



Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

January 15, 2013 – *Draft* Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at Avondale City Hall, 11465 West Civic Center, Avondale, Arizona 85323.

Chair Dr. Dawson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 5:33 p.m.

Members Present:

Patty Avery-Schuster, Kelli Cordova Wright, Dr. Carlian Dawson, Colleen Day Mach, Kimberly Flack, Wendy Krisik, Amanda Reyes, Denys Sandoval, and David Schwake

Members Absent:

Dora Barrio and Susan Laurita

Review and Approval of November 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes:

Vice Chair Flack made a motion to approve the November 20, 2012 meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Council Member Reyes and carried out by unanimous vote.

Call to the Public:

None.

Director Updates:

- Quarterly Narrative Reports

Regional Director Santiago updated Council on the Quarterly Narrative Reports mentioning that the Narrative Report is quite extensive. Regional Director Santiago is working on a different format and asked Council for their suggestions on how the report can be presented. Council discussed the different scenarios of how the report could be presented.

- Quarterly Data Reports

Regional Director Santiago updated Council on the Data Reports highlighting some items on the report. The Town of Gila Bend Family Resource Center has been very active and is driven by the school year due to families and farming being a major industry in that area. Food Security has had some issues when reporting numbers and Regional Director Santiago is working with finance to see how they can get better numbers. Regarding Oral Health the target is to eventually have a double ratio on the number of children being screened and receiving varnish applications.

- Buckeye Family Resource Center

An agreement form was sent to the District and is going through the proper channels. The District's Attorney sent an email to Regional Director Santiago with questions which were forwarded to the First Things First, Legal Department. Regional Director spoke with the Superintendent and they have come up with an estimate of what it will take to do improvements to the possible Buckeye Family Resource Center facility. They are still working on some of the numbers to ensure that they will be able to meet their portion. Care1st Avondale Resource center is still interested. The MOU for the Tonopah Family Resource Center has been completed and is going through the process with Gila Bend.

- Funding Plan Board Presentation

The Board meeting is being held on January 22nd and 23rd, 2013. Regional Director Santiago will be presenting the Funding Plan to the Board on behalf of the Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council. At the next Chair/Vice Chair meeting there will be an opportunity for the Chairs and Vice Chairs to expand on the work of the Councils to the Board. It is being suggested that Councils concentrate on the Family Resource Centers and the Southwest Maricopa Region is being looked at as the Pioneer for Resource Centers.

Discussion on Discretionary Funding:

Chair Dr. Dawson – The State Board is looking for Council feedback on the Discretionary Funding. The History is that the Discretionary funding is currently being distributed to the Council using the same formula applied to regional allocations. The State Board is asking for Councils feedback on alternative ways to allocate the Discretionary funding. The Council is also being asked to consider, should there be a change from the formula method what might be the impact on Councils and currently funded strategies. A handout on Discretionary Funding was provided to Council.

Council discussed and talked about ideas on how they thought the Discretionary Funding should be distributed.

Council Member Avery-Schuster – There must be a way to identify how many square miles of frontier we have. This would be a very impressive number if we could come up with that.

Council Member Reyes – Agrees with Avery-Schuster.

Council Member Cordova Wright – Highlighting the lack of transportation/public transportation in the Southwest Region including urban areas.

Regional Director Santiago – Addressing the need for more established organizations/services such as Physician, Pediatrician and Dental offices in the Southwest Region.

Council Member Schwake – The First Things First mission is to provide all Arizona Children the opportunity to be ready for school assuming this would be on an equal basis. Go back to providers over the years that have failed to meet their goals and see what their reason is as to why they didn't meet their goals.

Council Member Reyes – The possibility of a Mobil unit providing services especially in the rural areas.

Chair Dr. Dawson – Council can email Regional Director Santiago with any other suggestions.

Discussion on the First Things First Data System:

Vice Chair Flack updated Council on information regarding the First Things First Research and Evaluation Plan 2013-2017: Key Points for Regional Partnership Councils and provided Council with a PowerPoint. Vice Chair Flack gave an overview of the plan with infrastructure goals and mentioned talked about Dashboards and continuous improvement. The Board is asking Councils to do the following:

What do you need to understand, integrate and use the data in your work as a Regional Council?

How do you want to see the data = what would be useful for you?

Overall questions and ideas should be submitted to Regional Director Santiago via email. All suggestions will be submitted to the Board.

Grantees Presentation:

- **First Teeth First Program**

Ms. Kimberly Richards, First Teeth First Program Coordinator, Maricopa County Department of Public Health, Offices of Oral Health. Ms. Richards provided Council with a handout and gave an overview of what the First Teeth First goals are and what the First Teeth First program does. The First Teeth First program provides dental screenings, parent education, fluoride varnish and referrals to children through the age of five.

- **S.N.A.C.K. Program**

Ms. Monica Falcon, S.N.A.C.K. Program Coordinator, Maricopa County Department of Public Health. Ms. Falcon provided Council with a handout and presented on the Safety of Carseats. Ms. Falcon addressed the importance of installing a carseat correctly and mentioned that the S.N.A.C.K. program is now hosting Car Seat Education classes for parents, caregivers and providers at centers.

Ms. Rebecca Mendoza, S.N.A.C.K. Program Manager for Nutrition and Activity, Maricopa County Department of Public Health. Ms. Mendoza provided Council with a handout and presented on the purpose of educating parents and children about eating well. Ms. Mendoza talked about the importance of nutrition especially due to obesity tripling over the last 30 years. The S.N.A.C.K. program offers Parent Nutrition Education Classes for children, parents and providers at centers.

Adrienne Decker Delgado, LCSW, S.N.A.C.K. Social Worker, Office of Health Promotion and Education Maricopa County Department of Public Health. Ms. Decker provided Council with a handout and presented on the Care for Kids program. The Care for Kids program has an onsite Resource Guide which is used in order to ensure that children and families have the services they need by offering an easy way to find their own resources. Ms. Decker Delgado briefly navigated through the Resource Guide and provided the website. The Resource Guide will be updated twice a year and is in both English and Spanish. At this time the Resource Guide only covers the Phoenix and the West Valley.

Community Outreach Update:

Community Outreach Coordinator Rabago-Mussi provided Council with a copy of the December, 2012 – January 14, 2013 Community Outreach Coordinator Report and went over some Highlights and Outreach Activities.

- Outreach Activities – Outreach Coordinator Rabago-Mussi thanked Council Member Reyes for helping out at the First Things First information table at the Buckeye Elementary School District 3rd Annual Parent Expo.
- Outreach Coordinator Rabago-Mussi shared some Outreach Tools such as the First Things First Branded Thank You Cards and the Palm Cards. Ms. Rabago-Mussi challenged Council to share the Palm Cards with at least one person each month. It is important to share this information with the Community.

Council Member Updates:

Council Member Schwake – Litchfield is having a Nutritional Healthfair in March, 2013. The summer food and backpack program would like to partner with First Things First to encourage people to attend these programs. Member Schwake will report back to Council in the Spring on the progress of the programs.

Council Member Day Mach is the Co-Chair of the First Things First, Family Support and Literacy Advisory Committee and the next meeting is on Thursday, January 24, 2013. One thing to highlight was that the region looked at a draft document that was developed by the office of Family Support and Literacy and was the framework of a document that can be used as a tool and resource to provide information on what family support and literacy is and how those components are involved with First Things First. The document will be reviewed with the committee at the meeting on Thursday. The Southwest Maricopa Regions Resource Centers are being used as a model. Council Member Day Mach will email a copy of the document to Council. The Committee is looking at ways to distribute Parent Kits to Military families and how can this be supported and provided as a resource for others.

Vice Chair Flack – There is a Consortium called the ACE Consortium here in Arizona which includes a variety of organizations. ACE stands for Adverse Childhood Experiences and focuses on the prevention of child abuse. We recently received a grant that was written by Vice Chair Flack to the Steele Foundation to host a Child Abuse Prevention Summit on April 9, 2013. This is a free study that focuses on different factors that can lead to things such as recurring abuse, obesity and is an interesting study. April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and the ACE Consortium will be hosting this Summit. There will be capacity for 300 people to attend and lunch may be provided. Vice Chair Flack will send Council an email with more details.

Chair Dr. Dawson spoke with former Council Member Mary Lou Chavez and she misses everyone and wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

Community Outreach Coordinator Rabago-Mussi announced that in collaboration with the Whiteman Foundation and First Things First, Rodel is proud to announce that Brenda Thomas at Porfirio H. Gonzales Young Achiever's Preschool in the Tolleson Elementary District is the inaugural Rodel Exemplary Teacher of Early Childhood.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Dr. Dawson adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.