

Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the First Things First Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on January 9, 2013 at the Risen Savior Lutheran Preschool, 23914 South Alma School Road, Chandler, Arizona 85248.

Chair Duane welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 3:35 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Maureen Duane, Vice Chair Genoveva Acosta-Bueno, Lyra Contreras, Trinity Donovan, Karen Emery, Beth Haas, Zita Johnson, Frank Narducci, and Tina Wilson

Members Absent:

Mara de Luca Funke and Kathy Halter

There were 19 members of the public present.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2012

A motion was made by Council Member Donovan to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting, seconded by Council Member Wilson. Motion carried unanimously 8-0, Council Member Emery having not yet arrived.

Call to the Public

- Barbara Gordon from the Association for Supportive Child Care introduced herself and other staff members.
- Megan Miks, Program Manager, Oral Health Prevention Program, with Dignity Health/Chandler Regional Medical Center provided an update on their services.

Council Member Emery arrived at 3:39 p.m.

Risen Savior Quality First Program

Linda Pauley, Director of Early Childhood Education, Risen Savior Lutheran Church & School, welcomed everyone and provided information about her center and their experience with Quality First and the rating system. She stated that the services provided by the coaches and mentors are very much appreciated.

Discussion on Discretionary Funding

Chair Maureen Duane and Regional Director Joanne Floth led a discussion about the formula presently used for discretionary funding and asked for any comments for the First Things Board as to any suggested changes for criteria. Chair Duane said that one of the suggestions was using the funding based on pilot projects. The general consensus was that while there could be a need, especially for smaller regions, that most of the present strategies are still new and it is too early in the agency's history to allocate discretionary funding based on criteria other than what is currently being done. Additionally, Council members were not in favor of a competitive process for a large portion of discretionary funding.

Discussion on the First Things First Data System

Chair Duane led a presentation and discussion about the types of dashboards that the Regional Council would like to have on the First Things First website. Council members provided input which will be shared with the Data System team.

Quarterly Data and Narrative Reports

Data and narrative reports were discussed by the Council. Regional Director Floth asked the Council members if they preferred this format for the narrative reports, and they stated that they did as well as thanked Regional Director Floth for her work on the report.

Staff Updates

a. Community Outreach Update

Community Outreach Coordinator Conrad Lindo asked Council members if the map he provided showing the particular geographical locations he has dropped off materials or been at meetings, events, etc. is helpful. All Council members stated it was very helpful and thanked him for the map. Mr. Lindo stated that he had conducted an Early Childhood Every Day speakers training earlier that day and asked if the Council members would like to also have that training provided them at a Council meeting, with the presentation lasting approximately one-and-a-half hours. Council members stated they would be interested in having the training at a meeting. Additionally, Mr. Lindo stated that plans are underway to create a webinar for the training. Mr. Lindo stated that site visits will also be set up at grantees' locations. It was also discussed that the term "site visits" gives the wrong connotation indicating it may be for the purpose of monitoring and the suggestion was made to call them "showcase visits" instead. Mr. Lindo then shared a slide presentation of the annual holiday family assistance event at the Chandler Christian Community Center.

b. Director's Update

Regional Director Floth asked Council members to think of elected officials, etc. who they might invite to the showcase visits. She also shared a report from the McCormick Center regarding evaluation of the director mentoring program. Regional Director Floth shared that the grantee for the infant/toddler strategy will be participating in a site visit. She also provided a handout and led a discussion regarding updates in the Quality First program. Regional Director Floth asked Council members to be thinking about whether they would want to participate in a waiver process for Quality First centers in the region. Regional Director Floth stated she will present the funding plan to the First Things First Board on January 23, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

Council Updates

Council Member Wilson stated she has compiled a list of all of the Christian schools in the East Valley and will be inviting them to the East Valley Christian Directors' meetings.

Council Member Haas reported on the East Valley Jewish Community Center (a Quality First site) fire which happened Christmas Eve and that eight classrooms, the multipurpose room and kitchen are currently unusable. She asked that anyone who might be able to donate items to please contact the center.

Council Member Narducci reported that he spoke to the Chandler Education Coalition which is formed by the City of Chandler and was able to share DIBELS results with the coalition covering specific areas of the city.

Council Member Donovan reported that the Chandler Christian Community Center provided over 2,000 gifts to children and served 518 families. Food Boxes were also provided. She stated that since Chandler Care Center registered

families this year, it eliminated the problem which existed before with duplication of services provided to the same families.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held on February 13, 2013 at the KinderCare Regional Office, 4001 East Mountain Sky Avenue, Suite 203, Phoenix, Arizona 85044.

Adjournment

Chair Duane asked for any additional questions, or comments from the Council and receiving none, adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Submitted By _____
Caitlyn Hollins, Administrative Assistant III

Approved By _____
Maureen Duane, Chair

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