



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

## Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

### ***Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council Meeting Meeting Minutes***

A Regular Meeting open to the public, of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 beginning at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Frontier Conference Center located at the Navajo County Health Complex, 600 North 9<sup>th</sup> Place, Show Low Arizona, 85901.

#### **Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order**

Vice Chair Meyer called the meeting to order at approximately 3:13 p.m. and welcomed the Members and members of the public. She asked the members and others present to introduce themselves.

A special note, Member Endfield reported that she just celebrated her 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the Early Childhood field. Member Tapia noted she now has 33 years in Early Childhood.

Members present were Claude Endfield, Kirk Grugel, Leslie Meyer, Nestor Montoya, Jeffrey Northup, Betsy Peck, Margie Tapia, and Cathy Taylor. Members absent were Kristalei Baskins and Linda Thompson.

Others present were Regional Director Kate Dobler-Allen, Sr. Regional Director Virginia Turner, FTF Fiscal Specialist Charlene Surber, FTF CEO Rhian Evans Allvin, Michelle Pansulia, Kat Bunker, Krista Beazley, Margine Bawden, John Cregg, Mary Tyler, Kathy Valencik, Becky Baldwin, Jennifer Flake, Laurie Hext, Rhonda Etsitty, Barbara Baum, Nick Kasovac, DeAnn Davies, and Sarah Nolan.

#### **Member Report and Updates**

Vice Chair Meyer asked the members if they had any reports or updates. Member Tapia said the Springerville Head Start is going to have their 1<sup>st</sup> annual recruitment/family carnival at the multipurpose room at the Springerville High School on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Call to the Public**

No calls to the public were received.

#### **Disclosure of Conflicts**

One conflict was disclosed on behalf of Chair Mannis for agenda item number 5.

#### **Presentation, Discussion and Possible Approval of RFGA Review Committee Recommendations for:**

##### **#FTF-RC015-14-0434-00 Parent Outreach & Awareness**

Vice Chair Meyer moved to agenda item number 5, and reminded the Council and the public that only those non-Council members reasonably necessary to the executive session discussion may attend the executive session.

Vice Chair Meyer then asked for a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to ARS 38-431.03 (a) (1) and ARS 38-431.03 (a) (3) for the purposes of discussion and possible approval of RFGA Review Committee Recommendations for **#FTF-RC015-14-0434-00 Parent Outreach & Awareness**. Member Endfield moved to go into Executive Session, Member Tapia seconded, motion carried.

Chair Kalman Mannis joined the meeting at approximately 4:30pm.

Upon returning to regular session and the public returning to the room, Vice Chair Meyer asked for a Motion to Adjourn Executive Session. Member Grugel moved to close the executive the session. Member Peck seconded. Motion carried and Executive session was closed at approximately 4:30 p.m. Vice Chair Meyer then asked for a motion on the review committee recommendations. Member Taylor moved that the review committee recommendations for the Parent Outreach and Awareness RFGA #FTF-RC015-14-0434-00 for State Fiscal Year 2014 be approved, and that staff is directed to proceed in accordance with the instructions of the Regional Partnership Council during executive session. Motion passed 8:1:2 with Chair Mannis abstaining.

### **Approval of March 13, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chair Meyer then handed the meeting over the Chair Mannis, who asked for a motion on the minutes of the last Regular Meeting. Member Grugel excused himself from the vote as he was not present at the last meeting. Member Tapia moved that the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council approve the minutes for the March 13, 2013 Regular Meeting. Member Meyer seconded, motion passed.

### **TEACH Early Childhood Arizona Update**

Chair Mannis then asked Rhonda Etsitty and John Cregg, from the Association for Supportive Child Care to give an update on the TEACH Early Childhood Arizona Strategy. Mr. Cregg introduced himself as the new TEACH program coordinator. Rhonda Etsitty is the program specialist for the Northeast Region. Mr. Cregg said that TEACH is a scholarship program for early childhood educators to attend college courses towards the completion of their Child Development Associate National Credential (CDA), or towards an associates' degree. There is also a bachelor's degree program being piloted in some regions. Mr. Cregg reported that there is one current scholar enrolled, one application is pending, and there has been one graduate from this region. Additionally, the average GPA for scholars from this region is slightly higher than statewide. He identified one of the challenges is keeping students enrolled in the program.

### **Discussion and Possible Approval of Needs and Assets Additional Work to be Conducted in SFY 2014 by Applied Survey Research**

Chair Mannis began the discussion by noting that the Regional Council should come to a consensus regarding the additional work they want to see accomplished in the 2014 Needs and Assets by Applied Survey Research (ASR). Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed with the council some background of prior discussions concerning the additional work that was conducted during the course of the last Needs and Assets data collection period. She said the question for today is "what do you want that to look like?" Chair Mannis said he felt that data regarding the following points needed to be captured and discussed:

- parent knowledge of early childhood,
- children's health status and use of medical and dental care, and
- parental perspectives of available services and how they are accessing them should be included as indicators.

Data Points the Regional Council indicated they wanted to see were:

- substance abuse rates,
- family literacy rates and early literacy behaviors, and
- use and access of child care and FTF-funded programs and resources.

The members agreed that they would like to see a deeper level of analysis and recommendations for additional strategies, and how to better leverage the available assets in the region. The Regional Council provided guidance for data organization for pull-out sections around the following:

- by school district
- demographic analysis to show trends over time to include: birth rate, immunizations, population level trends, racial/ethnic shifts over time, median income, family make-up, high school graduation rates, DIBELS and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading scores as available,
- child care usage trends, filled openings and vacancies over time, child care rates by provider type, number of licensed child care slots by year and by type
- health indicators across the age spectrum, including medical, dental, ER usage, birthrates, fatality rates, and other pertinent indicators

After discussion Member Peck moved that the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council contract for the following additional work to be completed by Applied Survey Research for the 2014 Needs and Assets Report:

- ASR will attend a Regular Council Meeting in person to hold the 2014 Kick-off meeting with the Regional Council
- ASR will conduct the Parent and Community Survey and the Professional Development Survey in the Region, and will attend the Early Childhood Conference on October 5, 2013 to be held in Snowflake and hosted by NPC
- ASR will provide printable excerpts focusing on the following themes:  
Health/Dental/ER usage; child care use and availability in the region; early literacy behaviors; demographic analysis including trends over time to include: ongoing regionally funded program data, birthrate and immunizations, K-12 Indicators, population trends.
- ASR will attend a Regular Council Meeting in person to present and discuss the final draft of the Needs and Assets Report in July or August 2014.

Member Grugel seconded, motion passed.

### **First Things First Chief Executive Officer Update, Presentation and Possible Discussion**

Chair Mannis introduced First Things First Chief Executive Officer, Rhian Evans Allvin. Rhian told the Council she had enjoyed the site visit at Summit Healthcare Healthy Steps and also had recorded a radio interview with Barbara Bruce which will be aired on Sunday,

April 14, 2013. She noted that since it has been a couple of years since her last visit with the Navajo/Apache Regional Council, she wanted to begin by acknowledging several Regional Council Members for one year of service, although some are belated. She presented one year pins and certificates to Kal Mannis, Dr. Jeffrey Northup, Betsy Peck, Kirk Grugel, Kristalei Baskins, and Linda Thompson. She thanked the members for their work on behalf of First Things First and their community. In her update to the Regional Council, Mrs. Allvin reported that the Board and staff in Phoenix have been working on several items over that past year. She highlighted the following items:

- The research and evaluation task force has provided their recommendations which include connecting data from children in Quality First with other state agencies to better track and not duplicate services, and provide data over time information.
- The Data dashboards are being assembled; the first one for Quality First will be ready in August, 2013.
- First Things First is making an effort to better interface with the Tribes and related agencies for more comprehensive data collection on a statewide level.
- First Things First is working to develop a statewide kindergarten development inventory assessment.
- FTF is working to create a guidance document for Public/Private partnerships to ensure that entities are both aware of grant or partnership opportunities, and are coordinated and not competing against each other for grants.
- Mrs. Allvin provided an update on Quality First and the proposed model changes that will be going out for Regional Council Member comment in the near future, and informed the Regional Council that she will be hosting a set of webinars focused on Quality First that will be available for Regional Council members to watch. Feedback from Regional Council members and community stakeholders is desired, and Mrs. Allvin urged Members to watch the webinars and to provide their comments and feedback.
- Mrs. Allvin also reminded the Regional Council that comments and feedback related to the Regional Boundary Taskforce Recommendations are currently being requested.
- Formal recommendations for both Quality First and the Regional Boundary Changes will go to the Board in June, 2013.

#### **Regional Director's Report**

Chair Mannis asked Regional Director Dobler-Allen to present her monthly reports.

##### **Monthly Report**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen provided the Council with the monthly report of her activities and upcoming schedule.

##### **Financial Reports**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen gave the Council the Funding Plan Summary and Contract Detail reports for April. There are no unusual expenses or problems to report, the grantees appear to be mostly on track.

##### **Community Outreach Report**

Michelle Pansulla presented her monthly report. She played a video she created during a class she attended to learn Video Storytelling. She said that video storytelling is becoming a popular way to share an organization's story.

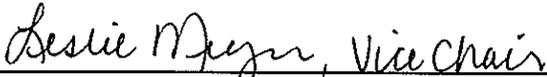
#### **General Discussion**

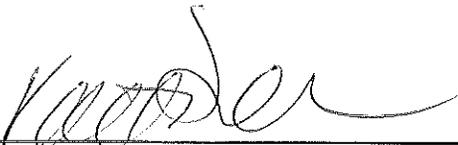
Chair Mannis asked if there were any general discussion items anyone wanted bring to the Council. Member Tapia reminded the Council that April 15<sup>th</sup> starts Week of the Young Child. Audience member DeAnn Davies mentioned that Summit Healthy Steps has taped an interview with Barbara Bruce for Week of the Young Child and there are a lot of First Things First programs highlighted.

#### **Adjourn – next meeting scheduled for May 8, 2013 in Springerville**

Chair Mannis asked for a motion to adjourn, Member Meyer moved to adjourn, Member Peck seconded, motion passed, meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

#### **ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD**

  
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Kalman Mannis, Chair

  
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Kate Dobler-Allen, Regional Director