FIRST THINGS FIRST

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Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Yuma Regional Partnership Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First – Yuma Regional Partnership Council was held on April 18, 2013, 4:30 p.m. at the Regional Center for Border Health, 214 W. Main Street, Somerton, Arizona 85350.

Chair Hawkins called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Darren Hawkins
Vice Chair Irene Garza
Council Member Mary Beth Turner
Council Member Rebecca Ramirez (joined approximately at 4:57 p.m.)
Council Member Judy Watkinson
Council Member Gloria Cisneros
Council Member Kim Fanning

Members Present Via Conference Call:

Council Member Dr. Mario Ybarra
Council Member Laurie Gail Senko

Members Absent:

Council Member Pilar Moreno
Council Member Ricardo Perez

Conflict of Interest

Chair Hawkins provided the Regional Council with an opportunity to declare any conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda. Council Member Dr. Mario Ybarra declared a conflict of interest with agenda item #4: Discussion and Possible Action on Revised Allocation for Pre-Kindergarten Scholarships and Quality First Scholarships. Dr. Ybarra's Charter school has a substantial interest in allocation of funds and is a recipient of scholarships. He therefore recused himself from participation during the discussion.

Consent Agenda

The items on the consent agenda included the minutes of the March 21, 2013, Yuma Regional Partnership Council regular meeting. A motion was made by Member Watkinson to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Member Turner, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Discussion on Revised Allocation for Pre-Kindergarten and Quality First Scholarships
Regional Director Rudy J. Ortiz revisited the Pre-Kindergarten and Quality First Scholarship discussion from a previous council meeting. At a prior meeting the Regional Council discussed allocation of Pre-Kindergarten and Quality First Scholarships. Due to ample allocation of funding for the scholarships at this current time no action was required or taken by the Regional Council on this agenda item at this time. The Council will have the opportunity to have discussion and action on this at a future meeting.

Discussion on creation of New Parent Outreach and Awareness Strategy
The Regional Council reviewed the recommendation by the Resource Guide Workgroup to redirect approximately $20,000 from the Media Strategy into a new Parent Outreach and Awareness Strategy for FY2014. Regional Director Ortiz responded to concerns expressed by members of the council regarding the implementation of the resource guide. A motion was made by Member Watkinson to approve the creation of the new Parent Outreach and Awareness Strategy seconded by Member Fanning, and the motion carried by 8 to 1 votes with Member Cisneros not in favor. Motion carried. The strategy will be up for consideration by the State Board at the June 10-11, 2013 meeting.

Presentation on Therapist Recruitment (additional information)
Early Childhood Therapist Incentives Program of Bureau of Health Systems Development Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) representatives, Sherry Haskins and Michael Abbott, shared an informational presentation which included an update on therapist recruitment, costs, incentives and monitoring of therapists. Ana Lyn Roscetti, ADHS Workforce Section Manager joined the meeting via conference call.

Discussion on Therapist Recruitment
At a previous meeting the Regional Council discussed the options available for therapist recruitment. A motion was made by Member Turner to approve the grant agreement with Arizona Department of Health Services to be amended as follows: to allow for the recruitment of 2 speech and language pathologists and 1 slot to be available for either an occupational or physical therapist seconded by Member Cisneros, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Presentation on Building Bright Futures for Teen Parents Program
Child and Family Resources, Inc staff reported on the successes of the Building Bright Futures for Teen Parents Program. The report included success stories of the program's participants.

Program Updates
Regional Director Rudy Ortiz shared highlights of the programs under the Family Support and Health system.

Regional Director's Report

a) Grantee Update: Regional Director Ortiz continues to make onsite visits. A home visitation collaboration meeting is scheduled this month. Collaboration is open to outside agencies. The goal of this meeting is to move beyond networking and analyze what is needed to better serve families in the region.

b) Benchmarks: BMI (Body Mass Index)-The Council was made aware that they will have a full discussion around this benchmark at their June meeting.

Call to the Public
There were no Calls to the Public at this time.

Announcements
The San Luis Preschool Site Tour is scheduled on May 8th, 2013, 10:00 a.m., 1055 N. Main Street, San Luis, AZ and the Week of the Young Child will be on April 20, 2013, 9:00 a.m., Yuma Heritage Library located at 350 Third Avenue, Yuma, AZ.
Dia Del Niño, 9:00 a.m., April 27, 2013, 801 N. Council Ave., Somerton, AZ.

Next Meeting
The next regular meeting of the Yuma Regional Partnership Council is scheduled on May 16, 2013, 4:30 p.m., Yuma Main Library, 2951 S. 21st Dr., Yuma, Arizona 85364.

Adjourn
There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY:

Rev. Dr. Darren C. Hawkins, Yuma Regional Partnership Council Chair

May 16, 2013