

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

### ***May 6, 2013***

#### ***Regional Updates***

##### **Expenditure Report (See attachment)**

- ❖ As of April 26<sup>th</sup>, our grantees had expensed their awarded funds at 42.7%, which you can see circled at the bottom of the expenditure report.

##### **Community Outreach Update**

- ❖ I was invited to make presentations about First Things First and the Santa Cruz Regional Partnership Council to the following groups:
  - Nogales Unified School District Governing Board (April 8)
  - Rio Rico Rotary Club (April 10)
  - Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District Governing Board (April 23)
- ❖ As part of National Library Week, I went and read to children at the Nogales Public Library on Wednesday, April 17.

##### **2014 Needs & Assets Vendor Meetings**

- ❖ On March 28<sup>th</sup>, I met with representatives for the University of Arizona Norton School. They were selected by this council to do the work of the 2014 Needs & Assets Report. This was an introductory meeting where we discussed some initial thoughts about the 2014 Report.
- ❖ On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, FTF staff had a teleconference with all of the selected vendors who are doing the work of the 2014 Needs & Assets Reports for the 31 regions in our state.
- ❖ I anticipate having another conversation with the UofA in the near future to make plans for their representatives to meet with the council to discuss options on the Needs and Assets base report.

##### **School Readiness Indicators Benchmarking Workgroup**

- ❖ At the Chairs meeting in October 2012, the Pima County Chairs and Vice Chairs agreed to convening an ongoing workgroup to initiate discussion and brainstorming on how to benchmark the selected Indicators, particularly those Indicators in which the three Pima Regional Councils have collectively prioritized.
- ❖ In addition to the three Pima Regional Councils, the three Regional Councils that make up the Southeast Area, Tohono O'odham Nation, Pascua Yaqui Tribe and Santa Cruz also agreed to work together in the Benchmarking process.
- ❖ The workgroup met for the first time on April 4, 2013 in the Tucson office. Dr. Amy Kemp, Senior Director of Research and Evaluation facilitated the meeting.

#### ***Statewide Updates***

##### **Coming Soon: Quality First Proposed Model Changes**

- ❖ Quality First, one of FTF's signature statewide programs, continues to strengthen, evolve and grow.
- ❖ Some proposed changes to the Quality First model were released on April 15<sup>th</sup> to be vetted. You should have all received two emails from our CEO Rhian Evans Allvin with these proposed changes.
- ❖ In addition, you received information on two webinars that she will be hosting regarding these proposed changes. The first webinar was on April 25<sup>th</sup> and the second will be on May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Your input is imperative- FTF would like feedback from Regional Councils, early care and education providers, partners and community stakeholders. You can provide input, suggestions and comments through May 17, 2013 to [QFupdates@azftf.gov](mailto:QFupdates@azftf.gov).
- ❖ Should any proposed changes take effect, they would be implemented beginning July 1, 2014, which coincides with the beginning of Fiscal Year 2015.

### **Systems Building**

- ❖ At the April 5<sup>th</sup> in-service, Regional Directors and other FTF staff continued the discussion of systems building across the state.
- ❖ The S.T.A.R. system (System Tool Assessment Resource) is being developed by the Coordination Subcommittee as a resource to Regional Directors.
- ❖ Additionally, there will be an opportunity for Regional Directors to have a coach/mentor. The System Building Coach will provide support for Regional Directors during the system building process.
- ❖ These coaches will be FTF staff with system building, group facilitation, strategic planning experience/skills who agree to work with Regional Directors for a defined period of time. The system-building team will serve as the initial coaches; staff with system building expertise may join the group over time.