



FIRST THINGS FIRST
The right system for bright futures

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health
 Pinal Regional Partnership Council
 Quality and Access Strategy Workgroup

Meeting Minutes
 March 30, 2009

Call to Order

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council Strategy Workgroup Meeting was held on March 30, 2009 at First Things First, 1515 E. Florence Boulevard, Suite 110, Casa Grande, Arizona, 85222.

Council Member Arnoldo Hernandez called item #1 for the meeting to come to order at 11:04 AM. Brief welcome by Member Hernandez and introduction of the Council members at the meeting.

Council Members in attendance:

Barbara Mezzio, Mary Kyle, and Arnoldo Hernandez

Council Members not in attendance:

All Council Members were in attendance

First Things First Staff in attendance:

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi and Carrie Loos

Public in attendance:

0 members of the public were present

Discussion of Work Group Strategies

A	B	C	D
#	<i>Strategy Name</i>	Description	Regional Allocation
4	<i>Quality First! Quality Improvement and Rating System</i>	The Pinal Regional Partnership Council is funding 13 centers and 10 child care homes. The First Things First State funds will provide enrollment to 7 center and 5 child care homes.	\$687,700
5a	Provide Child Care Health Consultation; plan for behavioral health consultation	A Child Care Health Consultant (CCHC) is a health professional with specialized knowledge of early childhood development, child care and child care regulation, community health and social services. The Regional Council also wants to make CCHC available to 30 additional early care and education programs not enrolled in <i>Quality FIRST!</i> Distribution of kits and management of the project, including evaluation.	\$110,000
5b	Provide Child Care Health	Conduct a study and develop a plan that identifies	\$10,000

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	Consultation; plan for behavioral health consultation - Study to identify strategies to increase health and safety in unregulated homes	the best method for providing assistance to increase health and safety at lawful unregulated family homes	
5c	Provide Child Care Health Consultation; plan for behavioral health consultation - Behavioral Health Study	Assess needs and design and implementation plan for addressing behavioral health concerns in early care and education settings	\$10,000
6	Recruit and support early care and education home providers	Funding to address lawful unregulated child care homes. 12 monthly trainings to include health & safety, nutrition, developmentally appropriate practices, and best business practices. The child care home providers will participate in an initial and post-training assessment using a recognized quality assessment tool (Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale, Revised Edition). To support homes needing improvements, supplies or training in order to become regulated, funding up to \$2,500 per home will be available.	\$355,000

4 – Quality First! Quality Improvement and Rating System.

The work group did not implement any changes to strategy #4.

5A – Provide Child Care Health Consultation.

The work group would like to fund two health care consultants and allocate an additional 100,000.00 from the Pinal Regional Partnership Council Fund Balance (undistributed regional allocation). Strategy #5A will also receive an additional 10,000.00 from funds allocated to strategy #5B.

5B – Study to identify strategies to increase health and safety in unregulated homes.

The work group would like to terminate strategy #5B and transfer 10,000.00 to strategy #5A.

5C – Study and Plan for behavioral health consultation.

The work group would like to review the state model for a health care consultant and a behavioral health care consultant to possibly implement a Behavioral Health Care Consultant strategy. The work group will present this information to the Pinal Regional Partnership Council to possibly implement and fund a behavioral health care consultant, reallocate the current funds, or terminate the current strategy component.

6 - Recruit and support early care and education home providers

At this time the work group did not implement any changes to strategy #6.

Aimee Kempton-Sarosi, Regional Coordinator, Pinal Regional Partnership Council, will review Quality and Access strategies from other Regional Councils to see if the Pinal Regional Partnership Council has any disparities and would like to add/fund any additional strategies.

Adjourn

Member Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 11:33 am.

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