

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES (CDESS)



Partnering with families who have children with disabilities and assisting them in cultivating their child's future potential.

### CDESS PROGRAM STAFF:

#### Program Manager

The Program Manager oversees the daily program operations in accordance with Federal and State Laws, Tribal, and State agencies. The manager collaborates with schools and early education centers to ensure appropriate delivery of early intervention, special education, advocacy, and related services.

#### Early Intervention Specialist

The Early Intervention (EI) Specialist provides guidance and support to families with concerns about their child's development. Our specialist provides in-home education and parent trainings. The EI offers developmental screenings, monitor and track infant and toddlers' development, and process referrals and evaluations for the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP).

#### Special Education Teacher

The Special Education Teacher provides cognitive, adaptive, and social-emotional services to children who qualify for an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). They will help your child develop skills in the areas of attention and memory, reasoning, self-help, building relationships, managing emotions, and understanding the feelings of others. They work with your child's general education teacher and a team of professionals to develop a specialized plan of instruction for your child.

#### Student Support Specialist

The Student Support Specialist provides Special Education Advocacy Services for GRIC affiliated students from birth to high school graduation. They provide information/trainings to parents/guardians, explain the special education process, are available to attend meetings (IFSP-IEP-MET-CFT), assist with problem resolution, explain rights and discuss options to assist/support parents/guardians with advocating to make informed educational decisions in the best interest of their student.

#### Speech-Language Pathologist

The Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) provides screenings, assessments, and direct therapy to children who are found eligible to receive services. Children who have speech and/or language delays or disorders may have difficulty saying the sounds of language. Children may also have difficulty understanding and expressing what they hear and say.

#### Physical & Occupational Therapist

The Physical and Occupational Therapist (PT, OT) develop service plans to help your child improve their basic large and fine motor skills, overall physical growth, and attention to tasks. The PT/OT focus on skill sets such as balance, throwing, running, sensory processing, and using small muscle groups in the hands and fingers. The PT and OT will evaluate your child's abilities, recommend developmentally appropriate goals, and provide therapy sessions to achieve those goals.

#### School Psychologist

The School Psychologist provides psychological-educational evaluations or additional assessments for children ages 2.9 to 5 years old suspected of having a developmental delay or disability.

#### Administrative Staff

The Administrative Staff collaborates to meet Federal and Tribal guidelines. They provide support to the program staff as well as outside providers. They assist in Child Find activities throughout the Community.

### Child Development and Education Support Services

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Contact information:

Phone: (520) 562-3882

Fax: (520) 562-3205

Address:

141 S. Bluebird Rd. | P.O. Box 97  
Sacaton, AZ 85147

**Tribal Education Department**

(520) 562-3662

[gricted.com](http://gricted.com)



## ARE YOU CONCERNED?

Each child is special and develops different skills at his or her own pace. Skills such as walking and talking are developmental milestones and usually occur by certain ages. Watch carefully to see how your child is growing and learning. If you have any concerns about your child's growth or behaviors, seek help early because your child needs you.

The special education process can be confusing. Students attending preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade with special education plans have unique needs and goals. We are here to assist you with understanding the process and aid you in becoming your child's best advocate. We offer advocacy services to parents/guardians of K – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students attending on- and off-Community schools.

## WHO WE ARE...

CDESS is a Community program for families with children ranging from birth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, who have disabilities and developmental delays. Our team of specialized staff supports families with education, advocacy, and developmental services. We work to assist children in reaching their full potential.

## HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

### *Birth to three-years-old*

We accept referrals from various sources such as parents/guardians, medical providers, teachers, social services, collaborative programs and agencies. We will screen your child to see if their development is age-appropriate. We provide screenings and evaluations at no cost to families residing within the Community. Following a child's screening, an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) may be developed and services will begin. Families can also enroll their child in our monitoring and tracking services.

### *Children age 3- to 5-years-old*

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 an evaluation. This may lead to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for children who require specialized assistance of support services within the classroom setting.

### *Kindergarten – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students*

Parents/Guardians of GRIC students enrolled in on- and off-Community schools may call, fax, or email a request/referral for advocacy. A Student Support Specialist will be in contact to answer questions pertaining to special education plans, processes, resources, and student legal rights.

## SERVICES FOR FAMILIES COULD INCLUDE:

- Education and parent trainings
- Access to advocates, support groups, and family services
- Coordination of district-wide agencies that provide social, educational, and health services
- Transportation to and from CDESS's therapy services

## REGULATIONS THAT GOVERN THE PROGRAM PROCEDURES:

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA 2004) Part B and C
- Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) – regulates confidentiality
- Procedural Safeguards (Parents' Rights under IDEA)

## WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT OR DISABILITIES?

- Talk to your child's doctor
- Contact the Director of Special Education at your child's school
- Contact CDESS by phone, fax, or email

## CDESS REFERRAL

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Child/Student's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent |  Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address/Directions to Home: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information:

Cell/Message: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Agency/Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Referral: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I understand a representative of CDESS will make contact regarding this referral.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person Referring