



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

AGENDA ITEM: Regional Director's Report

BACKGROUND: The Regional Director will present updates since the last Regular Meeting and on upcoming events.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director is providing this attachment for information purposes only.



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# March 2013 Director's Report

First Things First

San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council

## General Updates

### • Mid-Year Grantee Check-Ins

- San Carlos Apache Tribe—Social Services Department: Curriculum Development-Parent Education Grant
  - Things going well: 2 curriculum writers contracted and working on new interviews with Apache Elders as well as researching and using old interviews from Apache Elders; initial draft outline of the curriculum is created with an estimated 12 units for specific topics for each.
  - Thing not going so well: budget for this grant was not set-up by the Tribal Finance Department and caused the inability to spend down the first deliverable payment in order to receive second payment. (*Update: due to Mr. Farlan Victor's attendance at this check-in the grantee was able to get their budget set-up immediately following the meeting.*)
- San Carlos Apache Tribe—Social Services Department: Food Security Grant
  - Things going well: none reported
  - Things not going so well: lack of response from Tribal Finance Department to Social Services Director regarding reimbursement due back to First Things First this caused for stalled service delivery, Social Services Dept. has a very busy schedule and too many tasks to keep up with and due to a lack of staff this grant has not received the attention it should and no food boxes have been distributed, since this grantee does not



## *San Carlos Apache Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative Meeting*



March 27<sup>th</sup> at  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at  
The Boys & Girls Club of  
the San Carlos Apache  
Nation

## *Save-The-Date*



May 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. First  
Things First CEO Rhian  
Allvin visits the San  
Carlos Apache Region



August 25-27<sup>th</sup>

FTF Early Childhood  
Summit, Phoenix  
Convention Center



normally provide food boxes there are barriers in purchasing food, storing food and distributing food.

- Plans moving forward: in order to meet the target service units of 259 food boxes to distribute before June 2013 Mr. Ross will begin to collaborate with tribal depts. to set-up presentations and distribute food boxes. He anticipates being able to distribute all food boxes before the end of SFY2013.
- San Carlos Apache Tribe—Apache Kid Child Care: Family, Friend and Neighbor Grant
  - Things going well: 1 part-time position hired, 1 training held, 2 volunteers recruited
  - Things not going so well: recruiting qualified staff with past experience is a barrier, the program started off slow, volunteer home providers are not signing up as quickly as thought, it is anticipated that target service unit of 10 home based providers will not be met at end of SFY2013, and recruitment plan needs to be revised.
  - Plans moving forward: conduct 2 trainings per month, recruit and advertise in new locations i.e. tribal mailboxes, Bylas, news articles, and conduct presentations, get staff hired.
- San Carlos Apache Tribe—Language Preservation Department: Native Language Preservation Grant
  - Things going well: community liaison is providing and will continue to provide professional development for early childhood professionals (1 time per month), liaison is working on the development of the Apache Language curriculum which includes testing in Head Start classrooms and checking-in with the lead teachers to receive feedback and make appropriate changes if needed.
  - Things not going well: not fully staffed for this grant and scheduling with Head Start is difficult due to the hours allowed for Head Start staff.
  - First Things First Concerns: quarterly narrative reports show that outreach and recruitment activities conducted by liaison have taken place with youth age children (i.e. Boys & Girls Club, Young Warriors) and adults (target population is: staff of child care centers and school-based programs throughout the region that are currently providing Apache Language and Culture programming to children birth through age five).
  - First Things First Financial Concerns: The Tribe has submitted travel reimbursement for people who are not listed as staff for this grant program, liaison's hours worked with the youth and adults that are not a part of the First Things First target population will not be covered.
  - Plans moving forward: Liaison requested for assistance in gathering information regarding training on conducting professional development, First Things First dollars are not to be used for youth age children, information about the curriculum development will be included in the quarterly narrative report and draft final copy of the curriculum will be submitted at the end of this fiscal year to First Things First, PGMS data/narrative report training will be offered for liaison, travel expenses will only be covered for staff who are approved in the line item budget and budget narrative, and FTF finance will coordinate with Beatrice and Cordella on the questions regarding salaries and fringe benefits and together they will work out this matter.
- Gila County Library District—Parent Outreach and Awareness Grant



- Things going well: the hired liaison is very good at her job, she is well connected in the community and is able to reach out to most programs, liaison has gone door-to-door, office-to-office and setting-up in new locations such as basketball games and Sunrise Dances.
- Things not going well: not finding enough kids to sign-up for Imagination Library, not enough workshops are occurring due to liaison not being trained on Brain Boxes.
- Plans moving forward: liaison will attend Brain Box training in Payson, continue to help community be aware of this program and continue with current recruitment plan.
- United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona—Nutrition/Obesity/Physical Activity
  - Things going well:
  - Things not going well:
  - Plans moving forward:
- Check-Ins Scheduled:
  - March 7<sup>th</sup>: San Carlos Apache Tribe—San Carlos Head Start—Developmental and Sensory Screening Grant
- **SFY2014 Funding Mechanisms**
  - February 20<sup>th</sup> Regional Council Special Meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. This meeting was to discuss sending Renewal Letters to 3 grantees who are up for renewal. Due to conflict of interest at the Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting the Regional Council was not able to vote. Upon consultation with First Things First Legal Counsel, Alex Turner, Renewal Letters can legally be sent out without a vote. Historically the Regional Council voted on this matter and it not legally obligated to.
- **Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC)**
  - The Maricopa Department of Public Health CCHC contract for SFY2013 will be amended. It will be a separate contract and will go before the First Things First State Board at an up-coming meeting.
- **Regional Council Member Recruitment**
  - 2 At-Large seats and 1 Business seat for the Regional Council are still open. To date no applications have been received.
- **CEO Visit to San Carlos Apache Region Ideas and Suggestions**
  - Ideas and Suggestions are needed for her May 14<sup>th</sup> visit to a Regular Regional Council Meeting.
- **Quality First Star Rating Launch**
  - Website launch: week of August 12<sup>th</sup>
  - The Senior Director of Tribal Affairs, Beverly Russell and Quality First Program Director, Ginger Sandweg, are scheduling presentations at tribal council meetings and/or the appropriate tribal government committees.
  - The intent of these presentations is to provide tribal leadership with an overview of Quality First, information related to the August public rating launch and invite an opportunity for a two-way discussion about this program.
  - These presentations will take place in March through May.
  - A marketing tool kit is being developed for participating Quality First providers.
  - Public star rating on the website will include program enrolled before July 1, 2011 on their 3<sup>rd</sup> assessment; and program enrolled after that date will be posted on their 2<sup>nd</sup> assessment.