



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2010

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council Meeting was scheduled for February 23, 2010 at the Casa Grande First Things First Regional Office, 1515 East Florence Blvd., Suite 110, Casa Grande, Arizona 85222.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:10 AM.

Council Members in attendance:

Barbara Mezzio, Bryant Powell (telephonically), Mary Allen, Christina Jenkins, Mary Kyle (telephonically), Louis Manual (telephonically), Melanie O'Neil (telephonically)

First Things First Staff in attendance:

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, Regional Coordinator, Pinal Regional Partnership Council; Marla Chamberlain, Central East Manager; Edith Lee, Administrative Assistant II, Graham/Greenlee Region (telephonically); Annette Garcia, Financial and Program Analyst (telephonically); Sheila Hoppe, Grants and Contracts Manager (telephonically); Alicia Smith, Senior Policy Specialist (telephonically)

Discussion and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve minutes from the January 20, 2010 Work Session made by Member Allen, seconded by Member Kyle. Motion carried. A motion to approve minutes from the January 20, 2010 Regular Meeting made by Member Allen, seconded by Member O'Neil. Motion carried.

Funding Mechanisms for SFY 2011

Sheila Hoppe, First Things First Grants and Contracts Manager, explained the Guidelines for Renewal of Existing Agreements (Attachment 4). Ms. Hoppe explained the options available in regards to renewal of agreements, which is a form of an amendment to an existing agreement. If there is a significant change in the Scope of Work - due to the change that will impact the existing agreement - an RFGA would be something the Regional Council would consider. If the Regional Council wants to do a renewal with the existing agreement, but would like to increase the funding allocation above 10 percent, an RFGA is recommended instead of a renewal. Regional Councils should also examine contractor performance when considering whether or not to recommend renewal of a grant agreement.

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, Pinal Regional Coordinator, reminded the Regional Council about the letter they received from Director Hibbs in regards to Conflict of Interest. Regional Council members with a Conflict of Interest are not permitted to provide feedback, but instead must have a representative from their agency provide feedback to the Regional Council.



FIRST THINGS FIRST
The right system for bright futures

Update and Discussion of Strategy Work Groups Recommendations

Annette Garcia, First Things First Financial and Program Analyst, and Ms. Kempton-Sarosi reviewed the Funding Options and Work Group Recommendations document (Attachment 5) with the Regional Council.

Strategy 1 – Continuing Medical Education

No Regional Council Conflicts of Interest declared. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi discussed with the Regional Council the need to go with the Arizona Academy of Pediatrics on this strategy. The Work Group Recommendation is for an RFP.

Strategy 2B – Physician Outreach and Education

No Regional Council Conflicts of Interest declared. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained that the Arizona Academy of Pediatrics is contracted with the State of Arizona, and an amendment to that contract can be made to include this strategy. The Work Group Recommendation is for a Contract Amendment.

Strategy 6 – Recruit and Support Home Providers

Member O’Neal declared Conflict of Interest and abstained from discussing this strategy. The current grantee is United Way of Pinal County. The Work Group Recommendation is for a Renewal.

Strategy 7A – Family Support and Resource Coordination

No Regional Council Conflicts of Interest declared. This is a new strategy (Attachment 6) for the Regional Council to review and possibly approve.

Strategy 7C – Home Visitation

Member O’Neal and Chair Mezzio declared Conflict of Interest and abstained from discussing this strategy. Due to lack of quorum, this strategy will have to be tabled.

Strategy 8A – Professional Career Pathway Project

Chair Mezzio declared Conflict of Interest and abstained from discussing this strategy. The Work Group Recommendation is for a Renewal with the same funding allocation.

Strategy 10 – Professional REWARDS

This strategy was tabled until a presentation from Regional Manager, Marla Chamberlain can be given.

Strategy 11 – Recruitment into the Early Care and Education Field

Chair Mezzio declared Conflict of Interest and abstained from discussing this strategy. The Work Group Recommendation is for a Renewal.

Strategy 13 – Food Assistance and Nutrition

No Regional Council Conflicts of Interest declared. This strategy was initially an expedited award; therefore, requires an RFGA. There is also an increase in funding allocation to \$300,000.

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi gave a brief update on the remaining strategies:

Strategy 2A – Health Insurance Outreach



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

This contract is currently out and will be closing next month. It is a 14 month government to government contract. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi requested that any Regional Council members who are willing to review RFGA's notify her by email.

Strategy 3 – Health Screenings

This contract is currently out and will be closing next month. It is a 14 month government to government contract.

Strategy 4 – Quality First

This strategy is a Contract Amendment to add the additional Quality First slots.

Strategy 5A – Child Care Health Consultation

The recommendation for this strategy is a Renewal of the Statewide RFGA.

Strategy 5B – Mental Health Consultation

This contract is for 15 months, and will not be up for renewal until next year.

Strategy 7B – Early Literacy

This is a 12 month contract. Work Groups are currently reviewing Scopes of Work and Standards of Practice.

Strategy 7D – High Risk Infant Home Visitation

This is a 12 month contract. It will be issued March 3rd. Work Groups are currently reviewing Scopes of Work and Standards of Practice.

Strategy 9 – Community Based Training

This is a 14 month contract. It was issued February 3rd, and will be coming back next month.

The Regional Council had a discussion regarding the Pinal Resource Center and Networking Strategy (Attachment 6). The Work Group redeveloped the strategy and requested feedback from the Regional Council. Member O'Neil made a motion to approve the strategy to develop and maintain a Family Support Network for the different collaborative partners within the Pinal Region, in the amount of \$300,000. Member Powell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Approval of SFY2010 & SFY2011 Strategy Allocation Modifications

Member Allen made a motion to approve the Food Assistance and Nutrition, with the increased allocation to \$300,000. Member Kyle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pinal Regional Grantee Quarterly Report

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi discussed the Pinal Regional Grantee Quarterly Report (Attachment 3). This data report will be provided to the Regional Council on a monthly basis initially, and then will be given quarterly in the future. This report reflects the reporting method (PGMS software) that the grantees are required to use when reporting their data. Ms. Kempton-Sarosi explained the data that is being received from each strategy. In regards to food box data, the Regional Council requested that data be included on the communities that the food boxes are serving.



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Member Jenkins joined the meeting at approximately 12:15 PM and Member Allen left the meeting.

Update and Discussion of the FTF Professional REWARD\$ Program

Alicia Smith, First Things First Senior Policy Specialist, discussed the Professional REWARD\$ Program. The Administrative Home is Valley of the Sun United Way, and they will administer this program on behalf of First Things First. An action plan has been developed as to how things will proceed. For the Pinal Region, Valley of the Sun United Way will be subcontracting with a second party (clarification needed) who will be the entity that will handle marketing, recruitment, reviewing applications, and talking with people about the program.

Ms. Smith explained how the program works. Individuals who work within the early care and education field will be eligible based upon their involvement in higher education, and they will need to be working for a licensed early care and education center. The individual will apply directly with the First Things First Professional REWARD\$ Program. There is no need for their employer/center to be involved in any way, other than to verify the individual's employment (minimum one year employment required) and that the center is licensed. The individual's transcript will be reviewed to see which level of assistance they qualify for based on how many credit hours in early care and education they have completed. Financial incentives received are given in the form of a onetime bonus each time the individual is eligible, not a salary increase. The bonus is given by First Things First, not the center.

Action item tabled.

Discussion and Possible Approval of Strategy Funding Mechanisms for SFY 2011

Agenda item tabled.

Call to the Public

There was no response to Call to the Public.

Next meeting – March 17, 2010

Chair Mezzio announced the next meeting date for the Pinal Regional Partnership Council would be on March 17, 2010 at Central Arizona College.



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Allen, and seconded by Member O'Neil. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:22 PM.

Submitted By:

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi
Regional Coordinator,
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Approved By:

Barbara Mezzio
Chair, Pinal Regional Partnership Council