

## **REGIONAL DIRECTOR East Maricopa Region**

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. Created by voter initiative in 2006, First Things First is governed by a state Board with 28 regional partnership councils. First Things First is a decentralized organization that engages diverse constituencies to accomplish its mission. Organizational values include a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion; a focus on accountability, transparency, coordination and collaboration; and an emphasis on improving outcomes that will ensure young children start kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life.

### **Job Summary:**

The Regional Director is responsible for the overall management of the First Things First East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council which serves the East Maricopa Region. The Regional Director is also responsible for coordinating efforts, systems building within the region and supporting cross-regional collaboration with the neighboring First Things First regions. The office location is 1839 S Alma School Rd, Suite 100 Mesa, AZ 85210 with the opportunity for a hybrid work environment that may include working in the office and working remotely.

### **Distinguishing Characteristics:**

The ideal candidate will enthusiastically support the vision and mission of First Things First and will possess the personal qualities of integrity and credibility. The ideal candidate will have the proven ability to work within teams to accomplish multiple tasks and keep multiple projects organized and progressing. The position requires substantial effort to coordinate and work with diverse populations including parents; community leaders; local, state and federal government officials; private entities and faith-based groups to improve quality and access to early childhood development programs which effectively prepare children to start school healthy and ready to learn.

### **Typical Duties and Responsibilities:**

Under the general guidance of the Maricopa Regional Area Senior Director, the East Maricopa Regional Director is responsible for supporting the East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities which include:

- Completion of a biannual regional needs and assets report;
- Completion of an annual funding plan which serves as the strategic direction and vision of the Regional Partnership Council;
- Management and oversight of the implementation of the funding plan;
- Understanding the importance of expanding access to high-quality early childhood development and health resources in the region and assuming a leadership role in addressing the region's needs;
- Coordination and collaboration with various early childhood development and health organizations, agencies and community partners including working with other Regional Directors and Regional Partnership Councils;
- Leading/facilitating collaboration efforts, both within the region and cross-regionally, including the identification of service gaps, development of strategies to address the gaps and fostering relationships with community partners that contribute to the development of an early childhood system;
- Increasing awareness of the importance of early childhood development, education and health;
- Building and maintaining strong working relationships with the Regional Partnership Council members, community organizations and agencies;
- Acting as the chief spokesperson for the Regional Partnership Council; and
- Staffing all Regional Council meetings and committees as determined by the Regional Partnership Council.

**Qualifications:**

- Master's degree in early education, social work, education, health or other related field is strongly preferred. A minimum of a bachelor's degree in early education, social work, education, health or other related field combined with practical, relevant experience.
- Demonstrate a background of progressively responsible managerial or leadership positions in public, private or non-profit organizations, preferably with such experience in the area of providing early childhood development and/or health services to children and families;
- Possess a thorough knowledge of early childhood education, development and health issues, with knowledge of the particular issues facing Arizona. Demonstrate the ability to develop successful strategies to address those issues;
- Exhibit a strong record of leadership in early childhood education, development, literacy and/or health programs;
- Possess a demonstrated ability to develop and implement strategic long-range plans that promote program goals such as increasing early childhood development opportunities; increasing access to preventive health programs and health screenings; and providing training and education to support early childhood development providers;

- Possess a collegial leadership style and an ability to work effectively with staff; parents; community leaders; tribal leaders; local governments; public and private entities and faith-based groups to improve the quality of and access to early childhood development and health programs in the region;
- Exhibit highly-developed interpersonal and communication skills, and the ability to effectively articulate the goals, strategic direction and programs of the Regional Partnership Council;
- Show a commitment to uphold high ethical standards and promote transparency and sound business practices;
- Demonstrate the ability to ensure public accountability as well as measure and improve outcomes appropriate for program goals;
- Demonstrate knowledge, skill and success in generating financial support from both the public and private sectors;
- Have experience and competence in working effectively with a citizen governing board and volunteers to advance a strategic vision;
- Familiarity with the East Maricopa Region;
- Strong communication skills including the ability to write and speak clearly, succinctly, and in a manner that appeals to a wide audience;
- Detail oriented with the ability to meet competing deadlines;
- Creative and solution driven;
- Cooperative in working relationships;
- Comfortable working with minimal supervision and maintaining multiple responsibilities; and
- Reliable, regular and punctual attendance at work during core business hours with some work outside traditional business hours.
- Ability to travel throughout Maricopa County.

Review of resumes will begin on November 13, 2022 and continue until the position is filled.

For consideration, please submit your cover letter, comprehensive resume and three professional references by November 11, 2022 to:

<https://www.azstatejobs.gov/home>

**Job ID # 512923**

In the AZ State Personnel System, the position is classified as a Grade 23 and has a salary range of \$80,000 - \$87,000. The position is not covered under the State of Arizona Merit system rules. The State of Arizona offers an outstanding comprehensive benefits package.

Arizona State Government is an EOE/ADA Reasonable Accommodation Employer. During all phases of the selection process, people with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting FTF's Human Resources Office via e-mail at [HR@firstthingsfirst.org](mailto:HR@firstthingsfirst.org).