



# Cochise County Health and Social Services

Public Programs...Personal Service  
www.cochise.az.gov

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Director

\*\*\* MEDIA RELEASE \*\*\*

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**Date:** **March 17, 2016**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sierra Vista "March Into Books" Early Literacy Event Scheduled**

Cochise Health and Social Services is pleased to partner with Cochise Strong Families and First Things First to host the "March Into Books" Early Literacy Event on March 24 in Sierra Vista. The event will feature a short walk, as well as reading activities for children and parents. Each child under age five will receive a free book. Everyone is welcome to participate in this free event from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM at Tompkins Park, 2060 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St.

Strong Families AZ is a network of free home visiting programs that help families raise healthy children ready to succeed in school and in life. The programs focus on pregnant women and families with children under age five and feature trained counselors who provide parent education in the home directed at child health and development. Home visits are centered around personal lesson plans developed for each family's unique needs.

Studies have shown that a child's experiences in the first few years of life are critical. Home visiting focuses on these crucial first years, providing pregnant women and families with services that will help them raise young children to achieve their fullest potential. Families who participate in home visiting programs report that they feel more confident, capable, and hopeful for their future and the future of their children.

For more information, please contact Cochise Strong Families at 520-508-7860 or email Anica Lewis at [alewis@cochise.az.gov](mailto:alewis@cochise.az.gov)

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## About Cochise Health and Social Services

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Cochise Health and Social Services promotes health and quality of life for all Cochise County residents through community partnerships, education, services, and leadership. For more information, please visit our website at: <https://www.cochise.az.gov/health-and-social-services/home>.

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