



Pinal Gila
Community
Child Services

ANNUAL REPORT
2023



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Our theme this past year was “Early Childhood is Heart Work”. Our staff love what they do! With the pandemic behind us, we returned fully to in-person services to support children and families with comprehensive services. Our staff continue to see children who have fallen behind in social/emotional and self-help skills. Our classrooms are busy! PGCCS utilized several avenues to address staff wellness. We implemented several health challenges: a walking challenge, a stretching/exercise challenge and a water drinking challenge. Staff also had counseling sessions available to them at no cost. A wellness day was provided to allow staff to regroup and decompress. Due to an additional funding grant, bonuses were given to staff to help offset the growing inflation and retain our staff due to national staffing shortages. PGCCS staff continue to receive professional development that promotes skills that assist with navigating day to day activities with children and families. Our Brazelton Touchpoints™ trainers provided training and we continue to develop the Touchpoint methodology within our employees. Touchpoints relationship-based approach over arches our children, families, and staff. Lastly, we continued to delve deeper into our continuous quality improvement (CQI) approach so we can better tell our story through a more data driven lens. By using data to drive our services, we can best support and grow as an agency impacting the children, families and communities that we serve.

It continues to be an honor in serving those within PGCCS. Each day brings me new hope of a stronger and better future for those we serve.

Respectfully,
Charity Russell, CEO

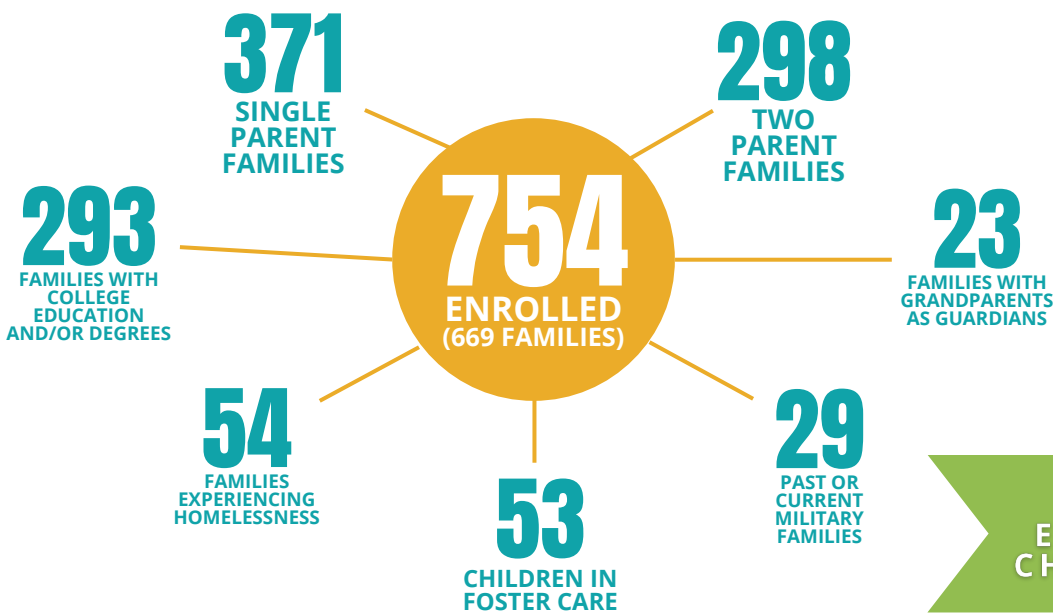
FISCAL

REVENUE SOURCES	BUDGET 22-23
Early Head Start	\$4,139,932
Head Start	\$8,651,120
American Rescue Plan	\$899,935
AZ-HQEL (High Quality Early Learning)	\$1,329,012
AZ CCSG (Child Care Stabilization Grant)	\$1,854,400
In-Kind / Non-Federal Share	\$1,530,078
TOTAL AGENCY REVENUE	\$18,404,477

ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	HEAD START	EARLY HEAD START
Personal Salaries	\$6,432,517	\$2,788,613
Supplies	\$347,674	\$182,667
Equipment	\$240,469	\$303,857
Contractual	\$272,329	\$92,342
Training	\$97,868	\$86,470
Other Expenses	\$812,448	\$352,798
In-Kind	\$924,914	\$605,163
TOTALS	\$9,128,219	\$4,411,910

RESULTS OF MOST RECENT AUDIT:
 AUDIT 2021-2022 COMPLETED BY BEASELY, MITCHELL,
 AND CO., LLP IN MARCH 2023.
 NO FINDINGS.

OUR FAMILIES

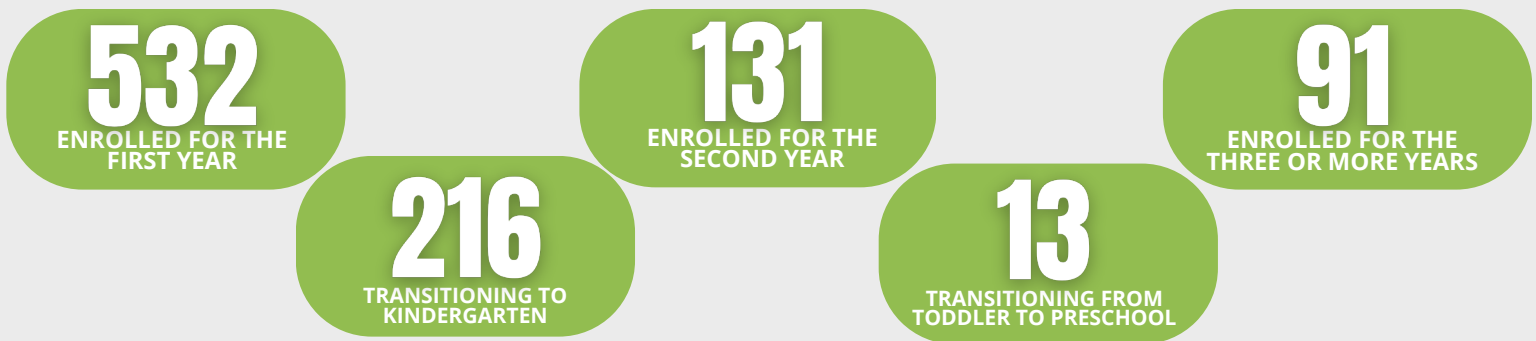


PRIMARY LANGUAGE IN THE HOME



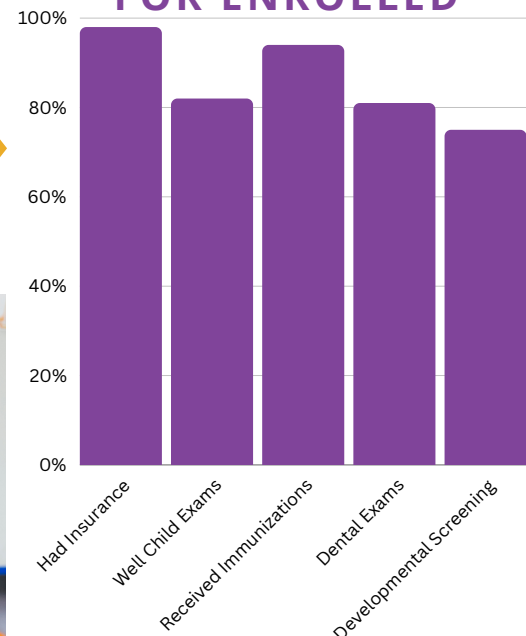
IN 2022-2023, PGCCS SUPPORTED 19% OF ELIGIBLE LOW-INCOME CHILDREN IN PINAL AND GILA COUNTIES.

ENROLLMENT



88% AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT FOR THE AGENCY

HEALTH STATISTICS FOR ENROLLED



82
STUDENTS HAD AN IEP/IFSP AND ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SERVICES THROUGH IDEA

118
STUDENTS THAT ARE DIAGNOSED WITH A CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITION

105
STUDENTS WITH A CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITION RECEIVING TREATMENT



OUR PROGRAM

EARLY HEAD START

BIRTH TO 3

Early Head Start staff are trained professionals who will provide information and skills to support each child's development, health services, and family sufficiency.

HEAD START

3-5 YEARS OLD

PGCCS Head Start is a comprehensive, school readiness program providing preschool services in a classroom setting.

HQEL

3-5 YEARS OLD

Our Early Childhood Development Program is a FREE, high-quality early learning program for qualifying families in the Superior, Eloy, & Coolidge areas.

ELIGIBILITY

- LIVE IN PINAL OR GILA COUNTY
- BIRTH TO 5 YEARS OLD
- FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
- CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE
- CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES UP TO 10% OF ENROLLMENT
- FAMILY INCOME AT OR BELOW THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL, BASED ON FAMILY SIZE
- FAMILY ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SNAP BENEFITS
- OVER-INCOME WITH SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

CLASSROOMS

5

TODDLER CLASSROOMS

27

PRESCHOOL CLASSROOMS

17

HOME BASE TEACHERS

BRAZELTON TOUCHPOINTS FACILITY

3

CERTIFIED TOUCHPOINT TRAINERS

24% OF STAFF IS TOUCHPOINT TRAINED

PARENTS AS STAFF/VOLUNTEERS

38%

OF STAFF ARE CURRENT OR FORMER HEAD START PARENTS

83%

OF VOLUNTEERS ARE CURRENT OR FORMER HEAD START PARENTS

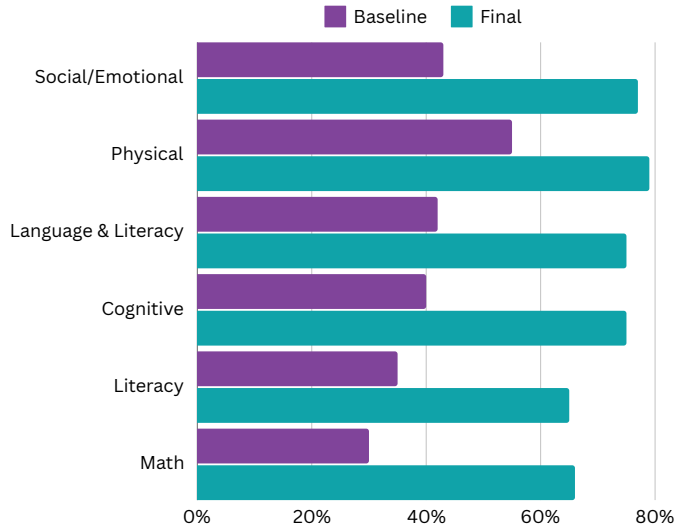
WHAT IS THE BRAZELTON TOUCHPOINTS APPROACH?

The agency has embraced a Brazelton Touchpoints Approach which is an evidence-based, trauma- and culturally-informed way of working with children and families. It builds awareness of our own trauma/culture and how it impacts our work with families. Staff gain a better understanding of their triggers and what they bring to the interaction. The approach is a relationship-based practice.



SCHOOL READINESS

CHILDREN MEETING OR EXCEEDING AGE-EXPECTATIONS



Head Start, above all else, is a school-readiness program.

PGCCS's School Readiness Goals are centered around the 5 developmental areas defined in the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF): Social Emotional; Perceptual, Motor, and Physical; Cognition; Language & Literacy; and Approaches to Learning.

Our curricula and on-going assessments support children's growth in all areas of development and include parent input so we can best plan for the individual needs of each child participating in the program.

PARENT FAMILY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GOALS

Parents learning to support their child's transitions to new learning environments.

Parents will participate in 1 STEAM activity per assessment period. (No data collected in Fall)

Parents are aware of community literacy resources.

Parents will participate in age appropriate in gross motor development related to the curriculum.

Parents learn more about positive parent – child relationships.



The Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework is a road map for progress. PFCE Framework specifies seven family outcomes that research has shown to promote positive child outcomes.



FAMILY SUPPORT



PARENT PARTICIPATION

- Orientation is provided to support children transitioning into the program.
- Parents submit child observations using the Learning Genie App.
- Mental health consultations provided at parent's request.
- Nutritional consultations based on needs and parent's concerns.
- Individual health plans/ dental outreach.
- Policy Council/ Local Parent Committee
- Support their children in at-home learning experiences.
- Create goals for their child by looking at assessment data with teachers.
- Fatherhood/father figure events averaged 58% participation.
- Pre-orientation in Spring to enroll for August program year.
- Head Start Certificate celebrations at the end of the year.

EXPECTANT FAMILIES

PGCCS provides evidence-based home visitation services delivered in the home that support a variety of parenting situations by offering relevant prenatal and postpartum information, education and services that address, as appropriate, fetal development, the importance of nutrition, the risks of alcohol, drugs, and smoking, labor and delivery, postpartum recovery, parental depression, infant care and safe sleep practices, and the benefits of breastfeeding.



7 ENROLLED IN SERVICES

100% RECEIVED PRENATAL CARE

84% RECEIVED POSTNATAL CARE

OUR TEAM

ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SURVEY

99% AGREE THAT THE AGENCY IS A VALUABLE RESOURCE TO THE PUBLIC

50% OF STAFF HAVE WORKED FOR THE AGENCY 6 YEARS OR MORE.

82% AGREE THEY HAVE A GOOD WORK/LIFE BALANCE.

97% AGREE THEIR CULTURE IS RESPECTED.

89% AGREE THEY ARE AN IMPORTANT TEAM MEMBER

97% AGREE THE FACILITIES ARE WELL MAINTAINED, CLEAN, AND SAFE.

I CAN HONESTLY SAY THAT PGCCS IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PLACES TO WORK BECAUSE OF THE PASSION, DEDICATION AND COLLABORATION MY COLLEAGUES EXEMPLIFY. I TRULY APPRECIATE THE INVESTMENT THE AGENCY PUTS INTO CHILDREN, FAMILY AND STAFF'S WELLNESS AND SUCCESS.

TOP 3 REASONS STAFF WORK HERE:

1. WORKING WITH CHILDREN & FAMILIES
2. WORK RELATIONSHIPS & WAGES
3. BENEFITS

THE AVERAGE STAFF TENURE WITH PINAL GILA COMMUNITY CHILD SERVICES IS 9 YEARS AND 9 MONTHS

I LOVE WORKING IN MY TEAM AND DEPARTMENT. WE WORK TOGETHER TO PLAN AND ACCOMPLISH NEEDED GOALS AND COMPLETE PROJECTS. I REALLY LOVE BEING ABLE TO PLAN IN ADVANCE AND BEING ABLE TO VOICE AN OPINION WITHOUT FEAR OF RETALIATION.



MY TEAM IS THE BEST! WE COLLABORATE CONSISTENTLY AND ARE SUPPORTIVE OF ONE ANOTHER. THEY ARE A BIG PIECE OF MY OVERALL JOB SATISFACTION.

STAFF WELLNESS



HEALTH & WELLNESS CHALLENGE

ONE OF THE AGENCY'S OBJECTIVES WAS TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS STAFF WELLNESS INITIATIVES. THE PGCCS HEALTH CHALLENGE WAS COMPOSED OF 4 ROUNDS OF CHALLENGES.

PARTICIPANTS WERE PROVIDED WITH HEALTH CHALLENGE AIDES TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION WHICH INCLUDED HIDRATESPARK WATER BOTTLES AND PEDOMETERS.

STAFF PARTICIPATION GRADUALLY INCREASED WITH EVERY CHALLENGE, WITH AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 16.4% IN PARTICIPATION FROM THE FIRST TO LAST.

THE HEALTH CHALLENGE WAS DEEMED IMPACTFUL BY STAFF!

CHALLENGE DESCRIPTION

- **WATER HYDRATION CHALLENGE:** PARTICIPANTS WERE ENCOURAGED TO INCREASE THEIR WATER INTAKE AND TO BE MINDFUL TO HYDRATE THEIR BODIES.
- **STEP CHALLENGE:** PARTICIPANTS WERE ENCOURAGED TO WALK BETWEEN 5K AND 10K STEPS PER DAY, DEPENDING ON THEIR PERSONAL PREFERENCE.
- **STRETCH CHALLENGE:** PARTICIPANTS WERE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN DAILY STRETCHING BASED ON THEIR OWN BODIES AND TO BE MINDFUL OF IMPACTS OF STRETCHING.

"-THROUGH THIS INITIATIVE ALONG WITH OTHER MEDICAL HELP I HAVE LOST OVER 30 LBS. SINCE THIS HEALTH/ WELLNESS CHALLENGE HAS BEGUN. I APPRECIATE THE ASPECT OF THE OVERALL WHOLE WELLNESS OF THE PERSON BEING LOOKED AT."

"I HELD MYSELF ACCOUNTABLE AND MADE PERSONAL CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN SUSTAINABLE ON A PERSONAL LEVEL."

"-IT HAS BEEN GREAT TO NOT JUST HAVE THE CHALLENGES AND AWARENESS, BUT ALSO THE RESOURCES TO IMPROVE (WATER BOTTLES, PEDOMETERS, COUNSELING SESSIONS). I FEEL LIKE I CAN FOCUS MORE ON MY OWN HEALTH WITH "PERMISSION" FROM WORK."



“When I gave birth to Lola in May 2018, I was in prison. Lola was placed with my mom to care for. During this time Covid hit. The only way I was able to connect with Lola was over the phone due to Covid restrictions. She just heard my voice. My mom signed Lola up for Head Start. She started school August 2021. In early December 2021 I got out and that is when the journey began to actively be part of Lola's life and work on building that connection with her. Her involvement and Head Start helped us build that bond, and gave Lola and I something to talk about when I picked her up from school each day. Head Start staff from the start were non-judgmental and welcomed me with open arms. The classroom schedule worked with my work hours. There's also excellent communication between the school and me. Lola and I got our own place in March 2022, and we continue to build that bond and our life together.”



“My name is Danielle. I have been in the program for a couple of years. We recently found out that Jaylah needed glasses because of the vision screening that Early Head Start provided. We are getting Jolenah’s hearing checked out as well because of early screening. She will be seeing an ENT and audiologist because of screening they provided. Because of Early Head Start, I know that early intervention is best. Head Start has taught me it is okay to advocate for my children, and that I am capable to get the help my child needs. Head Start has given me the reassurance that I am a good mom and given me the tools to better myself as a mom. Early Head Start has taught me healthy parenting skills. It has also helped me come up with age-appropriate activities and goals to work on with each of my children.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jesse Kraus** – President
- Caryl Chase** – Vice President
- Linda Good** – Treasurer
- Tracy Anders**-Secretary
- Amy Powell** - Member
- Laura Randol**
Finance Consultant
- Carolyn Lopez**
PC Representative
- Christina Bailey**
PC Representative

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CEO
- Claudine Sabel**
DCEO
- Stacy Hernandez**
Operations Director
- Vanessa Mendoza**
Finance Director
- Carla Ramsey**
Family Engagement Director
- Jason Clark**
Child Development Director



Pinal Gila
Community
Child Services

Administration Office
1183 E Cottonwood Lane, Suite 2
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
Phone: (888) 723-7321
Fax: (520) 836-9672
www.pgccs.org



LOCATIONS

Apache Junction Head Start

900 N. Plaza
Apache Junction, AZ 85120

Casa Grande Head Start

468 W. McMurray Blvd.
Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Coolidge Head Start

227 W. Pinkley Ave.
Coolidge, AZ 85128

Eloy Head Start

114 E. 3rd St.
P.O. Box 293
Eloy, AZ 85131

Florence Head Start

40 E. Celaya St.
P.O. Box 2272
Florence, AZ 85132

Mammoth Head Start

324 S. El Camino
San Manuel, AZ 85631

Maricopa Head Start

44931 W. Edwards Circle
Maricopa, AZ 85139

Miami Head Start

131 N. Plaza Circle
Miami, AZ 85539

San Tan Valley Head Start

301 E. Combs Rd. Room 505
San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Stanfield Head Start

515 S. Stanfield Rd.
P.O. Box 205
Stanfield, AZ 85172

Superior Early Learning Center

150 N. Lobb Ave.
P.O. Box 386
Superior, AZ 85273

Toltec Head Start

3905 W Marsh Ave
Eloy, AZ 85131

Winkelman Head Start

824 Thorne Ave.
P.O. Box 678
Winkelman, AZ 85192