

Organizational Profile

Mission Statement: The Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians is committed to the educational success and lifelong learning of every individual in our community. We strive to create a supportive environment where every student can reach their full potential, guided by strong partnerships with schools, parents, and the broader community.

Service Area: Our service area includes the Kaibab Paiute Tribal Reservation and tribal members who reside in Fredonia, Arizona. The community comprises 286 tribal members, with 75 students aged 0-18. We are dedicated to providing comprehensive educational services to meet the needs of all members, focusing on academic achievement, and community engagement.

History: Established over 25 years ago, the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Education and Library program has been a cornerstone of our community, providing vital educational resources and services. In the last decade, we have focused on expanding our services to include comprehensive early learning programs, after-school tutoring, and programs to support academic success.

Services and Programs: Our organization offers a wide range of services and programs to support the educational needs of our community. These include:

- **Academic Support Programs:** After-school tutoring, homework assistance, and summer learning programs.
- **Parent and Family Engagement:** Parenting workshops, support groups, and parent meetings on specific topics such as bullying, IEP's, FASFA, and more.
- **Youth Development:** College and career readiness programs, leadership workshops, and robotics and coding programs.
- **Community Engagement:** STEM nights, Family Math activities, and Family Literacy Nights.
- **Technology Support:** Computer support services and digital literacy programs.

Partnerships and Collaborations: We work closely with local schools, tribal leaders, government agencies, and community organizations to ensure that our programs meet the needs of our community. Our partnerships have enabled us to expand our services and reach more community members, creating a more inclusive and supportive educational environment.

Vision Statement: Our vision is to create a vibrant and resilient community where every individual has access to high-quality education and learning opportunities. We strive to empower our students to become lifelong learners and leaders in their communities, guided by the values of respect, integrity, and cultural pride.

Mission Statement Approved by Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Tribal Council in July 2022 in the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Education Program Guidelines.

Kaibab Strong Foundations: Building a Future of Learning and Resilience."

Project Justification

"Kaibab Strong Foundations" is a transformative educational initiative led by the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Tribal Library, aimed at empowering the youth of the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians by enhancing their literacy and resilience. The program addresses the pressing need for improved educational programs, specifically focusing on early childhood education, family engagement, and literacy.

Aligned with Goal 2 of the Native American Library Services Enhancement Grants program, the project targets Objective 2.1 to support the identification of the needs and interests of learners, Objective 2.2 to support the development and implementation of educational services, and Objective 2.3 to support evaluative assessment of library-based approaches to teaching. This initiative is designed to improve educational programs related to specific topics and content areas of interest to library patrons and community-based users.

The need for "Kaibab Strong Foundations" was identified through demographic information and economic circumstances within the community. With 286 tribal members, including 75 students aged 0-18, residing within the tribe's reservation and in Fredonia, Arizona, it is crucial to provide educational programs that cater to all age groups. While the program primarily targets the 15 students in the 0-5 age group, older students will also benefit from the programming to address gaps in core subjects.

The target group for this project includes all 286 tribal members, encompassing students, parents, and the broader community. By engaging the entire community in educational activities, including family events, skills development workshops, and advocacy programs, "Kaibab Strong Foundations" aims to create a culture of lifelong learning and education advocacy. The ultimate beneficiaries of this project are the entire community, as improved educational programs and increased literacy rates will have long-term positive effects on individuals' lives.

Project Work Plan

September 2024:

- **Staff Hiring and Training:** We will begin by assembling a dedicated team of educators and professionals, carefully selected and trained in Montessori principles and best practices.
- **Curriculum Development:** Our team will develop a comprehensive curriculum rooted in the Montessori philosophy and early childhood education principles, ensuring a solid foundation for our program.
- **Partnership Establishment:** We will forge strategic partnerships with local schools and tribal programs, leveraging community engagement theories and best practices to maximize our impact.

October 2024 - May 2025:

- **Early Childhood Education:** Our approach will be guided by Montessori theory, emphasizing hands-on, experiential learning to foster a love for learning in our young students.
- **Family Engagement:** We will conduct workshops and support groups designed with insights from family engagement research and effective practices, ensuring strong parental involvement in our program.
- **Reading Literacy:** Our reading programs will be crafted based on the latest research and best practices in literacy development, aimed at improving reading skills among our students.
- **Parenting Workshops and Support Groups:** Drawing on research on early childhood development and effective parenting strategies, these sessions will provide parents with valuable tools and insights.
- **STEM Enrichment:** Our STEM activities will be informed by best practices in STEM education, promoting inquiry-based learning and critical thinking skills.
- **Cultural Programming:** Working closely with cultural preservation and language programs, we will incorporate cultural elements into our curriculum, fostering cultural pride and understanding.
- **Community Service:** Through community service projects, we will instill a sense of social responsibility and community engagement in our students.
- **Outdoor Education and Adventure:** These activities will offer students hands-on, experiential learning opportunities, promoting environmental awareness and appreciation.
- **Art and Creativity:** Our art workshops will be designed to stimulate creativity and self-expression, drawing on principles of art education.
- **Digital Literacy and Technology:** Courses will focus on promoting digital literacy and responsible technology use, reflecting the demands of the modern world.

June - July 2025:

- **Summer Montessori Learning Camp:** This camp will provide an immersive learning experience, reinforcing our core values of growth mindset, resilience, and the joy of learning.

August 2025:

- **Program Evaluation:** We will conduct a thorough evaluation of our program, collecting data and reporting based on best practices in evaluation and educational research.

Staffing:

- Our team will consist of dedicated professionals with a deep understanding of Montessori principles and educational best practices, ensuring the success of our program.

Partnerships:

- Collaborations with local schools and tribal programs will be key, based on principles of collaboration and community engagement.

Performance Measurement Plan:

Goal: Improve educational outcomes and literacy rates among the youth of the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians.

1. Objectives:

- Increase the percentage of preschool-aged children meeting or exceeding literacy benchmarks by 20% within one year.
- Increase parental involvement in educational activities by 30% within six months.
- Increase community engagement in educational programs by 25% within one year.

2. Indicators:

- Literacy rates among preschool-aged children, measured through standardized literacy assessments administered bi-annually.
- Parental involvement, measured through attendance records of parenting workshops and support groups.
- Community engagement, measured through participation rates in community events and programs.

3. Data Collection Methods:

- Standardized literacy assessments for preschool-aged children.
- Attendance records for parenting workshops and support groups.
- Participation logs for community events and programs.

4. Timeline:

- Literacy assessments will be conducted bi-annually, with the first assessment in October 2024 and the second in April 2025.

- Attendance records and participation logs will be maintained throughout the project duration.

5. Data Analysis:

- Data will be analyzed quarterly to track progress towards objectives.
- Any adjustments to the program will be made based on data analysis to ensure objectives are being met.

6. Reporting:

- Progress reports will be submitted to stakeholders quarterly.
- A final report will be submitted at the end of the project, summarizing outcomes and lessons learned.

7. Evaluation:

- An external evaluator will conduct an evaluation of the program's effectiveness at the end of the project period. The evaluation will also be done in cooperation with the school.
- The evaluation will assess the extent to which the program achieved its goals and objectives.

8. Feedback and Improvement:

- Feedback from participants, parents, and community members will be solicited regularly to inform program improvements.
- Program activities and strategies will be adjusted based on feedback and evaluation findings to improve effectiveness.

9. Sustainability:

- A sustainability plan will be developed based on the evaluation findings to ensure the continuation of successful program elements beyond the grant period.

Project Results

“Kaibab Strong Foundations” is designed to bring lasting and meaningful change to the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians community. Our program is focused on practical, achievable goals that directly address the challenges faced by our youth, such as low literacy rates and limited access to quality early education.

Through engaging activities like Montessori-inspired learning, family workshops, and cultural programs, we aim to not only educate but also empower our participants. By fostering a deep

understanding of knowledge, essential skills, and community values, we are preparing our youth to thrive in a dynamic world.

Our program's sustainability is a key focus. Through strategic partnerships and by involving parents in their child's education, we are building a foundation for lasting, positive change in our community. "Kaibab Strong Foundations" will benefit the entire community, particularly the youth, by providing them with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed academically and in life.

