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 **March 9, 2011** at 9:00 a.m. at Peach Springs Elementary School, 403 Diamond Creek Road, Peach Springs, Arizona, 86434.

Chair Irwin called the meeting to order at 9:24a.m.

Members present:
Sandra Irwin-Chair, Candida Hunter, Helen J. Watahomigie, Charlene Imus, Scott Dunsmore, Shelly Bachison-telephonically

Members Excused: Lucille Watahomigie

Members Absent: Cheryl Beecher, Rev. Pete Imus-Vice Chair

Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on the Agenda

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

Approval of January 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Member Hunter moved to approve the January 12, 2011 Meeting Minutes. Member Dunsmore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by Members present.

Call to the Public

There were no responses for the Call to the Public.

Regional Partnership Council Member Updates and Announcements

No announcements were made.

Community Outreach and Awareness

Della Gray, First Things First Community Outreach Liaison, advised the Regional Council she has been focusing her outreach on PTA groups. Ms. Gray summarized the locations where she has recently presented and highlighted those she will be meeting with in the coming weeks. Ms. Gray asked the Regional Council to contact her if they have any suggestions for outreach or any upcoming events she should be aware of. Ms. Gray summarized the information she provides during her outreach activities and specifically mentioned the Champion for Kids flyer, how it works, and how it is included in her presentations. Ms. Gray discussed the Week of the Young Child (WOYC) to be held April 10th through the 15th. Ms. Gray is working with Jennifer Pope and planning activities for each day of that week. Member Hunter stated IHS is hosting a Nutrition Day on March 24th and suggested Ms. Gray participate in the event. Member Hunter also suggested having elementary school students read to Head Start students. Member Hunter stated Head Start has Parent Policy Council meetings the second Tuesday of each month and Parent meetings the first Thursday of each month. Member Dunsmore advised the Parent meeting for Peach Springs Elementary is the night of the Regional Council meeting and invited FTF staff and Regional Council members to attend.

Discussion and Possible Action on SFY 2012 Funding Plan Implementation

Possible Action on the Funding Mechanism for the Native Language Enrichment Strategy: Coordinator Pascual asked the Regional Council to take action on the funding mechanism for the Native Language Strategy. The Regional Council's previous discussions suggested a grant agreement with the Tribe's Cultural Department would be most fitting. Other options include releasing a

competitive grant or searching for another government entity to contract with. Coordinator Pascual requested that the Regional Council take action to determine the type of mechanism they will utilize to provide funding.

Member Hunter made a motion to fund a grant agreement with the Hualapai Tribe Cultural Department for the Native Language Strategy. The motion was seconded by Member Dunsmore. The motion passed unanimously by Members present.

Coordinator Pascual will initiate collaboration with the Hualapai Tribe Cultural Department to develop a scope of work, a timeline and a budget. Once this is accomplished, Coordinator Pascual will bring the grant agreement back to the Regional Council during the May 2011 meeting for possible approval. If approved, the agreement will go to the State Board in June 2011.

Grant Renewal Process: On March 2nd, the Regional Council's current grantees were provided with renewal application packets and grantees were advised they have until the end of March to return the completed applications for State Fiscal Year 2012. At the May 2011 meeting, the Regional Council will make award recommendations for Fiscal Year 2012. This includes St Mary's Food Bank, two grants with the Hualapai Health Department, and the new proposal for the Cultural Department. Member Hunter asked the funding amount for the Native Language Strategy. Coordinator Pascual stated the amount is $26,944. Coordinator Pascual stated she will contact the Cultural Center the day of the meeting to discuss the matter. Coordinator Pascual requested suggestions from the Regional Council on how they would like to move forward in seeking approval from Tribal Council for the grant renewals. Chair Irwin advised that Tribal Council should approve before the Regional Council considers approval. Coordinator Pascual stated she would request to be included on the Tribal Council's May agenda, and the Regional Council agreed.

Update and Discussion on Hualapai Child Care Center

Jessica Powskey, Coordinator for the Hualapai Child Care Program, stated there was a committee meeting held in January and one of the items discussed was a First Things First (FTF) strategy that was included in the original funding plan. The first part of the strategy was to collaborate with community members to develop a planning group to bring a child care center to Peach Springs. The second part was to assist with training staff and start up. Now that plans for the child care center are moving forward, Lucille Watahomigie, Director of the Education and Training Center, would like to see FTF reinstate the strategy. The Hualapai Child Care Center (HCCC) would need assistance with opening, preparing, and maintaining the center including staffing, training, surveys, and estimates. Chair Irwin asked Ms. Powskey to have Director Watahomigie submit a request in writing. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council that it takes approximately 60-90 days to finalize expenditures after the end of the fiscal year. The Regional Council should have final numbers of funds expended and funds available in late summer or early fall, and that the issue could be placed on the agenda at that time to discuss. Coordinator Pascual stated that the Regional Council would then need to consider which strategy or strategies they would discontinue or reduce funding to in order to allocate funding to the Quality Child Care strategy, if that is the direction the Regional Council wanted to take. Member Hunter suggested to Ms. Powskey charging a fee for child care considering factors affecting the region, including the current recession, federal funding cuts, and decreasing tobacco sales. Member Hunter stated that, although the Regional Council will consider the request, she is concerned that their budget of $144,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 is not sufficient with 60 children in need of childcare. Ms. Powskey stated HCCC will not be ready until 2012. Member Helen Watahomigie suggested implementing the Language strategy into the Child Care strategy so children can begin learning the language at a young age. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council that $25,000 for the Language strategy is from funds not expended last year, so it is a onetime funding opportunity. Ms. Powskey stated the Child Care Committee and the Planning Committee, lead by the Planning Department, will be working together and that Director Watahomigie is the contact person for the HCCC.

First Things First Grantee Update: Maternal Child Health Program

Jennifer Pope, RN, updated the Regional Council by summarizing recent activities the Maternal Child Health Program (MCHP) has been involved in. Nurse Pope is collaborating with Della Gray on the Week of the Young Child to determine what activities they can offer. Nurse Pope is also working on FTF grant renewals. Upcoming MCHP events include: Participation in the National Diabetes Health Fair, Participation in Nutrition Day to be held on March 24th, and car seat checks and education with IHS on March 31st. Ms. Pope stated she was recently awarded a Native America nurse scholarship. When the course is completed, Nurse Pope will be able to offer infant massage and meditation to new moms. Member Hunter questioned if these services are billable to insurance companies. Nurse Pope advised she does not think so because it is not associated with IHS. Member Dunsmore suggested looking into billing insurance in the future to bring funding into the program. Nurse Pope stated, personally, she could start a program in Kingman and bill for those services however, the MCHP is currently very busy and she will initiate services locally only, free of charge, to assist new mothers.

Discussion on 2012 Needs and Assets Data Collections

Coordinator Pascual stated it is time for the Regional Council to consider the 2012 Needs & Assets Report. Included in the written Coordinator's Report is a link to where the 2010 Needs & Assets Report is available online. Coordinator Pascual will send copies of the report to Hualapai Tribal Council Members. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council that the FTF Tribal Liaison, Beverly ussell, has been working with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium to develop a government to government agreement to allow regions to award a grant to a Tribal college or university to conduct the Needs & Assets Report. A vendor list is available for review by the Regional Council and FTF has a data base of information regarding these vendors. Coordinator Pascual stated the Regional Council used *Applied Survey Research* for the 2010 Needs & Assets Report, and the Regional Council can choose to use this vendor again or choose a new one. The State Board has committed funding for the basic report however, if the Regional Council would like anything beyond the basic report, the Regional Council would have to pay for the extra hours that would require. Chair Irwin stated she liked the vendor who completed the 2008 Needs & Assets report. Coordinator Pascual stated she recalled that vendor did not submit a proposal beyond Pima County however, she will research it. Member Hunter stated the Summit of Arizona Community Colleges and Indian Nations & Tribes will be held on April 19th at Northern Arizona University, and she added Travis Lane of ITCA is the contact person for more information.

Coordinator's Update

Regional Coordinator's Report: Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council that Council Member Penny Renfro submitted a letter of resignation. The Philanthropic and Parent seats are now open. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council the Statewide Chair/Vice-Chair Leadership Forum is scheduled for March 31st in Phoenix. Chair Irwin will be attending. Vice-Chair Imus is unable to attend; therefore, Coordinator Pascual and Chair Irwin invited any of the other Regional Council Members to attend in his place. Coordinator Pascual provided the Regional Council with invitations to the Community Outreach Forum on April 4th in Parker where Regional Council Members will have the opportunity to discuss community outreach. Coordinator Pascual add that although the Hualapai Regional Council does not have a specific outreach strategy, outreach and promoting parent awareness is included in the Scope of Work for the Maternal Child Health Program. Coordinator Pascual requested RSVP's by next Wednesday. Chair Irwin stated she would like to attend the forum to discuss "reflective supervision."

FY2011 Meeting Schedule with Locations: The Regional Council was provided with an update on the meeting locations for the remainder of the State Fiscal Year. Member Dunsmore offered the use of the School Board Room for the meetings as well.

Regional Update- Quality First: An update from Quality First! Coach Rozaland French was provided to the Regional Council.

Board Update- Board Advisory Committees: Coordinator Pascual referred to previous discussions regarding the Early Childhood Task Force and the importance of having local control as well as showing collectively as a state the progress FTF is making. Now that priorities have been set, there was a need to establish Advisory Committees; they are Early Learning, Health, and Family Support. These three committees will develop recommendations to submit to the State Board. The committees are made up of community members and experts in these areas, and include Regional Council Members. A timeline of implementation was provided to the Regional Council.

Financial Summary: Although nothing has changed from the report provided during the February 2011 Meeting, Coordinator Pascual updated the Regional Council on the amounts expended to date. Coordinator Pascual stated that FTF Finance staff has been communicating with the MCHP and the Tribe's Finance Director to assist in submitting requests for reimbursement. Coordinator Pascual provided a set of note cards to each Regional Council Member stating the cards are for Regional Council Members to use when they are acting in the capacity as Regional Council Members and would like to send a note, such as a thank you note for a presenter.

Member Hunter encouraged Regional Council Members to assist in filling the vacant Regional Council seats. Member Hunter also mentioned how important attendance is and if Members cannot attend, she reminded them to please notify the Coordinator in advance so the meeting can be cancelled if a quorum cannot be obtained. Coordinator Pascual stated the new Regional Partnership ouncil Member Application can be time consuming however, FTF staff is happy to assist potential Regional Council Members with the process to make it as simple as possible.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at 9:00 a.m. on April 13, 2011; Hualapai Cultural Center, 878 Highway 66, in Peach Springs, AZ 86434.

Adjourn

With no further matters to discuss, Chair Irwin adjourned the meeting at 10:26a.m.

UBMITTED BY:

Ashley Pascual, Regional Director

Approved by:

Sandra Irwin, Chair