



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD SOUTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the First Things First South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on March 16, 2010 in the Ocotillo Room at the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension; 4341 East Broadway Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85040.

Chair Robert Donofrio called the regular meeting to order at 4:39 p.m. A brief welcome and introduction of Council Members in attendance and guests took place.

Council Members in Attendance: Robert Donofrio, Chair, James Washington, Vice Chair, Moises Gallegos, Member; Patricia Merk, Member; Mauricio Martinez, Member; Mary Thomson, Member, Eva Marie Shivers, Member.

Members Not in Attendance: William Ellert, Member; Rosalind Polston, Member.

Member Present By Phone: Cindy Segotta-Jones, Member.

Quorum: Established.

Staff in Attendance: Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator; Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant; Kelley Murphy, Senior Health Policy Specialist; Dana Browning, Program & Financial Analyst; Tracey Craig, Regional Manager

2. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Member Mary Thompson moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 16, 2010, second by member Moises Gallegos, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

3. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** No call to the public.

4. **CALL TO PRESENTER:** Sarah Ocampo-Schlesinger, Program Coordinator for Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) presented to the Council an update on the Arizona Kith & Kin Project (**Attachment A**) Ms. Ocampo-Schlesinger was thanked by the Council for her hard work and services provided to children.

5. **GOVERNANCE POLICY ETHICS INTEGRATION:** Coordinator Gonzales led the Council in a discussion and exercise to implement ethics into the governance policy. The following are basic ideas the Council came up with for a start:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| - Transparency | - Fair | - Ability to work for common good without vested interest |
| - Integrity | - Honesty | - Respectful with time and energy |
| - Local Connection | - Engage Community | - Framework – ongoing learning |
| - Decisions reflect outcomes | | |

Put in a statement: Respect time, resources, energy to facilitate inclusion; Local accountability local connection; Council will follow the laws and advocate locally; Facilitate partnerships actively promote collaboration due diligence to discover personal commitment. Philosophy – put action into words.

It was decided by the Council that a workgroup consisting of Chair Donofrio, Dr. Shivers, and Coordinator Gonzales would meet to discuss this item further.

5. **COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES:** The Council members in attendance shared various professional updates.

6. **REGIONAL COORDINATOR UPDATE:** Coordinator Gonzales had the following updates for the Council:

A. **Council Term Limits: Recommendations from Council Members:** The five positions up for re-election are: At Large Member currently held by Dr. Donofrio, Educator held by Dr. Merk, Parent held by Mauricio Martinez, Child Care Provider held by Moises Gallegos, Health Care Provider held by Dr. William Ellert, and School Administrator held by Cindy Segotta-Jones.

Vice Chair James Washington moved to form a nominating committee, consisting of himself (Vice Chair Washington), Member Cindy-Segotta-Jones, and a potential member of the community, second by Member Mary Thompson, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

B. **Statewide Strategy Updates:** Senior Health Policy Specialist Kelley Murphy provided the Council with a verbal statewide strategy Updates. Coordinator Gonzales also gave a brief communications update.

C. **Data and Financial Reports:** Provided to the Council in their packets for review. A brief discussion took place.

D. **Needs & Assets Update:** Information provided to the Council in their packets. Coordinator Gonzales asked the Council to please participate in the process and give their input to the group that will meet March 25, 2010 from 4:00 – 5:30 pm or on March 26, 2010 from 9:00 – 10:30 pm.

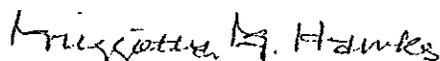
E. **Nomination Committee Update/Request:** Taken care of in item A.

F. **Strategy Development Crisis Prevention Strategy Workgroup:** A large percentage of the children ages 0-5 in the foster care system come from the South Phoenix Region. It was decided by the Council to develop a continuum of care with the assistance of Dr. Merk, Dr. Shivers, and Member Moises Gallegos. The main focus will be "preventative intervention" Coordinator Gonzales will develop a draft and present it to the three members of the workgroup to fine tune the strategy.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Member Patricia Merk moved to adjourn, second by Vice Chair James Washington, all in favor, no discussion, regular meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:



Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant



Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator

COUNCIL APPROVAL:



Robert Donofrio, Chair

Attachment A

The Arizona Kith and Kin Project



Caring for your family's, friend's and neighbor's little ones

The Arizona Kith and Kin Project is a program of the Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)

Impacting a Hidden Population

The goal of the **Arizona Kith and Kin Project** is to improve the quality of care provided by “kith and kin” (family, friend and neighbor) child care providers.

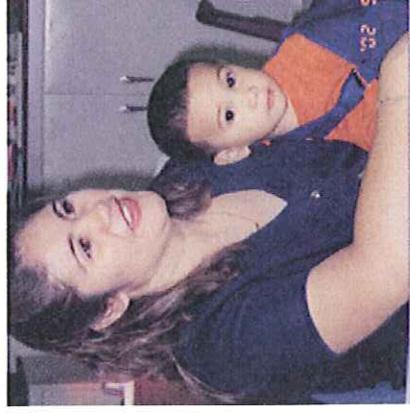
Kith and kin providers care for the children of friends and family members and are, for the most part, unregulated and untrained.

Recent national and local research has shown that kith and kin providers, particularly in low-income communities, care for more than 50 percent of the children with working parents.

Working Together to Create Change

The Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) developed the “Arizona Kith and Kin Project” in March 1999. ASCC, along with a group of community partners, has developed a project to strengthen the quality and reliability of kith and kin child care in Arizona.

ASCC collaborates with community organizations such as Head Starts, resource centers, churches, schools, and other non-profits to identify, recruit and deliver project services.



Project Objectives

The overall objectives of the project are:

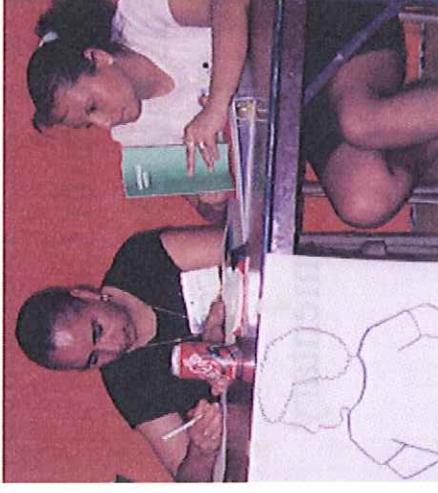
- To provide early childhood training and support to kith and kin child care providers
- To increase participants' knowledge of the elements of quality child care
- To increase participants' understanding of ways to challenge and stimulate young children
- To increase participants' knowledge of childhood injury prevention and distribute safety material and equipment



Early Childhood Information and Support

The Kith and Kin Project utilizes small support-training groups as the preferred delivery method. The Kith and Kin Project groups meet weekly for fourteen (14) weeks. The following are core curriculum topics addressed in each session:

- Child Development/Ages and Stage
- Daily Schedule Planning
- Parent/Caregiver Relationships and Business Practices
- Guidance and Discipline
- Health and Safety
- Arranging the Environment
- Language and Literacy
- Nutrition
- Health and Safety Training Day



South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

The First Things First South Region Partnership Council allocated funding for the implementation of 15 training-support group sessions. Sessions implemented include:

- Manuel Peña Elementary*
- Desert Horizon Elementary*
- Murphy Health Center
- Villa de Paz Elementary
- Sunset Elementary
- Holiday Park Elementary
- St. Catherine's School
- Rose Linda Elementary
- Lassen Elementary
- Carl Hayden Community Center
- South Mountain Community Center

* Indicates locations where two sessions were implemented.

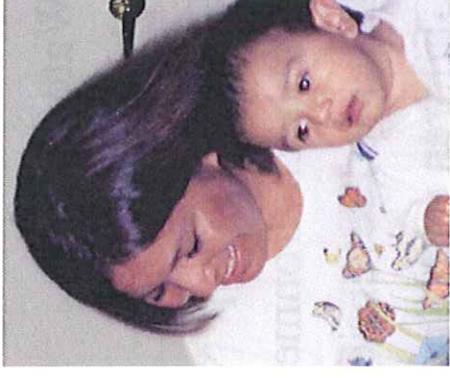
Eliminating Barriers

The Kith and Kin Project delivers services in the communities where kith and kin providers live and work. Barriers to attendance are eliminated by providing the following:

- On-site child care
- Transportation to and from the meetings

“Thanks for giving me such a needed break. I look forward to this every single week” . Participant

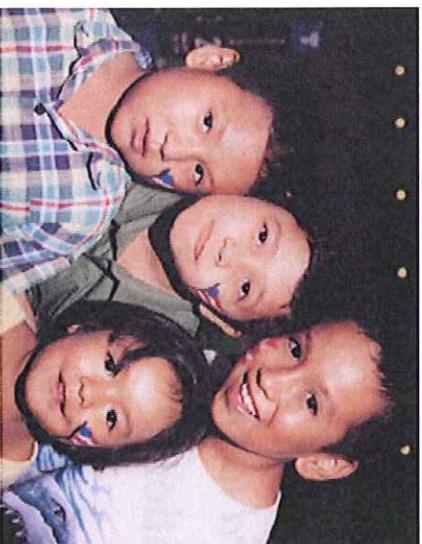
Evaluation



- **Health and Safety Training Day**

The Arizona Kith and Kin Project includes a “Health and Safety Training Day” event that is conducted every summer for kith and kin providers that participate in the program. Participants in the Central Phoenix Region will be attending this event in June 2010. Training topics often include the following:

- Water Safety
- Obesity
- Crib/Safe Sleep
- Home/Environment Safety
- Disease Prevention
- Children with Special Needs
- Burn Prevention



Arizona Kith and Kin Project On-Line Connection

The On-Line Connection will allow providers to stay “connected” outside of the group setting. ASCC is currently in the process of integrating this new mode of communication for this demographic of child care providers to expand the access to important information and resources. Key elements of this component include:

- Access to resources, literature, activities and links
- Scheduled “chat times” with Arizona Kith and Kin Project early childhood professionals
- A message board where participants can share information, resources, articles and other information

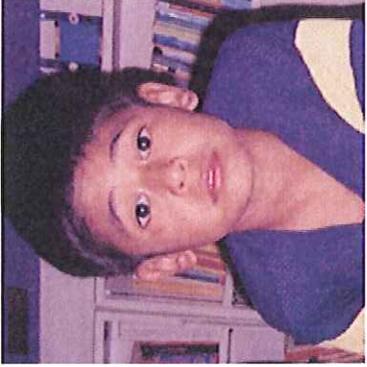
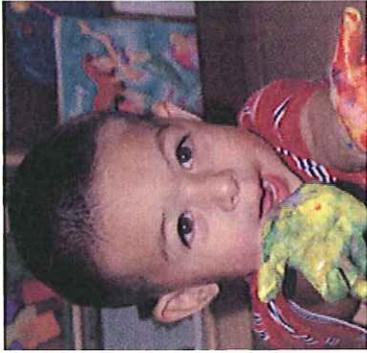
Results and Impact

The Kith and Kin Project is currently providing training and support to more than 120 kith and kin providers in South Phoenix. An additional 90 providers are scheduled to begin receiving services in late March or early April. It is currently estimated that the services provided to these kith and kin providers impact more than 840 children.

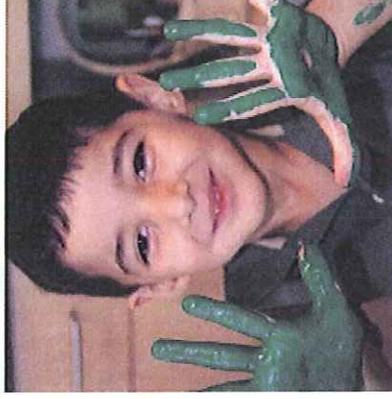
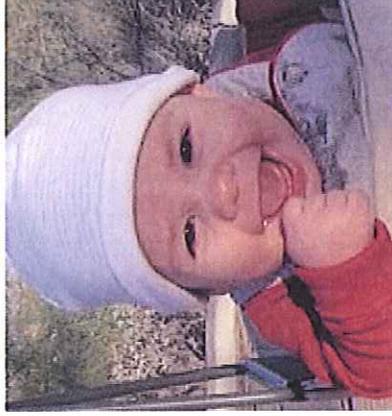
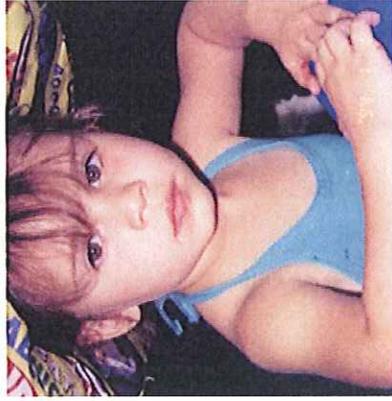
Evaluation is an important component of the Arizona Kith and Kin Project. The program is currently gathering data from participants utilizing tools including the following:

- Child Care Assessment Tool for Relatives (CCAT-R)
- Pre and Post Tests
- Interviews that look at Child Rearing Attitudes, Perceived Needs and Resources and Use of Social Support





Thank you for your support....



For more information on the Arizona Kith and Kin Project please contact:
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