



FIRST THINGS FIRST

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Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board

Coconino Regional Partnership Council

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First Coconino Regional Partnership Council was held on April 26, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was located at the United Way of Northern Arizona conference room, 1515 E. Cedar Ave. Suite D-1, Flagstaff, Arizona.

Julianne Hartzell, the Chairwoman for the Coconino Regional Partnership Council called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

Members Present:

Julianne Hartzell, Mary McLellan, Tony Gonzales, Agnes Chamberlain, Barbara Worgess

Members Present by Phone: Debbie Winlock, Noreen Sakiestewa, Seobaghn Arambula

Members Absent:

Kerry Blume, Ken Edes

Vacancy:

Business

Staff Present:

Coconino Regional Coordinator Ellen Majure, Northeast Regional Manager AdiShakti Khalsa, Administrative Assistant Cristi Mallery

Call to the Public

Allison Mitkowski, Director of Education Innovation & Results for the United Way of Northern Arizona, updated the Coconino Council regarding the Access and Affordability grant. \$2,500 has been funded to all child care providers for expansion and improvements in their centers. There are additional scholarship spots for parents from April to June. With the help of Action for Children's Early Success (ACES), 340 surveys have been collected.

Arienne Genson of Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) addressed the Coconino Council regarding the Kith and Kin project. This project has provided 20 informal child care providers and home visitors with essential early child care courses including CPR, First Aid, Nutrition, Health and Safety. This program has reached their projected number of participants and all child care providers and home visitors will complete the program by the end of May.

Consent Agenda

Member Gonzales joined the meeting.

Member McLellan moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Tri-University Consortium Child Care Study Proposal

Dr. Daniel Kain, Dean of the Northern Arizona University College of Education, Dr. Amy Kemp, First Things First Assistant Director for Program Evaluation, Phil Turner and Robert Hagstrom, Northern Arizona University Professors, and Marty Demetrus, First Things First External Evaluator with the Tri-University Consortium, presented information to the Coconino

Council regarding the Tri-University Consortium Child Care Study Proposal and requested feedback from the Coconino Council on what information they would like to obtain from this study.

Dr. Kemp explained an overview of the funding levels which include level one, an unfunded level where no money is allocated by a region; level two, a base amount of funding where minimal funding is allocated for a region to include a base survey of the entire region; and level three, where extra money is allocated by a region to include specific subpopulations of the region.

Dr. Kain and Ms. Demetrus explained these funding options to the Council based on the level they choose. Level one would require no funding, level two would require the base amount of \$50,000 and level three would include the base amount of \$50,000 plus an additional \$30,000 for each separate hub of the region or “unit of analysis.”

The Coconino Council decided to consider three separate “units of analysis” to cover the urban area (Flagstaff, the rural areas (Winslow, Page, Fredonia, Williams, Grand Canyon) and Tribal areas (Havasupai, Hopi and Kaibab Paiute) assuming the Tribal areas will agree to be grouped together as one unit of analysis.

After much discussion, Member Worgess made a motion “to add \$60,000 with the expectation that we review the proposal prior to making a final commitment and that staff work with Tribal representatives to see if we can have a unified Tribal community and work with all Tribal communities.” Member Gonzales seconded the motion. Member McLellan abstained. Motion approved 7 to 1.

Review of Coordination and Collaboration Proposals and Possible Approval to Pursue a Government to Government Agreement

Ms. Khalsa summarized for the Coconino Council the less formal process of a Government to Government agreement as opposed to a Request for Grant Applications, thus allowing the Coconino Council to discuss the applications in a public session rather than going into Executive Session.

There were four governmental entities that submitted proposals for the Coordination and Collaboration project, Northern Arizona University College of Education, Northern Arizona University Institute for Human Development, Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG), and Coconino County Health Department.

Member McLellan who works for the Department of Education at Northern Arizona University, Member Arambula, the Assistant Director for Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) Head Start, and Member Worgess, Director for Coconino County Health Department, each declared a Conflict of Interest. Once these conflicts were declared, the Coconino Council lost quorum to discuss the proposals. Staff was directed to inform the applicants that due to lack of quorum there would be a delay in the Coconino Council’s decision regarding their proposals. Coconino Council members were directed to read through the proposals and send any questions and/or clarifications on each of the proposals to staff to forward on to the applicants in hopes of reaching a decision at the May Coconino Regional Council meeting.

Discussion and Possible Approval of Adjustment to SFY2011 Funding Plan

Ms. Majure discussed the Coconino funding spreadsheet with the Coconino Council and explained what the carryover funding would look like without discretionary funding for State Fiscal Year 2011.

Chair Hartzell explained the reason for possible elimination of discretionary funding which would be dependent upon the Legislature’s decision on whether or not to approve the First Things First Board’s proposal of giving the state \$60,000,000 to fund Kids Care for the next three years. This money would possibly be generated from Regional discretionary funding. The decision on this should take place by the end of the Legislative session on May 5, 2010.

A. Oral Health

The Coconino Council was asked to add \$25,000 to the Oral Health Strategy for the State Fiscal Year 2011 Funding Plan. Member Worgess recused herself because she is the Director for the Coconino County Health Department which was awarded the grant money for this strategy. Member McLellan moved “that we increase the State Fiscal

Year 2011 Oral Health Funding Allocation to \$150,000.” Member Sakiestewa seconded the motion. Motion approved 7 to 1.

B. Hopi Lavayi Early Childhood Assessment

The Coconino Council was asked to move the Hopi Lavayi Assessment into this year’s funding to begin implementation of the study by July 1, 2010. Member Sakiestewa recused herself because she is the Director of Education for the Hopi Tribe. Member Gonzales moved “that we put the State Fiscal Year 2010 Hopi Lavayi Early Childhood Assessment Allocation of \$100,000 into the State Fiscal Year 2011 Hopi Lavayi Early Childhood Assessment.” Member Arambula seconded the motion. Motion approved 7 to 1.

C. Access and Affordability

The Coconino Council was asked to reduce the funding amount they previously approved and allocated for this strategy in order to keep the current grantee. Previously the Council had voted to increase the funding allocation for State Fiscal Year 2011 by more than 10 percent (above State Fiscal Year 2010) which would result in having to go out for another Request for Grant Proposal process. Chair Hartzell moved “that we decrease the State Fiscal Year 2011 Access and Affordability Funding Allocation to \$161,400.” Member Winlock seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Discussion and Possible Approval of Amendment to SFY2011 Funding Plan to include Home Visitation

Member Worgess recused herself because she is the Director for the Coconino County Health Department.

The Coconino Council was not ready to make a decision on the possible amendment of the State Fiscal Year 2011 Funding Plan due to a lack of information on what the continuation of funding for the two existing programs, Healthy Families and Parenting Arizona, would cost; the lack of information on what the strategy would look like; and the need for more time to consider if this would be a funding priority.

Ms. Khalsa stressed the importance of timing with the two programs in place and a delay in this decision could result in a lapse in service.

The Coconino Council directed staff to bring back a picture of what the Home Visitation Strategy would look like and the cost. They want information on what is happening specifically with the current funding agreements that are in place.

The Coconino Council also wants to wait for the Legislature’s decision regarding the current proposal by the First Things First Board to loan the state \$300,000,000 to help with the deficit, and give the state \$60,000,000 for the continuation of Kids Care, prior to making the decision on funding Home Visitation. The Kids Care funding will likely come from regional allocations thus decreasing their funding for the next state fiscal year. The Legislation’s decision should be reached prior to the next Coconino Regional Council meeting in May.

Vice Chair Nomination and Vote

Chair Hartzell nominated Member McLellan for the position of Vice Chair during the next two months.

Member Arambula moved to approve this nomination. Member Sakiestewa seconded this motion. Motion approved.

Presentation of Approved Havasupai Assessment

Member Winlock moved to go into Executive Session at 6:16 p.m. Member Sakiestewa seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Chair Hartzell moved to return from executive session at 6:18 p.m. Member McLellan seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Discussion and Possible Approval of Havasupai Strategy – Phase Two

Chair Hartzell and Ms. Majure updated the Council regarding next steps for the Havasupai Strategy which involves a Government to Government agreement with the Havasupai Tribe, a Budget, Scope of Work, and a deliverables timeframe. The plan must then go to the Havasupai Tribal Council for approval with a hope of implementing the plan by July 1, 2010.

Member McLellan addressed the Coconino Council regarding the need for a “champion” to be part of the Advisory Group and make presentations to the Tribal Council. The request is that Member Chamberlain will might take on this role.

Member Arambula motioned to approve the Havasupai Strategy as submitted by Mary McLellan. Member Sakiestewa seconded the motion. Member McLellan and Member Chamberlain abstained. Motion approved 6 to 2.

Council Member Update

Chair Hartzell updated the Coconino Council regarding emails sent out by Rhian Allvin, Executive Director for First Things First, regarding what Council Members can and cannot do as far as campaigning for the ballot measure.

Chair Hartzell reminded the Coconino Council of the elections of officers to take place next meeting.

Coordinator Report

Ms. Majure updated the Coconino Council regarding the Regional Partnership Council recruitment process. There have been a few submitted applications thus far, but more are necessary to fill the vacant seats of At Large, Business, and Faith-Based, which will be open as of July 1, 2010. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for May 21, 2010 and will likely go the Board for approval during the June Board Meeting.

Ms. Majure reported to the Coconino Council regarding her visit with Chair Hartzell to Kaibab Paiute to meet with the Tribal Chair, Education Committee members and the Education Director, Collette Cox. The Kaibab Band of Paiute Indian Tribe would like to enter into a Government to Government agreement with First Things First regarding the Home Visitation strategy, with an assessment piece beginning July 2, 2010. Ms. Cox has offered to do the assessment. Kaibab Paiute is also in the process of remodeling a building for a child care center which may possibly become an Early Head Start.

Ms. Majure reported to the Coconino Council regarding the Tribal meeting she attended at Hopi with Member Sakiestewa. During this meeting, Member Sakiestewa gave a presentation regarding the Hopi Lavayi assessment and the Hopi Tribal Council seemed excited about the Hopi Lavayi Early Childhood Assessment. A Tribal Resolution is required for this assessment.

Ms. Majure updated the Coconino Council regarding the new Communications statewide plan that will be presented to the State Board during the April State Board Meeting. At a regional level, tote bags with information and incentives were passed out to parents who participated in the Needs and Assets surveys done by Applied Survey Research. A total of 1200 surveys have been completed. In addition to totes and surveys, the First Things First Communications Department is currently working on material to be relayed during local radio ad spots.

Next Meeting Date

The Coconino Regional Partnership Council will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 24, 2010 at United Way of Northern Arizona.

Meeting Adjourned

There being no other business, Chair Hartzell adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:18 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Cristi Mallery, Admin Asst II

APPROVED BY:

Julianne Hartzell, Chair