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AGENDA ITEM: Tribal Affairs Status Update

BACKGROUND: The attached table provides information on the activities related to tribal affairs between the dates of October 1 to December 31, 2010. The first column lists four categories that indicate the overall content areas that summarize tribal affairs. These areas include:

- Events
- Developing Cultural Competency in Early Childhood Development Programming
- Coordination and Collaboration
- Tribal-State Relations

The second column provides a brief summary of the activities and accomplishments and the final column highlights the results and additional outcomes that have been generated by each activity.

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TRIBAL AFFAIRS STATUS REPORT

October 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

Project Type	Description	Result
SFY 2012 Check Presentation Events	Throughout October and November, First Things First coordinated Check Presentation events in seven (7) tribal regions. At each event, various FTF Leadership representatives including Board Member Vivian Saunders, Executive Director Rhian Evans Allvin and Tribal Liaison Beverly Russell were on hand to present a symbolic check representative of the SFY 2012 funding allocation for their respective region.	Each Check Presentation event was coordinated with respect to an appropriate venue for each tribal community. For example, some presentations were made during Tribal Council meetings and others were made at community gatherings. As a result of these events, tribal leaders and FTF leadership were able to interact. Additionally, tribal regions were able to increase public awareness of early childhood development and health issues by sharing information with tribal leadership, tribal media and community members about the FTF funded strategies that are currently being implemented in their communities.
Developing Cultural Competency in Early Childhood Development Programming	Throughout the months of October and November First Things First has engaged in a number of activities designed to ensure tribal considerations and cultural competencies in early childhood development and health programming. These activities include: • On October 25, the FTF Tribal Liaison met with the Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC), the	As a result of these activities the following actions are currently in progress: • ASCC has developed waivers that tribal entities can utilize to help to address some aspects of the TEACH Scholarship program that were not amenable to tribal programs. • The review of the FTF Strategy Toolkit and the FTF RFGA Process has resulted in an identification of the need for more tribal specific strategies for inclusion

	administrative home for the TEACH Scholarship, to discuss opportunities to incorporate tribal considerations into the implementation of TEACH in tribal regions. • The FTF Tribal Liaison conducted a review of the FTF strategy toolkit that was designed to provide information to First Things First Regional Partnership Councils to help them to determine strategies that will best address their community assets, prioritized needs and the priorities set by the FTF Board. • The FTF Tribal Liaison participated in a review of the FTF RFGA Process to identify areas where tribal considerations may be warranted.	in the FTF Strategy Toolkit and additional clarifications within the FTF RFGA processes that may help to better address the uniqueness of the tribal regions. The inclusion of such information into these efforts is an ongoing process.
Coordination and Collaboration	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, First Things First has participated in several information sharing meetings with the following entities this quarter: Arizona Tribal Libraries Association, Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), Zero to Three, and the National American Indian/Alaska Native Head Start Collaboration Office.	As a result of these meetings, First Things First has joined forces with other state agencies and the Arizona Dental Association to participate in the Inaugural AZ Tribal Oral Health Summit planning process. This quarter, FTF has participated in three (3) planning committee meetings for this summit which will take place in April. Additionally, FTF will be facilitating a session during this event to highlight FTF funded oral health strategies in tribal communities. Further, FTF participated in the ITCA Early Childhood Working Group Meeting held on October 28. In December, FTF partnered with Zero to Three to coordinate the very first Infant and Toddler Tribal Roundtable session designed to provide information to AZ Tribal CCDF Directors on the AZ Infant and Toddler Early Learning Standards, Quality First, Professional Development and current FTF funded tribal regional strategies.

Tribal-State Relations	In October, FTF Executive Director Rhian Evans Allvin attended the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council Meeting in Tucson, AZ. In November, Director Allvin attended the Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council Meeting in Peach Springs, AZ. In December, Director Allvin and Tribal Liaison Beverly Russell attended the Cocopah Regional Partnership Council Meeting in Somerton, AZ.	Tribal Regional Partnership Council Members and FTF Leadership were able to interact through meaningful dialogue in addition to receiving an FTF update from the executive director.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Currently, the Tribal Liaison is coordinating an informational exchange meeting between the FTF staff and other state and private partners that provide services to tribes such as ADHS and ITCA. This gathering is scheduled for January 20, 2010.
- An internal electronic bulletin, *Tribal Notes*, has been launched to promote cultural awareness and information about AZ Tribes. This bulletin is generated monthly and is an ongoing project.
- FTF is currently updating the FTF website which will include a redesign of the tribal relations page. Improvements will include updated and organized information on tribal affairs.
- The Tribal Liaison is currently conducting preparation activities related to the development of an agency tribal relations plan.
- First Things First is in the process of further developing the internal Tribal Technical Advisory Group (TTAG). The purpose of TTAG is to serve as an advisory body to First Things First, providing expertise on policies, guidelines, and programmatic issues affecting the delivery of First Things First funded early childhood development and health programs in partnership with Arizona Tribes.

FUTURE DEADLINES

- January 18, FTF will host an information booth at the Arizona Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day.
- January 21, the Tribal Liaison will attend a three (3) agency tribal consultation, hosted by AZ Department of Economic Security (DES), Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS).