



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

**Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board
Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council
Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

The meeting of the First Things First – Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on **January 11, 2012** at 9:00 a.m., at the Hualapai Tribe Cultural Resources Center, located at 880 Highway 66, Peach Springs, Arizona, 86434.

Chair Irwin called the meeting to order at 9:06a.m.

Members Present: Sandra Irwin, Chair; Pete Imus, Vice Chair; Charlene Imus; Scott Dunsmore; Joyce Holgate; Candida Hunter; Lucille Watahomigie

Members Excused: Helen Watahomigie; Madelena Cesspooch

Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on the Agenda

No Regional Council Member expressed a conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda.

Presentation on the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP)

Catie Sondrol, co-owner and occupational therapist at Milemarker's Therapy and Parent representative on the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council, introduced herself. Ms. Sondrol gave an overview of the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP). Ms. Sondrol explained that AzEIP is a State and Federal funded program that works with children ages birth to three years old as well as their families to help ensure that children with developmental disabilities get the services they need. Ms. Sondrol explained the three different programs of AzEIP, which include an AzEIP only program that is facilitated through Milemarker's Therapy, AzEIP through Arizona Department of Economic Security-Division for Developmental Disabilities (DDD), and the AzEIP School for the Deaf and Blind. Ms. Sondrol explained how referrals for AzEIP are made, which may be through a direct referral from a doctor, teacher, community member, or family, as well as an online referral system through the DDD website. Ms. Sondrol explained the process and criteria for eligibility. Ms. Sondrol also explained the five different areas in which a child is evaluated which include physical, communication, adaptive/self-help, social/emotional, and problem solving/cognitive. Ms. Sondrol informed the Regional Council that some children who are screened and found to have a developmental delay do not have a significant enough delay to qualify for AzEIP. Ms. Sondrol informed the Regional Council that in the last year, 100 children who were screened did not have a significant enough delay to qualify for AzEIP. Director Pascual asked if it was possible to get the number of children in the Hualapai Tribe Regional area who had been screened and found to have a slight delay yet did not qualify for AzEIP. Ms. Sondrol replied that AzEIP had 6 referrals for the area, and 4 of the referrals immediately qualified for DDD. Member Hunter asked what is the protocol for those children who fall outside of the eligibility requirements for AzEIP. Ms. Sondrol explained those children with a less significant delay are referred to different programs and services in the community, many of which are made available thanks to First Things First. Ms. Sondrol explained the procedure for children when they turn three and are no longer eligible for AzEIP. Ms. Sondrol also explained the Family Cost Participation requirements and other options for families that may not be able to afford

therapy. Ms. Sondrol informed the Regional Council there is a shortage of services and therapists in the area, which is a concern.

Approval of Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Member Dunsmore made a motion to accept the December 14, 2011, Meeting Minutes. Member Hunter seconded the motion. The Regional Partnership Council approved the meeting minutes.

Chairwoman Irwin left the meeting at 9:35 a.m. and Vice Chair P. Imus took over facilitation of the meeting.

Regional Partnership Council Member Updates and Announcements

Regional Director Ashley Pascual made an announcement for Chairwoman Irwin. Director Pascual informed the Regional Council Chairwoman Irwin wrote a letter to the Tribal Council outlining the Regional Council's recommendation that the Hualapai Tribe remain as a separate First Things First Regional Partnership Council.

Call to the Public

There were no responses for the Call to the Public.

Discussion on Implementation of FY2013 Strategies

Director Pascual presented the Scope of Work for the home visitation strategy for the Hualapai Tribe region. Director Pascual explained to the Regional Council that the purpose of the discussion is to make sure the Regional Council agrees with the work the home visitation provider will be asked to do. Director Pascual gave an overview of the different areas included in the Scope of Work, including a summary of the program, why the program is needed, how the target population was determined, and the type of programs included, and the standards of practice, which are followed by all home visitation grantees. Director Pascual explained that First Things First would like all home visitation grantees to be using an evidenced-based curriculum for working with families. Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of using a nationally known evidenced based model for the home visitation program versus the current model utilized in the region. Member Dunsmore asked for clarification between an educational curriculum and home visitation curriculum. Director Pascual explained a home visitation curriculum is the model of programming used with families during visitation while educational curriculum is the lessons followed to ensure students learn necessary skills. Director Pascual explained the second Standards of Practice included in the Scope of Work is the Developmental and Sensory Screening. Director Pascual explained the third Standards of Practice included in the Scope of Work is the Child Protective Services (CPS) Involvement. Member Holgate asked if the Scope of Work is a standard document used for all First Things First Home Visitation programs, or has it been modified to be specific to the Hualapai Tribe Home Visitation. Director Pascual explained the document is modified to be specific for the Hualapai Tribe except the Standards of Practice, which are uniform across the regions. Director Pascual explained the program questionnaire in the Scope of Work. Director Pascual explained the performance measures at the end of the Scope of Work. Member Hunter reiterated she would like a breakdown of services performed by the Hualapai Maternal Child Health program, WIC, and Head Start to evaluate whether or not services are being duplicated.

Chairwoman Irwin returned to the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Member Hunter suggested revisiting the Scope of Work document and discussion at the next meeting once Regional Partnership Council members have had time to review the document and respond to Director Pascual with questions and concerns.

Member Hunter left the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

First Things First Grantee Program Updates

a. Native Language Enrichment – Carrie Cannon, Ethno botanist, Hualapai Department of Cultural Resources, gave an update on the book project. Ms. Cannon informed the Regional Council that two of the five books have had all the sentences completed as well as illustrations. Ms. Cannon explained the project is struggling to locate a vendor to make the books; however, input has been given on a few different choices, and those choices are being considered. A

sample of the illustrations being drawn up was displayed for the Regional Council. Ms. Cannon gave an overview of the pre- and post- surveys that are being utilized to ensure that the books have the desired effect for the community.

b. Home Visitation-Maternal Child Health – Jennifer Pope, R.N., Hualapai Maternal Child Health Program, gave an update on home visitation. Ms. Pope stated MCH provided 28 home visitations this month. Ms. Pope informed the Regional Council MCH gave out 9 cans of infant formula to help mothers last month, and MCH has given out 6 cans, so far, in January 2012. Ms. Pope informed the Regional Council that MCH employees and the employee from WIC met with the special education specialist from Peach Springs Elementary school to go over the new algorithm to make sure that all children are being screened and getting the necessary services if indicated. Ms. Pope explained that MCH is now screening children pre-natal to age 2 years, while Head Start is screening 3 and 4 year old children, and the elementary school is screening kindergarteners. Ms. Pope informed the Regional Council 2 children have been accepted by AzEIP for services. Ms. Pope stated MCH is helping out with kindergarten vision and hearing screenings. Ms. Pope informed the Regional Council that MCH has made a card that can be left in the door to let pre-natal mothers know that MCH visited the home.

Update on the Building of the Hualapai Tribe Child Care Center

Jack Erhardt, Hualapai Planning Director, gave an update on the Hualapai Tribe Child Care Center project. Mr. Erhardt stated that the engineers are looking at different methods to save cost and still maintain an environmentally friendly building.

Vice Chair P. Imus left the room at 10:51 a.m. and returned at 10:53 a.m. Quorum was lost momentarily.

Member Holgate asked for an estimate of how long the project will take to complete. Mr. Erhardt estimated about four months once started. Member L. Watahomigie asked about the ground-breaking ceremony. Mr. Erhardt stated the groundbreaking ceremony should take place in the middle of February 2012.

Regional Director Update

a. Final FY2013-2015 Regional Funding Plan-Director Pascual directed the Regional Council to the final draft of the FY2013-2015 Funding Plan. Director Pascual explained the final draft has been submitted to the state board. Director Pascual also explained Vice Chair P. Imus will present the final draft to the state board next week on Wednesday, January 18, 2012.

b. FY2012 Quarter 1 Grantee Data Reports – Director Pascual informed the Regional Council that the Quarter 1 Grantee Data Reports are included for review.

c. FY2012 Financial Expenditures – Director Pascual informed the Regional Council that the FY2012 Financial Expenditures to date are included for review.

d. Upcoming events – Director Pascual informed the Regional Council of different upcoming events, including an Informational Meeting being held in Kingman on January 31, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Director Pascual also announced that the presentation of a symbolic check to the region will be held on March 3, 2012, during the Tribal Council meeting.

Next Meeting

A consensus was reached and the next regular meeting was rescheduled for 9:00 a.m. on February 15, 2012.

Adjourn

Chair Irwin adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.