 | \$97,522 | \$97,522 |
| Inclusion of Children with Special Needs | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | \$350,000 |
| Quality First Academy | \$75,500 | \$69,487 | \$75,500 | \$75,500 |
| Quality First Assessment | | \$5,620 | | |
| Quality First Coaching & Incentives | \$2,274,680 | \$2,183,896 | \$2,274,680 | \$2,274,680 |
| Quality First Scholarships | \$7,156,737 | \$7,156,737 | \$7,156,737 | \$7,156,737 |
| Child Care Health Consultation | \$513,400 | \$604,577 | \$513,400 | \$513,400 |
| Children's Health Systems Change | \$75,000 | \$97,667 | \$97,667 | \$97,667 |
| Developmental and Sensory Screening | \$150,000 | \$150,000 | \$150,000 | \$150,000 |
| Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation | \$465,140 | \$465,140 | \$465,140 | \$465,140 |
| Community Based Language and Literacy | \$256,168 | \$256,168 | \$256,168 | \$256,168 |
| Family Resource Centers | \$1,304,000 | \$1,304,000 | \$1,304,000 | \$1,304,000 |
| Family Support & Literacy Systems Change | \$29,167 | \$29,167 | \$29,167 | \$29,167 |
| Family, Friend, and Neighbor Care | \$600,000 | \$600,000 | \$600,000 | \$600,000 |
| Home Visitation | \$527,003 | \$527,003 | \$527,003 | \$527,003 |
| Home Visitation Coordinated Referral System | \$86,000 | \$63,333 | \$63,333 | \$63,333 |
| Partnering with Child Welfare Systems | \$16,667 | \$16,667 | \$16,667 | \$16,667 |
| Statewide Evaluation | \$541,609 | \$541,609 | \$541,609 | \$541,609 |
| Educational Promotion and Brand Awareness | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 |
| Media | \$96,970 | \$96,970 | \$96,970 | \$96,970 |
| Total | \$14,640,563 | \$14,640,563 | \$14,640,563 | \$14,640,563 |
| Total Unallotted/Unawarded/Unexpended*: | \$1,393,799 | \$1,113,493 | \$58,963 | (\$660,424) |

| Fiscal Year | 2020 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| % to Board Priorities | | 94.64% | 94.49% | 94.49% | 94.49% |
| % to Quality First* | 14.61% | 19.55% | 19.55% | 19.55% | 19.55% |
| Fiscal Year | 4 Year Average | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| Fiscal Year | 4 Year Average | |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| % to Board Priorities | 94.53% | |
| % to Quality First* | 19.55% | |

^{*} 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

PHOENIX NORTH 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 Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council revised their equity statement in August of 2024, seeking to make it more comprehensive and representative of the region.

The vision of the FTF Phoenix North Regional Partnership Council is that all children are equitably supported with the resources necessary to thrive and develop the skills to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. For the regional council, equity means achieving fairness and justice through access to resources and opportunities that impact children's positive lifelong outcomes. Equity also means acknowledging the systemic inequities resulting from structural racism and other forms of oppression and dismantling policies, practices and mindsets that result in significant differences in experiences in a child's earliest years based on race, language, ability and socio-economic status. Opportunities—or absence of opportunities—influenced by these social and demographic characteristics profoundly influence children's growth and development and can result in diverging trajectories and disparities that compound into adulthood, especially for children who are Black, Indigenous, Latina/o and other children of color; children with disabilities and children who speak a language other than or in addition to English.

The FTF Phoenix North Regional Council, comprised of local volunteers fiercely dedicated to enhancing and improving early childhood education and health outcomes in our community, including parents, educators, child care providers, health professionals, philanthropists and faith representatives, decides how best to use the funds allocated to our region to support the 66,831 children under age 6 in the Phoenix North Region, of which 24% live in poverty. The Phoenix North Region saw a decrease of more than 1,000 children between 2010 and 2019. Despite this downward trend over the past decade, data estimate that the region will be home to nearly 80,000 children by 2040. The Phoenix North Region's young children are racially and ethnically diverse and live in various family structures, all of which highlight the strengths of people living in the region. Services that are culturally and linguistically responsive and affirming are key in the region, especially recognizing that more than 40% of the region's young children are Hispanic, and more than 30% of the region's residents speak a language at home other than English.

To address the diverse needs of the children in the region and to ensure strategies directly reach under-resourced or underserved children and families, the regional council commits to engaging in equity-focused decision-making through the following actions.

- Prioritizing services like home visitation, Quality First scholarships and collaboration among early childhood service providers and the child welfare system to improve access to quality early learning.
- Directing services in targeted areas with high poverty rates, including four school districts in the region where
 the median family income is less than 70% of the statewide median (Alhambra, Creighton, Isaac and Phoenix
 Elementary). Additional targeted areas include the Washington Elementary School District and the 85023 and
 85024 zip codes of the Deer Valley Unified School District where families are facing housing insecurity, with
 data showing that more than 50% of renters are facing housing costs in excess of 50% of their monthly
 income.
- Using data to identify priority communities in which to strategically place family resource centers to ensure families in under-resourced geographic areas have easy access to resources, comprehensive services and networks of other parents.
- Engage in advocacy to raise our voices on behalf of young learners and our Phoenix North community, advance equitable policies and practices in the early childhood field and secure the funding and resources needed to achieve these goals.

SFY26 FUNDING PLAN UPDATE / CHANGE TABLE PHOENIX NORTH 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 State Fiscal Year 2024 (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.

At the end of SFY24, 86.9% percentage of programs were achieving quality levels.

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 State Fiscal Year 2025 (SFY25) would look like for their participation, whether continuing or not.

All nine regulated early care and education programs funded through the federal pandemic relief funds in Phoenix North were able to maintain their participation in SFY25 from existing vacancies in the region and the efficiencies from the revisions. However, there is a current waitlist of 11 child care centers in the Phoenix North Region.

Quality First Scholarships:

FTF 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 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.

Early Learning Systems Change:

The First Things First Phoenix North and Phoenix South regional partnership councils jointly fund a consultant under the Early Learning Systems Change Strategy to facilitate communities of practice. This strategy provides early childhood professionals and directors of centers that are not enrolled in Quality First with a series of sessions that will help increase their knowledge base focused on best practices in a chosen area of study over an extended period. Topics such as "What is Best for Children?", "Conscious Discipline" (available in English and Spanish) and "Leaderships in Every Role" are participant-driven and customized based on participant feedback and identified priorities.

In SFY24, two communities of practice were offered, building on the work completed in SFY23. For SFY25, two additional cohorts have been added, bringing the total to four options, including professional development opportunities for individuals in leadership roles and offerings in Spanish.

Each community of practice includes eight live virtual or in-person sessions scheduled between August 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025, along with self-study materials. Participants can earn over 25 professional development hours through a combination of self-study and live sessions. Over 100 individuals expressed interest in these opportunities across both regions. This year, 97 participants representing 12 child care centers have joined the cohorts, including 65 participants from eight centers in the Phoenix North Region.

Participants have shared overwhelmingly positive feedback, highlighting their appreciation for the collaborative and ongoing learning environment. Many are thrilled to report successfully implementing the skills acquired through these sessions into their daily practices.

Challenges:

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 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)
- Community Based Language and Literacy (prioritized)

Navigating and Connecting Families to Resources

- Family Resource Centers (prioritized)
- o Family, Friend and Neighbor Care (prioritized)
- Family Support and Literacy Systems Change (prioritized)
- Home Visitation Coordinated Referral System (prioritized)

Successes:

Family Resource Centers:

The regional council strategically focused on funding six family resource centers in targeted areas with high poverty rates spreading across the region as far north as New River and as far south as the northern border of Phoenix South. Grant partners have been successful in connecting families with resources such as food banks, utility and rental assistance, water safety, car seats, first aid and CPR instruction. In addition, families have been provided the opportunity to engage in parenting activities that are giving them the opportunities to learn fun and interactive ways of supporting their children's education at home to better prepare them for kindergarten.

Grant partners also offer parents the opportunity to elevate their voices by participating in their Parent Advisory Committee. This has empowered parents with the opportunity to feel honored, respected and create a safe space to share challenges and learn how to elevate each other to help fight for change within their community.

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.

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)
- o Inclusion of Children with Special Needs (prioritized)
- o Child Care Health Consultation (prioritized)

Successes:

Inclusion of Children with Special Needs:

The grantee sent out a year-end survey to all sites participating in the program's comprehensive technical assistance services for three months or longer. Ratings were calculated as a score of one through five across content areas of goal planning, promoting change, confidence in serving children with special needs and skills gained. The results showed 89% overall satisfaction for the Phoenix North Region. Participants shared that their staff feel better about identifying children that may have developmental delays. According to the survey, the staff are also more open to children with different abilities and have a growth mindset.

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:

Educational Promotion and Brand Awareness:

Phoenix Art Museum Sponsorship: A portion of the funds has been allocated to sponsor the Phoenix Art Museum's upcoming *Southwest ABCs* book release, a children's book based around the museum's collection. This sponsorship, covering the printing of the books and supporting child and family programming, will enable FTF to achieve key goals by providing direct access to the museum's patrons and boosting brand visibility in impactful, educational environments. The sponsorship will be prominently featured through the creation and launch of the *Southwest ABCs* children's book, as well as through the museum's "Storytime in the Galleries" and "Create Play Date" programs. Additionally, FTF will be recognized throughout the year across the museum's virtual presence, which includes 1.8 million website visitors annually and 120,000+ social media followers. This partnership will strengthen FTF's presence in the community by sharing a link to FTF Family Guides on their website, promoting our resources to families with young children. This collaboration represents a strategic effort to increase brand awareness, connect families with essential resources and establish partnerships that extend our reach to new audiences in the community.

AZ Impact for Good UNITE Nonprofit and Grantmaker Conference: This event brought together over 800 professionals across the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors to spend a day participating in professional development workshops, networking and establishing new partnerships. The sponsorship gave FTF the opportunity for logo recognition on the AZ Impact for Good website and registration page, access to a list of all participants and their email addresses, exposure across social media platforms and inclusion in e-newsletters.

Media:

In SFY24, targeted media efforts in the Phoenix North 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 will expand these efforts with ads placed on grocery carts in 24 local stores, digital billboards at two key locations, toppers and posters at five gas stations 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

Identifying and Addressing Developmental Concerns

Developmental and Sensory Screening (non-prioritized)

Health Resource Coordination

Children's Health Systems Change (non-prioritized)

Successes:

Developmental and Sensory Screening:

The grantee that is responsible for this strategy was awarded funding mid-year of SFY24. The grant partner was able to recertify staff for hearing and vision screenings and an additional staff member became a board-certified hearing and vision trainer. Although programming started after the beginning of the state fiscal year, the grantee was able to spend 76% of their funding and reach 325 children. Considering the establishment of solid staffing and outreach plans proposed by the grant partner, it is expected that the grant partner is likely to continue to increase the number of children screened for vision and hearing to meet the contracted service unit.

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 patient's 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 five 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. A regional team from Phoenix North focused on supporting a new food pantry at Alta Vista Elementary school that serves a large community of refugee families. The pantry opened in September and served a total of 90 families on the first day it was opened.

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 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. 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 Report was delivered in June 2024, reviewed by the regional partnership council and approved by the Board in August 2024.