



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

**Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board  
Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council  
January 12, 2015**

### **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the First Things First – Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council was held on January 12, 2015 in the Early Literacy Room at the Safford Public Library, 808 South Seventh Avenue, Safford, AZ 85546.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Regional Council Members present in person:

Chair Laurie Smith, Vice Chair JoAnn Morales, Ryan Henry, Donna McGaughey, Susan Norton, Kasey Ekman, Christie Rivera and Pam Patt

Member Morales joined the meeting at 1:05

Member Ekman joined the meeting at 1:10

Regional Council Members Absent:

Stacy Morris

### **Call to the Public**

Chair Smith announced Call to the Public. Judy Fischer addressed the council expressing concerns about children who have 50/50 custody with their divorced parents and their lack of attendance at the Methodist Day Care Center making it difficult to meet the minimum attendance standard for the Quality First Scholarships.

### **Consent Agenda**

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2014 Regular Meeting was made by Member McGaughey, seconded by Member Henry. Motion carried (8-0-0).

### **Discussion, Update and Approval of Quality First SFY16 Allotment**

- Member\_Patt moved to amend the motion from the November 10, 2014 meeting to approve the funding of the Quality First package for SFY2016 up to the amount of \$153,046 to fund up to 6 medium centers and 3 homes through a statewide RFGA with adjustments made by Regional Director as needed based on council intent. Seconded by Member Norton. Motion carried (8-0-0).

**Update on Quality Assurance Grantee Site Visit**

Chair Smith tabled this agenda item until the March 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

**Regional Director Report**

Director Elkins shared her January Director’s Report highlighting recruitment for the vacant faith based and one of the At-Large seats on the council. She encouraged council members to reach out to those they thought would be a good addition to the council and who they thought would be interested. She also highlighted information from the Quarter 1 Data Report.

**Community Outreach Update**

Outreach Coordinator, Paulette LeBlanc, reported on her activities from November and December, highlighting the media hits in the 2 largest publications in the region. She also shared part of the “Write Way” training, sharing ways to capture quality photos and encouraged council members to capture photos of young children and their families and to share them with her. She let them know of two upcoming site visits to Mt. Graham Child Care Center and Bulldog Boulevard.

**Next Meeting Date, Time and Location**

The next regular meeting will be held on March 09, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at the Safford Library.

**Adjournment**

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:55 p.m.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Shari Elkins,  
Graham/Greenlee Regional Director**

**Approved:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Laurie Smith,  
Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council Chair**



FIRST THINGS FIRST  
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**First Things First  
Quality Assurance  
Site Visit Report  
Child & Family Resources, Inc.  
Home Visitation  
November 2014**

**Overall Impressions:**

Overall, Child and Family Resources (CFR) is providing services in alignment with the FTF Scope of Work (SOW) and Standard of Practice (SOP). CFR is an affiliate of Parents as Teachers, which is delivered under the Building Bright Futures (BBF) program in Phoenix North, Southwest Maricopa, and Yuma. CFR is also accredited by Healthy Families (HF) to provide services in Yuma, La Paz/Mohave, Santa Cruz, Pinal, and **Graham/Greenlee**.

Identified strengths of the program:

1. Both the Building Bright Futures and Healthy Families programs utilize the evidence-based program model materials and activities to ensure fidelity to the models. During observations, the home visitors referenced and utilized materials taken from the program models and based on the needs and goals of the family.
2. Through affiliation and accreditation, the program's collection, reporting, evaluation, and use of data is of high quality. The programs have extensive databases and quality assurance reviews to engage in ongoing quality improvement and evaluation of program outcomes.
3. The services provided in each region are through home visitors that are knowledgeable of communities, reflecting cultural competency in all aspects of service delivery. Through observations of home visits, it was clear the home visitors were intentional in developing trusting relationships to get to know the individual families and provided personalized support.
4. CFR BBF and HF program staff consist of teams of highly educated supervisors and home visitors and continue to invest in ongoing access and participation in professional development opportunities.
5. CFR as a whole understands the value of developing and maintaining community collaborations and partnerships. Throughout the regions there are intentional and documented plans for the program staff to identify and build community partnerships with the goals to offer a coordinated and accessible support system for families.
6. Although sensory screening is not required as part of the SOW, both BFF and HF recognize the importance and have included screening in program implementation. The BBF home visitors utilize the AuDX Audiometer, Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE), and Functional Vision Screening using the LEA Symbols test to screen all families in the program and obtain written consent from the families. The HF program has recently integrated vision screening and also utilizes the ASQ to identify potential hearing and vision issues identified by the caregiver.

There were a total of eight observations that occurred during the site visit. Highlights of each visit are included below.

- The first two observations were of the BBF program in Yuma. The first was a teen mother and her two year old daughter who have been enrolled in the program since before the birth of the baby. The Parent Educator (PE) came prepared with an activity for the child and mother to do in preparation for the next Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) and consisted of stringing wooden blocks. During the visit, the PE talked with the mother about her success in enrolling in college classes and the importance of family support, and discussed developmental progress and next steps.
- The second observation was with another teen mother in San Luis with a toddler and newborn baby. The PE followed up with the mother regarding concerns she had with her son's speech development and how follow up with the doctor had gone. The family had given permission to the PE, through a release of information, to communicate with AzEIP, which is located in the same office in Yuma as CFR. The mother talked about the barrier of finding childcare to enable her to finish high school and the PE explored options for scholarships and Quality First programs in the area. The PE also discussed talking with the school and how to advocate for herself when communicating with the counselor. The PE was able to share multiple community resources with the mother for doctors and childcare, and is knowledgeable about operating hours and referral processes.
- The third observation was of the HF program in Kingman (Mohave County). The Family Support Specialist (FSS) talked with the pregnant mother about her preparedness for the birth of her baby, and came prepared with handouts and talked through the plan of preparing and getting to the hospital when she goes into labor and who she expects to be present during the birth and the plan for her other children.
- The fourth observation occurred in Southwest Maricopa of the BBF program with a mother and her one year old son. The family had been referred to BBF from AzEIP after they completed an assessment regarding speech concerns but did not qualify for services. The PE and mother talked about the mother's feelings regarding her son's speech and her experience with the developmental pediatrician, an appointment that was recommended by the PE. They discussed how the mother has been feeling and the frustration she has been having in doing her own research and comparing her child's development with other children. The PE reminded mom of the goals on their service plan and how they are reaching the goals set and also of typical development and how children develop differently. The PE was on the floor interacting with the family and facilitated activities to prepare for the next ASQ.
- The fifth and sixth observations were in Santa Cruz including one home visit observation in Nogales and one intake observation in Rio Rico. The home visit was delivered in Spanish and present was a mother, her mother, and the toddler. During the visit, the FSS and the family talked about the service plan goals and created a new goal based on the needs of the family around the development of the child and family stability. The intake observation completed by the HF Family Assessment Worker (FAW) occurred in the home of a mother and her week old baby who was informed of the program in the hospital after giving birth. The FAW goes to the local hospitals daily to seek out new mothers and inform them of the program. The initial intake was in Spanish and included filling out the HF Arizona Intake record, overview of the program and confidentiality policies and signing of the consent forms (consent for program enrollment and releases of information to speak with other providers regarding the child and family). The FAW also completed the Healthy Families Screen to determine appropriateness of the program as well as the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale and the Parent Survey Worksheet to gather information on family history, family support, parenting practices, father involvement,

and traumatic events. The FAW also develops initial goals which will be reviewed by the family and added to the service plan by the FSS. Families enrolled are given an intake folder, including an overview of the program, a baby book/memory book, information on shaken baby syndrome, Attention Deficit Disorder, and dyslexia, and resource and referral information including the 0-5 Helpline and program event calendar. The FAW was intentional to ensure the mother was able to share all the information she was comfortable with.

- **The last two observations of the HF program occurred in Morenci (Graham/Greenlee). During both observations the fathers were present during the home visits and the FSS stated fathers are usually involved, also encouraged by the visits being scheduled in the evenings if necessary. The FSS utilized handouts from the Growing Great Kids curriculum. The FSS reviewed child development and milestones during both visits and engaged the parents to share what they were observing from their kids, for example asking what activities they like to do and how they can support development. The FSS also brought activities and ideas for homemade activities the parents can do with their kids to support development.**

**Overall quality improvement:**

1. Although the programs have well developed communication systems with developmental supports in the regions, there is not a consistent process to ensure all families receive written feedback of the developmental screenings they can use for reference.  
**Completed 1/22/15**
2. Staff participation in professional development opportunities is clear through training logs, however each program does not have a practice for creating and maintaining individual professional development plans including goals steps reviewed and approved by staff and supervisors.  
**Completed 1/22/15**
3. BBF and HF program staff will ensure all home visitors receive specific and annual training on mandatory reporting and the one-time training on the Infant/Toddler Developmental Guidelines through the Arizona Department of Education (ADE).  
**Completed 1/22/15**

**Strengths and Continued Practices**

Fidelity to the Healthy Families and Parents as Teachers program models

Data collection and accuracy and file review processes

Meeting community needs through culturally competent and individualized services in each region

Confidentiality policies and practices

Access and opportunity to participate in ongoing professional development

Intentional and purposeful collaborations, both with internal and external partners

Added by CFR: Focus on each individual family and providing needs-driven services

Added by CFR: high level of internal and supervisory support to continue to increase program quality staff

Added by CFR: an increased rate of immunizations across all regions as a result of the

Added by CFR: celebration of success and shared excitement of progress





## Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council Timeline 2015

Month	Tasks
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (January 12<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Funding Plan Summary and Presentation to State Board</li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Data</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meeting if Needed (February 9<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (March 9<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Data</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (April 13<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• RFGA/Grant Agreement Approval of Recommendation</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (May 11<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• RFGA Approval of Recommendation</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (June 10<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Data</li> <li>• Chair/Vice Chair Elections</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meeting if Needed (July 8<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Start of SFY2016</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (August 12<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• SFY2015 Grantee Reports</li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Data</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meeting if Needed (September 9<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Grantee Orientation</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (October 14<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• SFY2017 Regional Allocations Announced by State Board</li> <li>• SFY2017 Funding Plan Discussions</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (November 18<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Approval of Strategies, Allocations and TSU's for SFY2017 Funding Plan</li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Data</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meeting if Needed (December 9<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> </ul>



# March 2015 Director's Report

Graham/Greenlee  
Regional Partnership Council  
General Updates

## Early Childhood Matters to Business



“Business leaders and policymakers should consider investment in young children one of the most effective strategies to secure the future economic strength of their communities and nation.”



The First Things First Early Childhood Summit brings together early childhood professionals, stakeholders and supporters to learn, share and grow. Ensuring that our youngest kids arrive at kindergarten prepared to succeed requires all parts of the early childhood system to work together, and the Summit offers an exciting opportunity to build the knowledge and relationships critical to our collective success. Make plans to join us in Phoenix in August.



### Early Childhood Coalition

The next meeting for the Early Childhood Coalition will be:

Tuesday, March 31, 2015  
4:00  
General Services Building

### Home Visitation Coalition

The next meeting for the Graham/Greenlee Home Visitation Coalition will be:

Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
1:00  
General Services Building

### Community Baby Shower

For expectant parents & caregivers of babies up to 1 year old

March 27, 2015  
9:00-1:00  
Safford Library

## Strategy Updates and Quarter 2 Data Report

Strategy	FY2015 Allotted	FY2015 Target Service Units	End of Quarter 1 Actual Service Units	FY2014 Performance/Financial Updates and Significant Milestones
Home Visitation	\$120,000	20 Families	14 Families 36 Children	Grantee served 70% of their TSU's. They expended 22% of their award.
Parent Outreach & Awareness	\$110,000	300 Workshops 24,000 books	172 Workshops 6,504 Books	Grantee reached 57% of their TSU's through workshops and 27% through their book club, expending 19% of their award.
Food Security	\$10,000	750 Food Boxes	367 Food Boxes	Grantee distributed food boxes to 573 young children, 49% of their TSU's. They expended 15% of their award.
Quality First Scholarships	\$94,000	79 Children	55 Children	Grantee distributed child care scholarships to 55 children, 70% of their TSU's.
Reach Out and Read	\$5,000	1,750 Books	402 Books	Grantee reached 23% of their TSU's, expending 52% of their award.
Oral Health	\$80,000	500 Screenings 450 Varnishes	56 Screenings 13 Varnishes	Grantee reached 11% of their TSU's in screenings and 3% in varnishes. They expended 16% of their award.
REWARD\$	\$45,000	30 Scholars	Scholars	No Data Available for Quarter 1

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June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (June 8<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Data</li> <li>• Chair/Vice Chair Elections</li> </ul>
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August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regional Council Meeting (August 11<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• FY15 Grantee Reports</li> <li>• Grantee Data Reports – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Data</li> <li>• Early Childhood Summit (August 24<sup>th</sup> &amp; 25<sup>th</sup>)</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meeting if Needed (September 7<sup>th</sup>)</b></li> <li>• Grantee Orientation</li> </ul>
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## GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGION COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES January 2015

**Highlighted sections are facilitated by FTF Supporters or Champions.**

Date	Description	# of Partic.	Comments
Jan 5	Published article, <i>Holiday Let Down</i> , in the Graham County School Newsletter.		Donna is always so accommodating. Thank you!
Jan 6	Met with Shari to plan the Site Visits and invitees.		Designed invitations for Shari to distribute.
Jan 9	Attended the FTF In-Service meeting in Phoenix.		The Community Outreach sharing session was very valuable. I enjoy learning from my cohorts. We had in-depth training and discussion about site visits.
Jan 12	Attended the G/G FTF Regional Council meeting.		I briefly reviewed my activities for November and December. Presented a section of The Write Way (photos.) Council members updated their Community Outreach tactics commitment form.
Jan 15	Served on a team to interview for the G/G Administrative Assistant.		This was a very enjoyable and positive experience. Thank you, Shari, for including me.
Jan 15	Attended the Graham County Networking Team Meeting.	15	Spoke of site visits. Attendees indicated interest in attending one. I will plan this for the spring.
Jan 15	Met with Selena Llamas from Expect More AZ.	1	Selena was in town to visit the FTF-funded preschool program at the library and to present to Quality First recipients. We reviewed the G/G funded strategies and talked about community outreach tactics.
Jan 16	Attended the Open House for Canyonlands' new clinic in Clifton. I serve on the Canyonlands Board. (About 60 in attendance.)	10	I also wore my FTF badge and delivered some recycled Imagination Library books to their waiting room. The IL brochures were already on display! Canyonlands is very supportive! Spoke to about 10 people about FTF This was casual networking.
Jan 20	Met with Louise Welker to talk about her potential Champion work.	1	Now that Louise is retired from CFR, she will have more flexibility in her role as FTF Champion.
Jan 20	Met with Christie Rivera to finalize the site visit schedule and narrative.		Christie is very pleased to be featuring her program.
Jan 20	Attended the Graham/Greenlee Early Childhood Coalition Meeting.	16	This Literacy Share and Take was hosted by Donna McGaughey. It was a wonderful session. Attendees were very engaged in sharing. Thanks for taking the lead, Donna!

Jan 21	Attended the AZ Kindergarten Transition Summit. This was funded through the Graham/Greenlee County School Superintendents.	2	Information gained from the Summit will help me in my dual roles for FTF and the Graham/Greenlee Education Service Agencies. I joined 4 enthused teachers from Safford. We are going to do follow-up at the summit!
Jan 27	Attended the Greenlee County Networking Team Meeting.	8	I spoke of site visits to get a handle on members' interest in attending one. I received a very positive nod. It's time to plan more site visits for these agencies.
Jan 28	Facilitated a Site Visit at Mt Graham High School Early Childhood Center.	15	This was a wonderful event. Thanks to the staff at the Mt. Graham Center for allowing us to showcase the fine work they do.
Jan 29	Facilitated a Site Visit at Bulldog Blvd Preschool Program.	10	Christie and her staff did a wonderful job of showcasing Bulldog Blvd. Although few in number, I am trusting attendees to spread the word! I wish I had the magic wand to entice more kindergarten teachers to these site visits.
Total		78	

**Cumulative Report (July 2014 – January 2015):**

**Earned Media: 14** - *Countdown to Kindergarten Series in the Courier and Copper Era (7); Like All Skills, Gratitude is Best Learned Young; Simple Toys (2); Holiday Traditions (2); Holiday Blues (2)*

**Newsletter Articles: 9** -- *Seize the Summer (kindergarten prep); Tips for Easing Kindergarten Jitters; Save the Date (Coalition); Childhood Obesity; Halloween: The Day After (2); Gratitude; Holiday Blues (2)*

**Stories: 1** – *A Family Affair*

**24 presentations/events to 228 people**

**Site Visits: 3** – Morenci Early Childhood Center, Mt Graham Child Care Center, Bulldog Boulevard Preschool

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**For RPC:** I will be hosting a *Write Way* training on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:30. Location not determined at this time.



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## GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGION COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES February 2015

**Highlighted sections are facilitated by FTF Supporters or Champions.**

Date	Description	# of Partic.	Comments
Feb 2	Published article in Graham County Schools Newsletter, <i>Toddlers and Preschoolers Need Hobbies</i>		Thank you, Donna!
Feb 3	Published article in Senior Citizen Newsletter, <i>Hobbies and Preschoolers</i>		This was a shortened version of the article above. Thanks to Royce Hunt, for her support of FTF.
Feb 4	Interviewed a teen mother at Mt. Graham High School for a potential story.		Awaiting Consent and Release form from foster mother.
Feb 6	Met with Angela Mussie, FTF Outreach Director by phone.		We debriefed from the January site visits. We also planned a presentation Shari and I will be doing at a joint in-service on March 6 <sup>th</sup> .
Feb 7	Judged early childhood interviews at a regional competition for Family, Career and Community Leadership Association (FCCLA)		I participated in this event as a representative of G/G FTF upon the request of Christie Rivera. I took the opportunity to chat with FCCLA local coordinators about FTF and Quality First. Thanks for inviting me, Christie.
Feb 11	Attended a United Way meeting with Shari.		Shari met with the board of United Way to solicit support for a grant for funding scholarships for a Quality First center. I went as moral support.
Feb 11	Published Oral Health Press Release in the EA Courier.		This article included quotes from Canyonlands dental health program. Thanks to Marie Rodriguez for her support and to David Bell for publishing.
Feb 13	Attended FTF in-service for outreach coordinators in Phoenix.		We worked on Team Norms, reviewed site visit protocol and earned media expectations, etc. Very informative meeting.
Feb 17	Met with Christy Maltos, new Community Outreach Coordinator from the Home Visitation Coalition.	1	Shari and I shared recommendations on how Christy should proceed in her new position. Ex. Establish mission statement, goals and strategies, update the resource guide (which is co-sponsored by FTF), keep the focus on home visitation, etc.
Feb 17	Presented The Write Way Training	5	This was attended by providers connected to home visitation. It was very well received. New champions!

Feb 18	Attended the Graham/Greenlee Home Visitation Coalition meeting.	15	This is a network with strong potential to support families through home visitation. It's had a rocky start but people seem to be enthused to be a part of its growth. It needs direction. The key players are at the table.
Feb 19	Attended the Graham County Community Networking meeting.	17	I spoke of Oral Health strategy to tie it to Oral Health Month and of Early Childhood Literacy to prepare for the upcoming month.
Feb 23	Worked with Shari to place an order for children's books.		Board books will be distributed at the Baby Shower hosted by Safford Library and FTF.
Feb 24	Shari and I met with Christie Rivera from Bulldog Blvd to discuss a United Way Grant application for scholarships.		This will be a wonderful partnership among Bulldog Blvd, Quality First and United Way. Thanks to Christie and her staff for giving the nod.
Feb 26	Worked on Early Literacy Press Release with Giane Powell (Safford Library) and Ofelia Gonzalez (FTF Earned Media Specialist).		This article was sent to the Courier and Copper Era for publication within the next two weeks. It is a pleasure to work with Giane and Ofelia. Good teamwork!
Total		38	

**Cumulative Report (July 2014 – February 2015):**

**Earned Media: 15** - *Countdown to Kindergarten Series in the Courier and Copper Era (7); Like All Skills, Gratitude is Best Learned Young (1); Simple Toys (2); Holiday Traditions (2); Holiday Blues (2); Poor Oral Health...(1);*

**Newsletter Articles: 11** – *Seize the Summer (kindergarten prep); Tips for Easing Kindergarten Jitters; Save the Date (Coalition); Childhood Obesity; Halloween: The Day After (2); Gratitude; Holiday Blues (2); Hobbies (2)*

**Stories: 1** – *A Family Affair*

**28 presentations/events to 266 people**

**Site Visits: 3** – *Morenci Early Childhood Center, Mt Graham Child Care Center, Bulldog Boulevard Preschool*

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## **Guidelines for Community Outreach and Awareness Regional “Champion for Young Children” of the Year Selection**

### **Background**

Community engagement is a critical component in building public awareness of the importance of early childhood. As part of First Things First’s community engagement program, recognition of engaged community members is essential to acknowledge the work of our active stakeholders. Those stakeholders designated as Champions in the three-tier engagement program are the most active in sharing information and promoting the importance of early childhood and the work of First Things First in their communities. Regions may choose to recognize and encourage these voluntary efforts that are above and beyond the scope of an individual’s everyday work with this regional “Champion for Young Children” annual award.

### **I. Selection criteria for annual Regional Champion for Young Children award**

- A.** Regions choosing to participate should ensure that any nominated individual is recorded in the First Things First database as a Champion.
- B.** Regional recognition for Champion for Young Children of the Year will include identifying at least three specific public awareness-building activities led or initiated by the Champion. Examples of these can be found in the FTF Community Engagement Calls to Action, but other public-awareness building activities that are not listed can also be considered.
- C.** Regional council members are our greatest Champions and are currently recognized in many ways. In order to recognize those Champions that are not normally recognized for their efforts, regional council members are excluded from consideration as regional Champion for Young Children.

### **II. Guidelines for selecting Regional Champion for Young Children**

- A.** Selections for regional Champion for Young Children should be completed no later than April 15.
- B.** Champions can be recognized for public awareness building actions that they led or initiated within the past 12-month period, i.e. April 15, 2014 to April 15, 2015.
- C.** The suggested selection committee includes: one Regional Partnership Council member, the Regional Director and Community Outreach Coordinator (if the region has a Coordinator).
- D.** The Regional Champion for Young Children Nomination Form will be used by the regional selection committee. The selection committee will base their decision on the specific examples included in the nomination form of how this individual initiated or led activities to increase public awareness of the importance of early childhood.
- E.** The Nomination Form identifying the selected Regional Champion for Young Children should be submitted to the Senior Director of Community Outreach by April 15 so that the acknowledgements listed below can be implemented.

### **III. Acknowledgement of Regional “Champion for Young Children” of the Year**

- A.** All Regional Champions for Young Children will be announced in the FTF e-newsletter and a short article about them will be placed on the regional home page.
- B.** A media release (using template from FTF Communications) will be submitted to local media outlets.
- C.** Regions may choose to recognize Regional Champions for Young Children at a Regional Partnership Council meeting or in a variety of ways, including public presentation of a plaque or other token of appreciation
- D.** Regional Champions for Young Children will receive a special invitation to attend the annual Early Childhood Summit through a congratulatory letter signed by the FTF Board Chair.