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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR AHWATUKEE PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN**

**Tempe, AZ** – Communities in Schools of Tempe and Kyrene, a program of Tempe Community Council, announces the final three sessions of a workshop series offered through our new Thrive To Five Program. The Thrive to Five Family Resource Center is located in Lagos Elementary School, 17001 S. 34th Way in Ahwatukee. Professionals from multiple disciplines provide free workshops on the latest information, education, and skill development for families and caregivers with children under age five.

Thanks to these classes, parents are learning valuable tools to make a difference in their children's lives. "With these classes we are sure our son is better prepared for school!" said one parent. And another cheered the program, "these classes are great!! Parents always need help. Thank you for taking the time."

The final spring session of the critically acclaimed series *1,2,3,4 Parents!*, begins April 1. *Kinder Prep*, presented by [New Directions Institute for Infant Brain Development](#) will begin a three-week series on April 6. The last three-week session of *Ready to Read*, presented by [KAET Channel 8](#) begins April 28. All workshops are free and several offer complementary childcare. Additional workshops will be offered in the fall. Parents and caregivers must register to attend by contacting Scott Dolinsek, program coordinator, 480-783-1428 or [sdolinsek@kyrene.org](mailto:sdolinsek@kyrene.org).

Additionally, a Family Resource Specialist is available by appointment to assist parents looking for community resources to address issues or concerns that are not provided by the Thrive To Five Center. The goal of Thrive To Five is to ensure that all children age five and under are ready for success in kindergarten and beyond. Thrive To Five is a project of [Communities In Schools of Tempe and Kyrene](#) and is made possible through funding from [First Things First](#). For more information on Thrive To Five please visit <http://thrivetofive.org/>.

### **About First Things First**

First Things First was created in 2006, when Arizona voters – through the Proposition 203 ballot initiative – decided to set aside 80 cents from each pack of cigarettes sold in order to fund the expansion of education and health programs for children from birth through age five. Under the terms of the proposition, decisions about how to best use the funds are made on a per-region basis by 31 councils made up of local leaders. The statewide board – which has final approval of the councils' recommendations – is responsible for ensuring that the funds are used on programs proven to work at improving outcomes for children.

### **About Tempe Community Council**

TCC is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to connect those in need with those who care. TCC does this by; convening community, conducting research, determining priorities, implementing effective programs and exemplifying prudent stewardship of resources. 34 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Building A ▪ Tempe, AZ 85281 ▪ 480.858.2300 ▪ [www.tempe.gov/tcc](http://www.tempe.gov/tcc)

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