



## TRIBAL AFFAIRS STATUS REPORT

November 2011-December 2011

### PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Project Type	Description	Result
<b>Public Awareness Efforts in Tribal Sectors</b>	<p>Within this reporting period FTF Tribal Affairs presented two informational sessions to highlight partnerships with Arizona Tribes during the ITCA 27th Annual Indian Child &amp; Family Conference at the Casino Del Sol Resort and Conference Center. This event was held on December 7-9, 2011 in Tucson, Arizona. The first presentation was a general overview of FTF provided during the opening plenary session of the conference. The second presentation was a break out session with a panel comprised of three regional partnership council members from the tribal regions. The breakout session focused on the unique and culturally relevant early childhood programs that are currently being funded by First Thing First. The following individuals attended this event to represent FTF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beverly Russell, Senior Director of Tribal Affairs</li> <li>• Tiburcia Yocupicio-Chambers, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Director</li> <li>• Lanna Flood, Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Director</li> <li>• Cecilia Garcia, Chair, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council</li> <li>• Mildred Manual, Vice Chair, Tohono O’odham Regional Partnership Council</li> <li>• Amelia Flores, Vice Chair, Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Partnership Council</li> </ul>	<p>As a result of these activities FTF was able to share information, network and serve as an early childhood resource.</p>
<b>Developing Cultural Competency/Tribal Considerations in Early Childhood Development</b>	<p>Throughout the month of December Tribal Affairs participated in the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Convened the internal tribal technical advisory group (TTAG) to review of the Standards of Practice for the FTF Native Language and Food Security strategies. The purpose of this review is to ensure tribal considerations and cultural competencies are represented in the standards.</li> <li>II. Reviewed the 2011 State-Wide Needs and Assets Report to ensure information related to the tribes is accurate and appropriate.</li> </ol>	<p>As a result of these review processes, Tribal Affairs was able to provide recommendations to the 2011 State-Wide Needs and Assets report and is in the process of formulating a recommendation for appropriate language relating to tribes and cultural competency to be included in the Standards of Practice for the Native Language and Food Security strategies.</p>

<b>Coordination and Collaboration</b>	<p>FTF recognizes that the system goals of FTF can only be achieved through coordination and collaboration with both public and private entities in order to leverage funding, ease families' access to services, and maximize optimal results for young children. In recognition of this concept Tribal Affairs coordinated the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. In this reporting period, the Chief Executive Officer and staff met with the directors of the Arizona Urban Indian Health Programs to share information and explore possibilities for future partnerships to ensure that the needs of tribal members living in urban areas are considered in FTF programming.</li> <li>II. On December 12, FTF Tribal Affairs attended and participated in the Arizona American Indian Pathways Conference planning meeting to present information related to FTF funded health strategies that are being implemented in tribal communities.</li> </ol>	<p>As a result of these meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Senior Director of Tribal Affairs will be working with regional staff to connect with the urban Indian organizations to explore opportunities for future partnerships.</li> <li>• First Things First has been invited to participate in the Arizona American Indian Pathways annual conference in April of 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>Tribal-State Relations</b>	<p>In this reporting period, FTF Tribal Affairs sent out official correspondence to the Federally Recognized Arizona Tribes to provide information on the options available to them for participation in First Things First. By March 1, 2012 tribes will inform FTF of their intent to participate in a separate region or remain in an established region.</p>	<p>As a result, FTF will provide tribal leaders with adequate notice to plan and discuss their options related to their participation in FTF.</p>

**THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS BY TRIBAL AFFAIRS:**

- FTF Tribal Affairs began outreach to affected tribes to provide a status update on the FTF Child Care Study.
- In January, FTF will participate in 17th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day (INTLD) by hosting an information table for tribal leaders.