



# GRANDFACTS

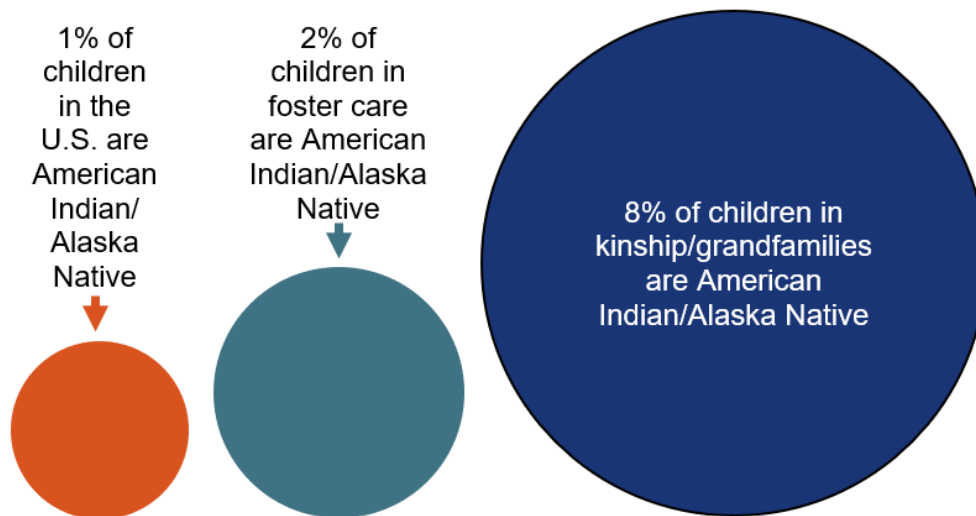
## Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

This fact sheet includes local and national data and information on Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) programs that can assist kinship/grandfamilies. GrandFacts fact sheets for each state and the District of Columbia are also available [online](#).

## American Indian and Alaska Native Children Disproportionately Live in Grandfamilies

While the overrepresentation of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children in kinship/grandfamilies is likely a product of the centuries-long shameful treatment of this community by the United States and the many inequities this community continues to face, it is also a reflection of their cultural strengths and resilience. SRPMIC places around one-third of children in tribal foster care in relative/kinship homes. In 2023, of the 122 children in tribal foster care, 36 children were placed in relative/kinship homes.

### Kinship/Grandfamilies Data<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The data presented in this graphic is from the [United States Census Bureau](#), the [Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center](#), and the [Adoption and Foster Care Analysis Reporting System \(AFCARS\)](#).

## **Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) Programs That May Help**

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is situated in Maricopa County, part of the metropolitan Phoenix area, and shares common boundaries with the cities of Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. SRPMIC is a sovereign tribe that operates a full-service government and oversees several departments, programs, projects, and facilities that serve the community. The community is comprised of two Native American tribes: the Pima, “Akimel O’Odham” (River People), and the Maricopa, “Xalychidom Piipaash” (People who live toward the water).

The SRPMIC defines its service area as the area within the boundaries of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. The programs and services listed in this fact sheet are available to SRPMIC citizens and kinship families that meet the eligibility criteria described in the entries for each program and service. Some resources are available to other tribal members or community members, as noted in the eligibility criteria listed along with each program and service. Services can be accessed by contacting the appropriate department. The SRPMIC [Phone Directory](#) contains phone numbers for governmental resources, as well as some private businesses.

SRPMIC kinship care definition: The care and supervision of a foster child in a foster home provided by a relative or individual who has a significant relationship with the child. Kinship care also includes relatives caring for children who are not in the custody of Social Services.

## **RESOURCES**

On the following pages, resources are listed under the following categories:

- ▶ [Social and Support Services](#)
- ▶ [Housing](#)
- ▶ [Culture and Recreation](#)
- ▶ [Education](#)
- ▶ [Career Development](#)
- ▶ [Legal and Court](#)
- ▶ [Health and Human Services](#)
- ▶ [Other Community Services and Programs](#)
- ▶ [Emergency Numbers](#)
- ▶ [Health Facilities](#)

## Social and Support Services

### Child Protective Services

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-5645

**Email:** [Landon.Goodwell@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Landon.Goodwell@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Description:** Reunites children and families that come into care, establishes permanency for children, and works with families to resolve safety and risk concerns. SRPMIC also offers prevention services through Title IV-E. Kinship families may receive support services through the in-home unit even if the children are not in the custody of Social Services.

### Family Advocacy Center (FAC)

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/fac/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-5425

**Email:** [FamilyAdvocacyCenter@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:FamilyAdvocacyCenter@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility & Description:** FAC provides a safe, secure, and healing environment for the investigation of cases involving child abuse and neglect by utilizing a collaborative, multi-disciplinary team to reduce further trauma to children and other vulnerable victims, while honoring the cultural values and traditions of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

### Family Reunification/Preservation

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-5645

**Email:** [Felicia.Panana@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Felicia.Panana@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Service area:** Within SRPMIC boundaries and open cases with Social Services.

**Eligibility & Description:** Home-based services using the strengths-based model. Services include counseling, life management skills, parenting techniques, substance abuse issues, nutrition, and financial planning/budgeting.

### Food Bank

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Email:** [Winterelk.Valencia@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Winterelk.Valencia@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility & Description:** Food distribution program available to individuals and families living within SRPMIC boundaries. Services include bread distribution, emergency food boxes, and child and infant boxes.

### Helping Hands

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Email:** [Wintereik.Valencia@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Wintereik.Valencia@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility & Description:** Helping Hands is a thrift store with items for sale to the general public and community members. They also accept donated items.

### Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Program

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Email:** [Allison.Miller@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Allison.Miller@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Description:** Works with Arizona Department of Child Safety divisions to seek culturally appropriate services for families of SRPMIC. The ICWA Program also assists in seeking relative and/or Native placement for children who are in dependency cases outside of SRPMIC's jurisdiction.

### Foster Care Licensing

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Email:** [Norma.Hernandez@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Norma.Hernandez@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Service area:** Within SRPMIC boundaries

**Eligibility & Description:** Licensed foster families that wish to foster SRPMIC children. Foster families care for children of all ages. Foster applicants must be at least 21 years old and pass a background clearance. Licensing also assists with civil guardianship home studies. Kinship licensing, training, and support are also provided for kinship families who are caring for community children.

### Life Enhancement and Resource Network (LEARN)

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/socialservices/>

**Email:** [Wintereik.Valencia@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Wintereik.Valencia@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Service area:** Within SRPMIC boundaries

**Eligibility & Description:** Assist families on their journey to self-sufficiency through obtaining an education, work experience, and job placement. Offers SRPMIC members resources related to case assistance/tribal TANF, fatherhood, and healthy relationships. LEARN also offers a life enhancement program, a mentorship program, and a family resource center.

## Senior Services

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/seniors/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-6350

**Email:** [seniorservicesinfo@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:seniorservicesinfo@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility & Description:** Provides case management and a variety of enriching and engaging programs to ensure the health, safety, and independence of the community's seniors 55+ and adult community members with physical and adaptive needs. Services include access to nutritious meals, transportation, recreation, health & wellness, language and culture activities, home care assistance, case management, caregiver support, and Adult Protective Services.

## Special Needs Resources Program (SNRP)

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/community/specialneeds/>

**Phone:** Special Needs Coordinator: (480) 362-6980  
Resource Line: (480) 362-7844

**Email:** [SpecialNeeds@SRPMIC-nsn.gov](mailto:SpecialNeeds@SRPMIC-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility & Description:** SNRP provides information and resources for individuals with special needs and their family members and caregivers. Each program has different eligibility requirements. SNRP provides referrals and information regarding disabilities, outreach, employment, and training.

## Housing

### Community Tribal Housing Program

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/housing/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-5720

**Service area:** Within SRPMIC boundaries

**Eligibility:** Qualify as a "Family"; meet Annual Income Limits; submit completed application with all supporting documents; pay application fee; may be subjected to Background History Review.

**Description:** To promote the development of affordable, well-constructed, modern, reasonable, energy efficient, and culturally relevant homes and related services.

### Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

**Phone:** (480) 362-7350

**Eligibility & Description:** LIHEAP is a service offered through the Salt River Community Housing Division to assist community members within SRPMIC boundaries with weatherization and energy assistance for income-eligible members. The Housing Division also has a Senior Energy Assistance Program available to assist seniors of the community.

### **Senior Housing Repair and Replacement Program (SHRRP)**

**Phone:** Call SHRRP Helpline at (480) 362-7800

**Service area:** Within SRPMIC boundaries

**Eligibility & Description:** SHRRP helps SRPMIC member seniors 55+ and those with adaptive needs with major and minor repairs around the home. Provides assistance to eligible senior or disabled community members for repairs to housing, training on home maintenance, and major residential home renovation projects.

## **Culture and Recreation**

### **Cultural Services**

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/culturalresources/>

**Phone:** [Cultural Resources Staff Directory](#)

**Eligibility & Description:** Offers a variety of cultural resources to community members including the Huhugam Ki Museum, a community garden, O’odham Piipaash Language Program, Tribal Historic Preservation, and multimedia resources.

### **Community Recreational Services**

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/recreation/>

**Phone:** [Community Recreational Services Staff Directory](#)

**Description:** Provides a variety of quality recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities in a welcoming and safe environment, including athletics, aquatics, a library, and more.

### **O’odham Piipaash Language Program**

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/culturalresources/oplp>

**Phone:** [Cultural Resources Staff Directory](#)

**Description:** Offers O’odham immersion and Piipaash language classes; O’odham and Piipaash language-based cultural arts classes; quarterly O’odham and Piipaash language-based community social activities; assistance to community members and departments with translations, spellings, and cultural information; organized gatherings for Elders pertaining to

the O’odham and Piipaash languages; and provides interview opportunities for SRPMIC tribal Elders and cultural practitioners.

## Education

### Center-Based Programs – First Things First

**Phone:** (480) 362-2148

**Eligibility:** Preference given to those enrolled and actively participating in General Education Development (GED) classes, Applied Liberal Arts (ALA) classes, or LEARN; must be a SRPMIC member or a relative caregiver to the child; no fees

**Description:** Assists parents/caregivers in improving school attendance and academic achievements with their children; assists parents in learning positive parenting skills and behavior management techniques; provides parents training, discussions, field trips, and cultural activities.

### Child Find Home Visiting Program

**Phone:** (480) 362-2257

**Eligibility:** Child must be 0-5 years of age; child must have an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP); child must be Native American; no fees

**Description:** Coordinates services for Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), physical, occupational, and speech and language therapy; home-based activities individualized from the child’s IFSP or IEP; provides continuing services through kindergarten transition; supports parents, caregivers, childcare providers, and preschool teachers of enrolled children; coordinates with agencies that provide social and health services; and facilitates family meetings once a month.

### Early Head Start

**Phone:** (480) 362-5555

**Eligibility:** Live in Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community; pregnant or caring for children 0-3 years of age; no fees

**Description:** Connects families with information about child development and parenting while providing support to the family.

### Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC)

**Phone:** (480) 362-2200

**Eligibility & Description:** Prepares all enrolled students for kindergarten to promote self-sufficiency and preserve the Onk-Akimel O’odham Himdak and the

Xalychidom Piipaash Huudoishxish in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. ECEC provides comprehensive services through center and home-based care and a certificate program.

### **Family and Child Education (FACE) – Home- and Center-Based Programs**

#### Home-Based

**Phone:** (480) 362-2427

**Eligibility:** Serves families from prenatal to age 3 at home; tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) and birth certificate for parent and child; no fees

**Description:** Offers information on child development, lessons that incorporate parent and child activities, and monthly meetings with parents at the Family Center.

#### Center-Based: Early Childhood

**Phone:** (480) 362-2427

**Eligibility:** Serves children 3-5 years of age; tribal ID or CIB and birth certificate for parent and child; requires parent or caregiver to accompany child to the program; no fees

**Description:** Offers active learning, dialogic reading, and one hour of Parent Child Together Time (PACT) to promote SRPMIC language and culture.

#### Center-Based: Adult Education

**Phone:** (480) 362-2427

**Eligibility:** Serves adults who are participants of home or center-based programs; tribal ID or CIB and birth certificate for parent and child; no fees.

**Description:** Offers adult basic education/GED, computer literacy, parenting time, parenting skills, SRPMIC language and cultural activities, and PACT with K-3.

### **Salt River Financial Services Institution**

**Phone:** (480) 850-5460

**Eligibility & Description:** Financial education/literacy for all SRPMIC members. Class topics range from basic money introduction to investments. Courses range from one-hour workshops to three-session classes. Call Salt River Financial Services for a current list of classes.

### **Youth Services – After School Program**

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/youth/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-6390



**Eligibility & Description:** Provides services for SRPMIC youth ages 5–18 years old emphasizing health/fitness, social/life skills, education, and most importantly culture. The Cultural Program helps expose youth from ages 3–18 years old to O’odham and Piipaash culture.

### Youth Services – Early Enrichment Program

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/youth/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-6390

**Email:** [Tori.Paukgana@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Tori.Paukgana@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility & Description:** Provides early learning and experiential activities for SRPMIC 4-year-olds to develop school readiness skills. Staff utilize community programs and cultural resources to aid in social, emotional, and cultural development.

### Career Development

#### Apprenticeship Training Program (ATP)

**Phone:** (480) 362-7950

**Eligibility:** All individuals are eligible to apply for any program. Preference to enrolled SRPMIC members and enrolled Native American members of a federally recognized tribe.

**Description:** ATP offers programs including but not limited to Accounting Technician, Carpentry Program, Computer Program, and Hotel Associate Program.

#### Community Jobs & Underfill

**Phone:** (480) 362-7950; Job Hotline (480) 362-7940

**Eligibility:** All individuals are eligible to apply. Preference to enrolled SRPMIC members and enrolled Native American members of a federally recognized tribe.

**Description:** Community Jobs accepts applications of applicants for “temp pool” and “construction pool” to meet various qualifications needed by employers. The Underfill Program allows enrolled SRPMIC members to apply and be considered for vacant government positions even though they do not yet meet all the qualifications and gives them the opportunity to complete their goal, such as obtaining a GED, completing a college degree program, and/or fulfilling specific requirements for on-the-job training. The Underfill Program also serves as a point of contact for the Human Resources GED Program, established for SRPMIC government employees. Supervisors or

employees can contact (480) 362-7907 for more information regarding the Human Resources GED Program.

### **Salt River Vocational Rehabilitation (SRVR)**

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/vocrehab/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-2650

**Eligibility:** Must have a documented disability that creates an impediment to employment; be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe; live in or near the SRPMIC boundaries; be available and able to work; and be able to benefit from Vocational Rehabilitation services in terms of employment outcome.

**Description:** SRVR is a tribal vocational rehabilitation program serving eligible Native Americans with disabilities who want to and can work but may need some support and/or services to be successful.

### **Salt River Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Program**

**Phone:** (480) 362-7950

**Eligibility:** The primary requirement to be considered for eligibility is the interested participant must be a resident within the boundaries of the SRPMIC. U.S. citizen, high school diploma or GED, registered with selective service (males born after 1959), must be unemployed or underemployed and meet income requirements.

**Description:** WIOA assists individuals with becoming self-sufficient by providing education and training services that will lead to gainful employment. Services provided include academic and career assessments, work readiness and life skills training, skills training, and other support services.

### **Salt River WIOA Youth Program**

**Phone:** (480) 362-7950

**Eligibility:** Youth ages 14–18 who are SRPMIC members and reside within SRPMIC boundaries.

**Description:** WIOA youth program assists youth in becoming self-sufficient by providing education and training services. Youth can attend workshops and work sessions to gain work experience throughout the tribal government and receive training in other areas, including work readiness, customer service, and professionalism in the workplace.

## Legal and Court

### Legal Services Office

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/lso/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-5670

**Email:** [lso@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:lso@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Service area:** The Legal Services Office assists community members with civil actions in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Arizona State, Federal, and other Tribal Courts.

**Eligibility & Description:** Provides enrolled SRPMIC members with legal representation in civil matters, including but not limited to matters of family law, housing, public benefits, consumer protection, personal injury, bankruptcy, estate planning, vehicle repossession, and other areas.

### SRPMIC Court

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/court/>

**Phone:** Administrator (480) 362-6315; Jury Line (480) 362-6345; Juvenile Court (480) 362-6335

**Email:** [SRPMIC-CourtSupport@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:SRPMIC-CourtSupport@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Description:** The SRPMIC Court consists of multiple departments, including the judiciary, court administration, court clerks, bailiff/process service, security, and probations. The SRPMIC Court handles matters that include criminal, juvenile, civil, and appeals.

## Health and Human Services

### Environmental Health and Injury Prevention

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/hhs/eh/>

**Phone:** Injury Prevention Coordinator (480) 362-7542; Environmental Health Manager (480) 362-5706

**Eligibility & Description:** The SRPMIC Environmental Health Program performs and offers a variety of services to help protect the community, including permitting and regulatory inspections of qualifying food service providers, temporary food permits for special events, pet vaccinations, and public and semi-public swimming pool inspections.

The SRPMIC Injury Prevention Program provides data-driven and evidence-based interventions within the community that target intentional and unintentional injury concern areas such as transportation safety, fall prevention, and opioid drug abuse prevention.

## StrongLife

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/community/stronglife/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-7467

**Email:** [Toni.Harvier@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Toni.Harvier@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility:** Developed specifically for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Members and their immediate family ages five years and up. Non-enrolled immediate family members may also participate; however, all participants must reside within the same household as the community member.

**Description:** StrongLife is a wellness program in which children, adults, and senior community members can earn points and incentives by participating in five wellness theme activities: physical, family, social and culture, emotional and spiritual, and financial wellness.

## WellPath – SRPMIC Worksite Wellness Program

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/wellpath/>

**Email:** [wellness@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:wellness@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**Eligibility:** SRPMIC employees and their family members

**Description:** WellPath is an employee benefit that offers endorsed events and challenges, exercise/fitness participation, meetings with a coach to develop health enhancement goals, and other preventative activities for the health and wellbeing of government employees and their families.

## Other Community Services and Programs

### Funeral Assistance

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/administration/funeral/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-7400

**Eligibility & Description:** The SRPMIC Funeral Assistance Program, coordinated between the Administrative and Public Works departments, provides financial assistance and resources to enrolled community members for funeral expenses. More information on burial assistance can be found by visiting the Public Works Memorial and Cemetery Services at <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/public-works/memorial-services/>

### Salt River Transit

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/transportation/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-7310

**Service area:** Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and surrounding cities of Scottsdale, Mesa, and Tempe

**Eligibility & Description:** Offers demand response (door-to-door) shared ride transportation, fixed route bus service, and medical shuttle to River Peoples Health Center (RPHC) and Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC). Salt River Transit System operates for use by community members and others traveling to and from the community.

### **Veterans Affairs (VA) – Veterans Representative Office (VRO)**

**Website:** <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/community/veterans/>

**Phone:** (480) 362-7884

**Eligibility & Description:** VRO serves veterans of the SRPMIC. VRO will assist veterans and their families with VA health care benefits, service-connected disabilities, pensions, education and training, life insurance, transition assistance, and more.

## **Emergency Numbers**

### **Salt River Police Department**

(480) 850-8200

### **Salt River Fire Department**

(480) 362-7290

### **Salt River Department of Corrections**

(480) 362-7200 during normal business hours and (480) 362-7200 for after business hours

## **Health Facilities**

### **River People Health Center (RPHC)**

**Website:** <https://www.rphc.org/services/>

**Phone:** To schedule an appointment, call (480) 278-7742; crisis line can be reached 24/7 at (480) 850-9230; residential substances abuse services (480) 362-5640

**Description:** RPHC offers an array of services dedicated to the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health and wellness of all Native people. Services include but are not limited to behavioral health services,

community health nursing, primary care, pediatrics, dental, physical therapy, registered dietitian services, and more.

### **RPHC Behavioral Health Division**

**Website:** <https://www.rphc.org/services/behavioral-health/>

**Phone:** To schedule an appointment call (480) 278-7742; crisis line can be reached 24/7 at (480) 850-9230

**Description:** RPHC offers an array of behavioral health services, including but not limited to crisis intervention services, counseling services at Journey to Recovery, domestic violence and sexual assault prevention, substance abuse classes, support groups, and other programs for adults, children, and families.

Please visit [www.GKSNetwork.org](http://www.GKSNetwork.org) for [state and territory fact sheets](#) and click [here](#) for the Arizona GrandFacts state fact sheet.

## **Acknowledgements**

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The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance Center (Network) helps government agencies and nonprofits in states, tribes, and territories work across jurisdictional and systemic boundaries to improve supports and services for families in which grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends are raising children whose parents are unable to do so. For more information, please visit [www.GKSNetwork.org](http://www.GKSNetwork.org).

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