

# Family Resource Handbook



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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF THE EAST VALLEY

### After School Programs

Check with your individual school to see if they have a program.

The **Boys and Girls Clubs** offer a one hour of home-work with assistance each day plus activities. Must be enrolled in school to be part of the Club.

Boys and Girls Club East 520-562-3890

East (Sacaton) - Ages 5-13 M-F from 3 to 7pm

Ages 14-18 M-F from 3 to 8pm

Boys and Girls Club West 520-550-1113

West (Komatke) - Ages 5-12 M-F from 3 to 7pm

Ages 13-18 M-F from 3 to 8pm

### Social Emotional Development

These are some skills that as parents we can demonstrate that will help our child both socially and emotionally:

- Making friends
- Showing anger in a healthy way.
- Figuring out conflicts peacefully.
- Taking care of someone who has been hurt.
- Waiting patiently.
- Following rules.
- Enjoying the company of others.

<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/developing-social-emotional-skills>

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# Transportation Page 32

If there is a problem with transportation, call the school:



<b>Betty Fairfax High School</b>	
602-764-9000	
<b>Blackwater Community School</b>	
520-215-5859	
<b>Casa Blanca Community School</b>	
520-315-3489	
<b>Casa Grande Union High School</b>	520-316-3382
<b>Cesar Chavez High School</b>	602-764-4000
<b>Chandler Unified School District</b>	480-812-7000
<b>Coolidge Alternative Program</b>	520-723-2115
<b>Coolidge School District</b>	520-723-2066
<b>Desert Hills High School</b>	480-813-1151
<b>Desert Vista High School</b>	480-706-7900
<b>Desert Winds School</b>	520-316-3361
<b>Gila Crossing Community Schools</b>	520-550-4834
<b>Heartland School</b>	520-424-2100
<b>Imagine School</b>	520-424-2790
<b>Kyrene Elem School District</b>	480-541-1000
<b>Laveen School District</b>	602-237-9100 ext 2011
<b>Maricopa Village Christian School</b>	520-430-6827
<b>Sacaton Elem/Middle Schools</b>	520-562-8600
<b>Skyline Gila River Schools</b>	480-403-8580
<b>St. Peters Indian Mission School</b>	520-315-3835
<b>Tempe Union School District</b>	480-839-0292
<b>Tolleson Elem School</b>	623-533-3900
<b>Tolleson High School</b>	623-478-4000
<b>Vista Grande School</b>	520-876-9400
<b>West Elementary School K-6</b>	520-723-2702

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## From the Director

Greetings to All,

The Tribal Education Department mission is:

**“To Improve Education for the Gila River Indian Community”**

We understand there are many factors that have an effect on a student’s positive school experience. One of the most important factors is school attendance. Success at School requires regular attendance from Head Start and preschool to elementary, middle and high school.

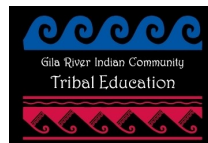
Our school administrators and program managers and all the staff understand there is more to education than just school. Being aware of this, we are providing this Family Resource Handbook.

The Community has many resources available for Community Members. In this Family Resource Book we are providing a list of these resources all together in this user friendly format.

We hope this handbook is useful to you. Keep it handy so you can access the information as the need arises. If we all work together, we can make sure the educational experience for all our children/students is positive.

Please direct your questions and comments to:

Gila River Indian Community  
Tribal Education Department  
Phone: 520-562-3662  
Fax: 520-562-2924



## Mandated Reporters

### Mandatory Reporters in the Schools

A mandatory reporter is someone who has reason to believe or a suspicion that a child has been, is, or may be the victim of child abuse or neglect. Anyone who knowingly fails to make such a report shall be subject to every available criminal and civil sanction of the Community or under federal law.

Children’s Code 7.205

A mandatory reporter is a person employed within Gila River Indian Community by any agency, whether public, parochial or private. These reporters include and may not be limited to: administrators, principals, case worker, TSS worker, attendance or truancy officer, teacher, school counselor, school therapist, SRO, teacher’s assistant, bus driver, paid, contracted or volunteer workers in the schools.

## You Can Help

### Prevent Child Abuse

520-562-3396



# WIC

## Women, Infants, and Children

**WIC is a nutrition program that helps families feed their children healthy foods. WIC provides nutritional information, healthy foods, and help accessing health care to moderate to low-income families. The program is available to families with pregnant women, new mothers, and children under the age of five.**

### What Can WIC Offer My Family?

An eWIC card that can be used at the grocery store to buy healthy foods like milk, yogurt, whole grains, beans, juice, eggs, cheese, cereal, peanut butter and fruit and vegetables.

- Information about nutrition and health to help you and your family eat well and be healthy
- Help with breastfeeding your baby
- Help in finding health care and other community services
- Breast pumps to help you breastfeed even when you return to work

**Call 520-562-9698 for more information on the Gila River Indian Community WIC Program.**

### Can My Family Enroll In WIC?

WIC is for all kinds of families – families with married or single parents and those who are working or not working. WIC has different requirements than SNAP (Food Stamps) so even if you don't qualify for SNAP, you may still qualify for WIC.

- If you are a father, mother, grandparent, foster parent or other legal guardian of a child under 5 years of age, you can apply for your child.
- If you are a woman who is pregnant, breastfeeding, or has a baby up to six months old, you can apply for yourself.

# Families



What pleases you about your child? What makes you feel good about them? All humans need to hear the positive things about themselves and it is especially true for children. They need to hear from their parents/caretakers the good things about themselves. Here are some ways to praise your children:

- Pay attention to them.
- Give them individual attention.
- Give them non-verbal praise.
- Give them verbal praise.
- Show them affection.
- Forgive when needed.
- Unconditionally love them.

What are some of the things you value that you want to see in your children? How do you show them those values?

- **Meet your children's friends.** Know who is influencing your children.
- **Occupy your children's free time.** Give them responsibilities and get them involved in after-school activities.
- **Spend time with your children.** Plan family activities, include your neighbors.
- **Do not buy your children gang-style clothing.** Even if your child is not in a gang, gang style clothing will attract negative attention.
- **Set limits for your children.** Children need to know what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior at a very young age.
- **Impose a curfew.**
- **Teach your children to respect personal property.**
- **Become an informed parent.** Learn about drugs, gangs and current trends affecting your children.
- **Participate in your child's education.** Visit your children's school, meet their teachers and attend school-sponsored training.
- **Become a role model for your children.** Participate in the Community; volunteer, remove graffiti from your neighborhood.

# Early Childhood Special Services **ECSS**

**Early Childhood Special Services** is a Community program that offers a variety of special education services to families with children who have disabilities and developmental delays from birth to five years old and reside within the Community. We also offer advocacy services to support families navigating the special education process for their school-aged student(s) from kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We support families through education, advocacy, and developmental services.

### *Early Intervention: Birth to Three years*

Referrals are accepted from parents, medical providers, community service programs, educators, and collaborative programs/agencies. We offer free developmental, hearing, and vision screenings for your child as well as free monitoring to ensure your child's development stays on track. Following a child's screening, a family can enroll their child to be monitored or an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) may be developed and services will begin. We also assist with the transition to preschool-aged services beginning as early as 2.9 years old for children on IFSP's.

### *Preschool-aged: Three to Five years*

Services are available through your local Community school, Head Start, FACE, or Early Education Center. The family or teacher of a child may request a referral for a free screening or evaluation. For children who require specialized assistance or support services, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) can be developed. ECSS also coordinates with schools to aid in transitioning children with disabilities into kindergarten.

### *Kindergarten-12<sup>th</sup> grade*

Advocacy is available to families that have questions or need assistance with their school-aged child's special education. Student Support Specialists can help answer any questions and/or accompany parents and guardians to meetings to ensure that they remain fully informed of their student's special education rights and services. This service is available to all enrolled GRIC members attending schools within and outside the Community's boundaries.

**Contact us: 520-562-3882 or fax 520-562-3205**

## *Drug and Alcohol Prevention*

- Who are the role models that our youth have around drugs and alcohol?
- As parents, what are your values around drugs and alcohol?
- Do your children know what your values are?

### For youth:

- Don't Be Afraid to Say No
- Connect With Your Friends and Avoid Negative Peer Pressure
- Make Connections With Your Parents or Other Adults
- Enjoy Life and Do What You Love - Don't Add Alcohol and Drugs
- Follow the Family Rules About Alcohol and Drugs
- Be a Role Model and Set a Positive Example
- Speak Out/Speak Up/Take Control

## Wellness Center Programs -

The Wellness Center program offers community based fitness programs and activities for community youth, teens, adults, elders and employees. Programs offered include personal training, circuit training classes, strength and endurance training, nutritional advice and other health and fitness promotion programs.

Come join in one of the many classes that are offered or work out by yourself. Either way, you will see the benefits.

**Call for more information: 520-562-2025**

**Wellness** is more than exercise, it is about finding a balance in your day and in your life. The balance between, physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellness. Can I ask myself if I have walked in a good way with all parts of my being today so I can be in harmony with my neighbors and all of creation? Breathe well. Be well.

# Tribal

# Social Services

## Children's and Family Services 562-3396

**Tribal Social Services (TSS)** provides a variety of programs designated to care, serve and protect the most vulnerable members of the Gila River Indian Community. The following programs are under the TSS Department:

Adult Protective Services - to ensure the safety and healthy environment of the elderly and disabled.

Child Protective Services - provides crisis intervention and investigation of suspected child maltreatment.

Case Management Services - manages all the services a child and family are involved with when a child is under protective services.

General Assistance and Burials - provides cash assistance to those in need and who are eligible.

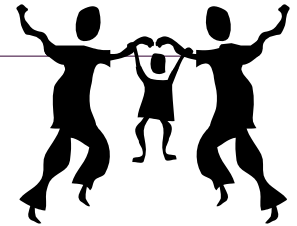
Indian Child Welfare Act (IWCA) - working closely with the state child welfare program when enrolled members become involved in the state child welfare system.

Residential Programs for Youth (RPY) - immediate and temporary housing for children age birth to 17.

Crime Victim Services - provides services to victims of violent crimes.

Domestic Violence Shelter (On Eagle's Wings) - a sanctuary for those in need of basic needs, shelter and other services.

Foster Care and Adoption Program - is responsible for the recruitment, retention and licensure of foster and adoptive homes within the Community as well as outside the Community.



## Advocacy and Special Education

Children with special needs are as capable of academic achievement as typically developing children are. Children with special needs can have a variety of disabilities that may make learning more arduous in the following areas: cognitive skills, physical skills, emotional skills, and adaptive skills. To improve academic access and results, parents should obtain the appropriate academic and support services for their children through IDEA, the Federal Law that guides schools in education of those with special needs.

Though the Public Education Authority (your local school district) is responsible for providing the special education accommodations, there are many community organizations whose sole function is to provide support to families with children with special needs. These organizations can assist with planning for meetings with your child's educators, provide assistance in navigating the Division of Developmental Disabilities program provided by the State, connecting you with other families within the community that have children with special needs, providing you with educational resources to better understand your child's disability, as well as many other services.

We can offer advocacy, education and parent training and the coordination with community programs and state agencies that provide social and health services. **Call us: 520-562-3882**

Below are some local contacts:

Raising Special Kids [www.raisingpecialkids.org](http://www.raisingpecialkids.org)  
5025 E. Washington St  
Ste 204  
Phoenix, AZ 85034  
(602) 242-4366

Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center [www.autismcenter.org](http://www.autismcenter.org)  
2225 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
(602) 340-8717

Arizona Center for Disability Law [www.azdisabilitylaw.org](http://www.azdisabilitylaw.org)  
5025 E. Washington St  
Ste 202  
Phoenix, AZ 85034  
(620) 274-6287



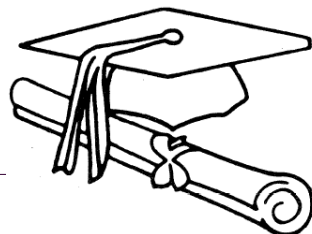
## Boarding Schools

The Off Reservation Boarding School’s (ORBS) office provides information and assistance to families and students who are interested or currently attending an off reservation boarding school. The ORBS Advisor will be working with all the schools on the reservation and other agencies on the reservation. The ORBS advisor will act as an liaison between parents, schools, agencies, and other entities. The ORBS advisor will provide brochures, school information, and all pertinent information to parents so they may determine the appropriate school for their child. The ORBS advisor will also keep an up to date record of the student’s information and progress through continual communication with parents, guardians, and schools. This includes academic progress, behavioral issues, education achievements earned, and the overall transition into a boarding school environment.

The schools that the ORBS office works with are:

Circle of Nations	North Dakota	4 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Chemawa Indian School	Oregon	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Flandreau Indian School	South Dakota	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Jones Academy	Oklahoma	1 <sup>st</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Riverside Indian School	Oklahoma	4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Sequoyah High School	Oklahoma	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Sherman Indian High School	California	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Theodore Roosevelt School	Arizona	6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Wingate High School	New Mexico	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

Call Tribal Education for more information: 520-562-3662



## Truancy

According to Gila River Indian Community, *truant* means a child who is absent from school for five or more days during any school semester and/or not formally enrolled, who does not have a valid excuse. (Children’s Code 7.603)

All students, without regard to domicile, are subject to the truancy ordinance. As long as a child is an enrolled Community member, or those eligible for membership under 18 years of age, is bound to comply with GRIC ordinances, regardless of residency. These children commit a violation of GRIC law when they fail to attend school, whether the school is physically located on or off the reservation.

Important Numbers:

Children’s Court . . . . . 520-562-9860  
 Protective Services Office . . . . . 520-562-3396  
 The Truancy Diversion Program . . . . . 520-562-9865  
 (Probation)

Kindergarten and first grade are critical for your child. Missing school during these early years makes it more difficult for children to learn in later years and they often have trouble reading by the end of third grade.





## VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED

Tribal Education is focused on the student, while providing a supportive environment for both parents/guardians and teachers. Your involvement is both welcomed and encouraged.

Parents, grandparents, neighbors, and community members: your ideas, talents, and time are valuable assets to share with our students and our schools. Volunteers foster a strong relationship between school and the community, demonstrate the importance of community service, and create a common ownership in the success of our schools.

Communication is essential as we work together to meet the needs of our students. Please call, if you have any questions. Call your student's school to visit a classroom or to volunteer. We believe that there is a critical link between the community to school, parents to school, community and parents to students and so on. When all of these connections are met, they set students up to experience success later on in life. Each school has a parent organization. Join your parent group to see how your talents and skills can help your school.

*In every community there is work to be done.  
In every nation, there are wounds to heal.  
In every heart there is power to do it.*

- Marianne Williamson

## Suicide Prevention

If you have children suicide cannot be ones of those topics where you shy away from talking about. As a parent we need to examine our own feelings around suicide and if you really are not able to talk about the topic and cannot ask, "Are you suicidal?" you really need to get some help. Children need adults in their life who will be open and honest about many topics and this is one of them.

### Some Warning signs of Suicide:

- Recurring thoughts of death/suicide
- Previous suicide attempt
- Drastic changes in behavior
- Withdraws from friends or social activities
- Giving away prized possessions
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Recent significant losses

### How to Help:

- Be direct and show you care.
- "I don't want you to kill yourself"
- Ask questions and be willing to listen
- Don't discount or minimize the person's feelings
- Tell others your concern – don't keep it a secret
- Stay with your friend until you get help
- Call for help (crisis line, doctor, 911)

**Gila River Indian Community Crisis Line –  
1-800-259-3449**  
**National Crisis Help Line – 1-800-784-2433**  
**Arizona Crisis Help Line – 1-602-222-9444**



Suicide Prevention & Awareness



## Bullying

Bullying is a big problem that affects lots of kids. Being bullied can make kids feel scared, sad, worried, or embarrassed. Bullying can take many forms: physical, emotional, verbal or a combination of these. It may involve individuals, groups, or over the internet. It is not unlike other forms of victimization because it involves:

- An imbalance of power
- Differing emotional tones; the victim will be upset whereas the bully is cool and in control
- Blaming the victim for what has happened
- Lack of concern on the part of the bully for the feelings and concerns of the victim
- A lack of compassion and empathy

**If your child is being bullied**, discuss alternative responses, including:

- Ignore the bully; don't react; walk away, get help if pursued.
- Agree with the bully, saying 'you're right,' and walking away.
- Be assertive (stand up for yourself with words by telling the bully to stop it, then walk away).
- Act brave—walk with confidence, holding your head high.
- Tell an adult: teachers, principals, parents, lunchroom helpers.
- Walk with a friend or two wherever you think you might meet a bully.

**If your child is the bully**, look for what is going on in your child's interactions with others. **DO NOT BLAME**, or get into discussions of "why" this happened. Focus on key points:

- Bullying is not acceptable in our family or community
- Say, "If you are feeling frustrated, angry, or aggres-



**GRIC Student Advisors are currently housed at these school sites:**

*Hohokam Middle School in Coolidge*

(520)723-2329

*Coolidge High School*

(520)723-2127 or (520) 723-2304 Ext. 2143

*Coolidge Alternative Program*

(520) 723-2115

*Casa Grande Union High School*

(520) 836-8500 Ext. 3153

*Vista Grande High School*

(520) 836-8500 Ext. 3153

*Desert Winds Learning Center- Casa Grande*

(520) 316-3360 Ext. 2154

*Betty Fair Fax High School- Phoenix*

(602) 764-9036

*Chandler Unified School District*

(480) 224-3700

*Laveen Elementary School*

(520) 237-9110



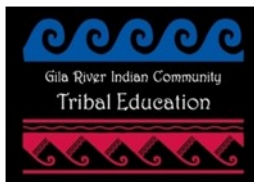


### *K-12 Student Advisors*

K- 12 Services offers student support to students who are Community members and who attend off -reservation schools . GRIC K-12 Student Advisors are a student support program aimed to provide support to students attending public schools surrounding the Gila River Indian Community. The focus of the student advisor is to monitor and support student success by consistently reviewing and tracking attendance, academics and behavior data. They also provide necessary referrals for students that attribute to the overall social and emotional well-being.

#### The GRIC Student Advisors:

- Monitor students' academic progress and offer proactive intervention strategies as needed and award recognition for excellence when appropriate;
- Communicate and confer with teachers, parents, and guardians; Provide information and resources for students to help them understand their educational, personal, and cultural needs, and to acquire basic skills to be successful in fulfilling those needs;
- Guide students on an individual basis in the solution of personal problems related to home and family relations, emotional adjustments, and providing small group study sessions, tutorial and referrals for students;
- Maintain records of counseling referrals; Ensures that the needs and safety of the student are being met; Addresses truancy of tribally enrolled students (including making home visits), and Act as liaisons between the schools, agencies, and other entities.



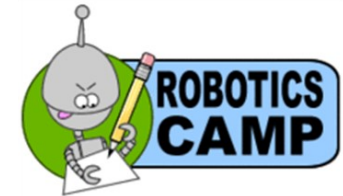
- sive, here are some things you can do...”
- Role play; act out the new behaviors
  - Ask, “How can I help you with this? Who could you go to in school if you see yourself getting into this type of situation again?”
  - Specify the consequences of repetition of this behavior
  - You want to stop the behavior; understand your child’s feelings, then teach and reward appropriate behavior.

**Call your child’s school counselor or teacher for more assistance.**

#### **Helpful Websites:**

[www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)  
[www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org](http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org)  
[www.stompoutbullying.org](http://www.stompoutbullying.org)  
[www.thebullyproject.com](http://www.thebullyproject.com)

**STEM skills**—including science, technology, engineering, and math—are a critical part of everyday life. When was the last time you had your toddler smell flowers (science)? When did you have your child help bake a cake (math)? When did you ask your child to help in building a vatho (engineering)? When did your child want to play a game on your cell phone (technology)? Let’s involve our children/students more in STEM and as they are involved in smelling, baking, building and playing remind them that they are involved with science, technology, engineering and math. Wasn’t that easy? Think STEM.



## Early Education / Child Care Center

The Early Education/Child Care Center provides affordable and quality child care services for children 6-weeks to 5 years old, while parents or guardians are working, in training, job searching or pursuing their formal education. We also serve children of Tribal Employees and other entities of the GRIC.

### Child Care & Development Fund

The program offers child care subsidy through the Child Care and Development Fund for children 6 weeks up to age 13 years for children on and off-reservation, the funds pays for the cost of child care for children that have proof of pending enrollment or are enrolled in the GRIC. The purpose of the program is to provide families with support for child care services that meet their needs.

### Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership

The Early Education/Child Care program entered into the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership in 2015. The partnership allows for our program to provide services to children through comprehensive services: early learning, health, and family well-being. This program allows for families to be except from a fee for children enrolled in the Partnership (birth – age 3 years) and attend the Early Education/Child Care Center.

### First Things First- Quality First Scholarship

The Early Education/Child Care Center receives First Things First Quality First Scholarship for children birth- age 5 years. These scholarships provide families whose children are under 5 years and attend the GRIC EECC Center, a child care scholarship to pay for the cost of child care.

All programs listed above have with eligibility criteria, if you are interested in child care services, please contact the office.

**Phone: (520) 562-3640, 9246, 5097**



## Families

### Positive Experiences for Building the Young Brain

- Loving care & touch
- Consistent, individual attention
- Everyday, simple activities
- Exposure to new experiences
- Understand child development
- Talking
- Music
- Limit television
- Balance – pay attention to the whole child
- Read and respond to child's cues
- One size doesn't fit all
- Know child & what he/she is capable of doing

### Learning

Children with a secure bond to caregivers are more ready to learn.

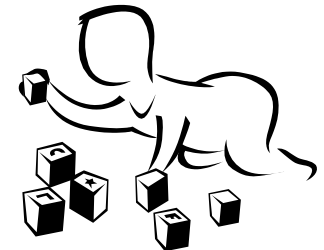
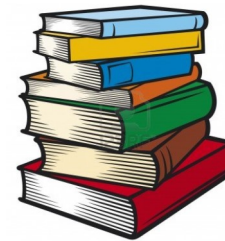
Children learn by doing.

Fancy, expensive toys, videos, and flash cards are not necessary.

Repetition in a variety of ways

– modeling, actions, verbally, etc.

There is a direct link between the number of words your child is exposed to and later success with reading. More words = better reading chances.





The more you know about your baby and parenting, the better your chances of having a healthy family physically, emotionally, and intellectually:

- A child's brain is 90% developed by the age of 3.
- Crying is your baby's only way of telling you something is needed.
- Babies like to be cuddled and comforted most of the time.
- Babies need regular checkups and immunization.
- Babies need to be kept clean, warm, and clothed, and to be kept safe and out of danger.
- Babies need to sleep and eat on a regular schedule.
- When you talk, sing, read and play with your baby you help him/her learn new skills.
- Tummy time is important for your baby to learn to crawl and explore.
- The most important face your baby wants to see is yours.
- Your baby needs attention, time, and most of all, your love.
- 60% of your baby's nutrition is used by the brain during the first year of life.

The quality of relationships and experiences in the first 3 years has deep and lasting impact on how the brain gets wired. The saying, "Use it or lose it" is true with brain development. Three basics that the developing brain needs: safety, nutrition and positive experiences.

A malignant combination of experiences does not set your child up success:

- A lack of critical early nurturing
- Chaotic and cognitively impoverished environments
- Pervasive physical threats
- Watching/hearing violence
- Early, frequent, and intense stress

## Employment & Training

The Employment and Training (E & T) Department assists individuals to become self-sufficient through coordinating the department's programs while assisting them in reaching their career goals. E & T coordinates six programs: Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA), Native Employment Works (NEW), Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), Career Pathways, AmeriCorps, and Year-Round Youth Programs. Each program has eligibility requirements and an application process.

**East Office—562-3388\3387**

**West Office—562-3388\3387** call for an appointment

### Adult Programs

- Prepare adults for participation in the labor force by increasing their occupational and educational skills thereby improving their long-term employability;
- Increase employ and earning; and
- Improve employment retention.

### Year-Round Youth Programs

- Provide assistance in achieving academic and employment success including skill competencies and connections to employers;
- Ensure on-going mentoring opportunities with adults committed to providing opportunities;
- Provide training opportunities, support services, and incentives for recognition and achievement;
- Provide activities related to leadership development, decision-making, citizenship, and community service.

## AKIMEL O'OTHAM & PEE POSH CULTURE AND LANGUAGE

OUR GOAL IS TO INSTILL A SENSE OF OWNERSHIP AND PRIDE IN OUR NATIVE HERITAGE AS IT IS OUR RIGHT.

**The purpose** of our Culture program is to ensure the survival of our Akimel O'otham and Pee Posh cultures, traditions and languages, and to disseminate it to all Gila River Indian Community students and its people, as permitted by the two tribes.

### Program Objectives

- Recognize, revitalize, preserve and protect Akimel O'otham and Pee Posh Culture and Languages.
- Promote inclusion of Akimel O'otham/Pee Posh culture and tradition into Gila River Indian Community school curriculum, as well as to share with Community members.
- Develop a culture and language curriculum for schools and community based programs within the Gila River Indian Community.
- Collaborate closely with District Elders, educators, community members and others as consultants and advisors.
- Culture and language outreach.
- Work in partnership with Tribal Education and Cultural Resources Standing Committees as well as other Gila River departments and entities to preserve Akimel O'otham and Pee Posh cultures.
- Extended long range planning and development for TED Culture and Language Program.

For information call: 520-562-3662



## Start

Beginning in Spring of 2010, Head Start has included wraparound classes for currently enrolled families. Wraparound classes assist families by having the children stay after the regular day dismisses for continued care and activities. These families will know that their children are in a safe, learning classroom while they work, attend school or have appointments to keep. There is no charge for these extra hours of Head Start.

### Name and Location of Site and Contact Information:

Sacaton Head Start District 3	520-562-6901
Santan Head Start District 4	520-418-3471
Vah-Ki Head Start District 5	520-315-3636
Komatke Head Start District 6	520-550-2434
Early Head Start Child Care Partnership	520-562-5097





# Head

The Head Start Program has been operating in the Gila River Indian Community since 1965. The Head Start/Early Head Start Program provides high quality early childhood education for children ages 0-5 years, with an emphasis on school readiness and family engagement.

The Program also provides support services including:

- wrap-around child care,
- transportation services,
- health and developmental screenings,
- disability services
- and family support services.

Head Start parents are a part of Program planning and decision-making. There is no cost for the Head Start Program. Children and families with the highest needs are prioritized for enrollment based on Federal income guidelines and other factors. Contact one of the Head Start sites below for information about enrollment.

Partnership agreements are established with each family with parents and staff working toward established individual goals for their family. Activities include monthly parent meetings, parenting classes, Policy Council, field trips, and other community activities.

## Substance Abuse

Do you suspect that someone is abusing drugs or alcohol?

### What to look for:

- Foul smelling breath;
- Dilated pupils;
- Talkative or quiet (whichever is out of character);
- Marks/sores on face/arms/fingertips;
- Anxious or hyperactive;
- Truancy and tardiness; and/or
- Any changes in behavior, dress, or friends

There is help here in the Community.

Behavioral Health (BH) services can evaluate and provide treatment for all levels of substance abuse. The BH and OASIS Youth Program is a place that can provide outpatient substance abuse counseling services throughout the Community. If a higher level of care, such as residential treatment, is needed they can provide that as well.

## Behavioral Health Services

**483 Seed Farm Road**  
**District 3 OASIS**  
**District 5 OASIS**

**602-528-7100**  
**520-562-3323**  
**520-796-3898**

**Shegoi Building**

**520-550-6008**

**24 Hour Crisis Hotline**

**1-800-259-3449**



# Scholarship Program

## Going to College?

The purpose of the Higher Education Scholarship Program is to provide financial assistance to eligible enrolled Community members seeking a Higher Education degree at a regionally accredited college or university.

### Eligibility Requirements:

Enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community.  
High school graduate or passed a General Educational Development (GED) Test.  
The applicant must be admitted to an accredited college or university.  
All applicants must complete a FAFSA.

### Academic Standards of the Scholarship Program

GPA Requirement- 2.50 Undergraduate or a 3.00 as a Graduate  
Complete all credits you are funded for  
Follow Program of Study

### Degrees Funded:

**Undergraduates** allowed a maximum of 12 semesters or 18 Quarters of funding to utilize for the following:

- Certificate
- Diploma
- Associates
- Bachelors

### **Graduate Students**

- Masters Allowed 12 semesters or 18 Quarters
- Doctorate

### Deadline Dates:

Fall	Spring
June 1st	November 1st

Community members interested in returning to the Program can request a file review. Call our office at (520) **562-3316**. Keep in mind a file review can take up to a month for results on your standing with the Program.

**Phone: 520-562-3316    Fax: 520-562-3348**



## Helpful Phone Numbers

Behavioral Health Services	520-562-3321 ex. 7100
Hu Hu Kam Hospital Emergency Department	562-3321 ex.4
Komatke Health Center	520-550-6000
The Caring House	520-562-7400
Tribal Education Department	520-562-3662
District Service Centers	
One	520-215-2110
Two	520-562-3450
Three	520-562-3334
Four	520-418-3661
Five	520-315-3441
Six	520-550-3805
Seven	520-430-4780
Runaway Youth	1-800-621-4000
Child Abuse	520-562-3396
Domestic Violence	1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
Missing and Exploited Children	1-800-THE-LOST (843-5678)

**Youth Council**— The Youth Council is a program designed for young people between the ages of 13 - 21. The purpose of the program is to provide the youth with a voice and an opportunity to help them find their voice. The members are responsible for representing their peers at the community, state and national levels. Want to join or have questions, then call: 520-562-1866.





## Gang Reduction through Intervention, Prevention and Suppression

**G.R.I.P.S.** is a task force team aimed at educating the community on gangs. This team can provide help with intervention, prevention, and assistance in identifying potential gang members in your household, district, and community. In general, a street gang is defined as a group with three or more members who form an allegiance for a common purpose and engage in criminal activity.

There are over 20 known gangs within the GRIC today. These gangs claim territory in districts one through seven. The average life expectancy of an active gang member is 19 years of age before s/he is either a victim of a violent crime or serving a long prison sentence.

Call: **GRIC PD 562-7137**

### What to look for:

- Dress (wearing one color or type of clothing; refusing to wear other colors)
- Signs (hand signs, tagging, photographs, paraphernalia, graffiti in school books, notebooks, letters, etc.)
- Tattoos (three dots, “13”, nicknames, tattoos on knuckles, gang initials, street names, cartoons, unusual words/symbols)
- Claiming (claiming a known gang, written or electronic correspondence)
- Associates (certain friends, older friends)
- Questionable prosperity (newly acquired and unexplained wealth)

# Growing Readers and Developing Leaders

*Growing Readers and Developing Leaders* is designed to establish a student-centered community learning model that uses existing programs and services to improve the educational opportunities and achievement of preschool, elementary and secondary GRIC students. It is intended to grow readers and develop leaders across the Gila River Indian Community by overcoming the biggest hurdles to college and career readiness: book scarcity, a poor habit of self-determined reading, limited access to quality early childhood education, and low academic achievement in grades K-8.

The project has four goals and objectives:

**Grow habits of reading** in the home through the distribution of culturally relevant books and supportive parent engagement.

**Establish a demonstration preschool** to expand high quality education and to share best practices with all preschools.

**Engage K-8 students in STEM-based, print-rich activities** that promote a self-determined reading habit outside of the classroom.

**Establish a cross-sector professional learning community** that builds the capacity for schools and existing organizations to overcome the sparseness of books in order to close the achievement gap.

