

U.S. PROGRAMS

Investing in Childhood: Arizona

Save the Children invests in childhood – every day, in times of crisis and for our future. In the United States, our child experts work to ensure that our nation’s most underserved children have the best chance for success. Every day, we help children get ready to learn and succeed in school and live healthy, active lives. We ensure children are protected when crisis strikes. And we advocate to ensure American children’s voices are heard and their needs addressed, securing the future we share.

Save the Children began working with Arizona communities in 1948, bringing emergency relief to a Navajo reservation following a blizzard. Thanks to the support of our generous donors, we currently partner with three schools in two counties to deliver our education and health programs to 498 children in the state.

EVERY DAY

Save the Children’s Early Steps to School Success program assists babies and young children with language, social and emotional development; equips parents with the skills and knowledge to successfully support their child’s growth; and develops strong home-school connections. The program can begin when moms are pregnant and it follows infants and toddlers through age 5.

Through our Literacy program, we provide children in kindergarten through sixth grade with the opportunity to increase their reading achievement by supplying the tools they need to develop reading skills and the guidance and support they need to grow as readers.

And our Healthy Choices program increases children’s access to regular physical activity and healthy snacks, as well as nutrition education to increase children’s knowledge of healthy living. It also serves children in kindergarten through sixth grade.



Results: In 2014-2015 in Arizona, 75 percent of 3-year-olds in our Early Steps to School Success program scored at or above the normal range for vocabulary acquisition. Children in our Literacy program read an average of 50 books during the school year, and more than 50 percent of participants showed significant reading improvement. On average, literacy improvement was equivalent to an additional 3.7 months of schooling. Children in our Healthy Choices program participated in an average of 28 minutes of physical activity per day and were introduced to nutritious snack options.

IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Save the Children’s Get Ready Get Safe initiative helps communities prepare to protect their kids before, during and after a disaster. We respond directly to disaster-affected communities, working to address unmet needs of children. We also support the child care community by providing recovery assistance, as well as emergency preparedness. In addition, we offer long-term resiliency support to children and caregivers through our emotional support program, Journey of Hope.

Results: Since 2005, we’ve helped more than 1,000,000 U.S. children in crisis through our emergency preparedness, response and recovery programs.

Save the Children’s caring experts visit children and their caregivers at home to help families support early childhood development.



Thanks to our dedicated supporters, children like Darren and Felisha are building a solid foundation for learning through focused literacy skills activities.

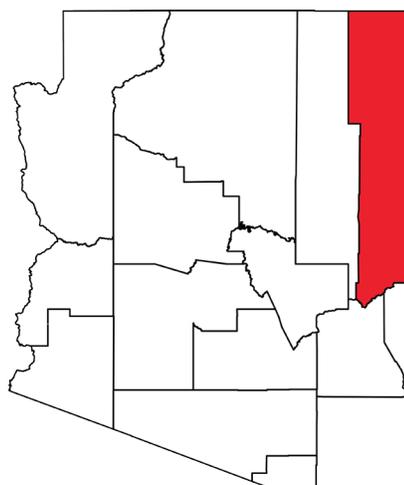
FOR OUR FUTURE

We advocate for initiatives and legislation at the state and national levels that promote children’s well-being and resiliency, including the necessity of quality early education programs, funding for underserved school districts, and child care emergency preparedness.

Results: Since 2010, Save the Children has achieved policy change in 37 states and the District of Columbia, benefitting 57,000,000 American children.

WHERE WE WORK

SITES	Children Served	Early steps	Literacy	Healthy Choices
APACHE COUNTY	498			
Chinle Elementary		●	●	●
Ganado Elementary		●		



CHILD POVERTY IN ARIZONA

- 26% of children live in poverty.¹
- 50% of children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals – a socioeconomic challenge recognized as a barrier to student achievement.²
- 75% of 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income families are not enrolled in pre-school/nursery school programs.³
- 72% of fourth graders scored below proficient in reading achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.⁴
- 37% of children ages 10-17 are overweight or obese.⁵



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¹ 2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

² 2011-2012. National Center for Education Statistics.

³ 2011-2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

⁴ 2013. Kids Count, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

⁵ 2011-2012. National Survey of Children’s Health.