



FIRST THINGS FIRST

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Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and Introductions

The regular meeting of the First Things First – La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council was held **May 26, 2011** at 9:30 a.m. at Colorado River Union High School District board room, 5221 Highway 95, Mohave Valley, Arizona 86426.

Chairman Frei called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

Members present: Riley Frei-Chair; Betsy Lewis; Nancy Mongeau; Terri Holloway; Vijette Saari; Debra Weger; Alisa Burroughs; Catie Sondrol-telephonically

Members Absent: Lenore Knudtson-Vice Chair; Jose Garcia; Melissa Howell

Call to the Public:

Jacquelyn Kinard, RN, from the Mohave County Department of Public Health gave an update on the Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) program, including staffing updates and introduced Jane Collins who is new and will be overseeing the CCHC program.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Betsy Lewis declared a conflict of interest with Agenda Item #5-*Discussion and Possible Action to Renew Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Grant*

Approval of April 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Member Mongeau made a motion to approve the April 28, 2011, meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Member Sondrol. Motion carried unanimously by members present.

Discussion and Possible Action to Renew Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Grant

Member Lewis recused herself from the discussion and abstained from voting on any action taken regarding the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Grant. Director Beckett presented information on the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Grant renewal. The purpose of the grant is to provide home visitation and community-based parenting education. The early childhood advocate (home visitor) has been hired and is currently being trained and oriented. Director Beckett explained while there is no data for SFY2011 Quarters 1 and 2 due to the time frame in which the grant was started, the early childhood advocate is beginning to work with outside agencies and starting to enroll families for services. Director Beckett informed the Regional Council that staff recommendation is to renew the grant for SFY2012 at the same levels as SFY2011. Director Beckett informed the Regional Council the expected number of families served will be 20 families. Member Holloway asked if it is possible that the early childhood advocate will serve more than 20 families. Director Beckett responded it is possible but not recommended due to the one home visitor and best standards of practice indicating one home visitor should have a caseload of no more than 20 families. Member Holloway made a motion to approve renewal of the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Grant for SFY2012. Member Mongeau seconded the motion. All Regional Council members present voted in favor of approval for renewing the grant.

Discussion and Possible Action to Select a Vendor for 2012 Needs and Assets

Director Beckett informed the Regional Council she convened a selection committee as directed by the Regional Council to make a recommendation for the selection of a vendor to complete the La Paz/Mohave Region's Needs and Assets report. The committee consisted of Members Sondrol, Mongeau, and Holloway. Director Beckett informed the Regional Council the selection committee's recommendation was to select the University of Arizona who directed and compiled the Needs and Assets report for SFY2010. It was the selection committee's feeling that the feedback from both the Regional Council and the community regarding the 2010 Needs and Assets report was very favorable and there was not a compelling reason to choose a different vendor this time, especially given the vendor proposals presented for the 2012 Needs and Assets report were the same as the proposals for 2010. Member Mongeau made a motion to approve University of Arizona as the vendor for the 2012 Needs and Assets report. Member Holloway seconded the motion. All members present approved the motion unanimously. University of Arizona was selected as the vendor for the 2012 Needs and Assets report.

Discussion and Possible Action on 2012 Needs and Assets Additional Work

Director Beckett explained that the Regional Councils has allocated funds to complete additional services on top of the base needs and assets report provided through statewide funding. Director Beckett explained that due to the geographical nature of the region, additional funds are necessary to get needed information at the community level and to get detailed analysis on the differences in the communities. Director Beckett provided an overview of the amount of funds being considered for allocation to additional work on the 2012 Needs and Assets report. The staff recommendation is to purchase 455 additional hours at the University of Arizona's hourly rate of \$85 per hour. One product the additional work could provide is several community-based fact sheets that would be compiled based on available data such as key health indicators like infant mortality rates and infant birth weights. The fact sheets would be organized by area based on zip code. Director Beckett opened up the discussion for possible questions or comments. Member Mongeau expressed she had seen some other community's fact sheets and they were very helpful, and she feels these fact sheets would be an invaluable asset to La Paz/Mohave Region's 2012 Needs and Assets report. Director Beckett explained to the Regional Council the fact sheets are included at the end of the Needs and Assets report as attachments. Discussion ensued regarding which communities to include in each fact sheet. Member Mongeau commented she feels that Mohave Valley and Fort Mohave could be included in one fact sheet while Bullhead City should have its own fact sheet. Member Holloway commented she feels that even though certain communities are in the same school districts, the children still have vastly different needs. Member Lewis agreed with Member Mongeau that Fort Mohave is very different than Bullhead City. Member Holloway suggested possibly having a sheet for certain hub areas while also having separate fact sheets for the different communities of Fort Mohave, Mohave Valley, and Bullhead City. Director Beckett pointed out that separating certain areas that share resources, such as hospitals, could end up creating confusion as it will appear some areas don't have appropriate resources when the area shares the resource with the neighboring community. The Regional Council decided to separate Bullhead City, Mohave Valley, and Fort Mohave into own areas for fact sheets, but to leave Lake Havasu City and Kingman as each area on own. Director Beckett asked for feedback regarding the communities listed for La Paz County. Senior Director Arnold said that the groupings presented for La Paz County are appropriate. Member Mongeau made a motion to approve for the allocated funds to go toward additional work on the 2012 Needs and Assets report. Member Sondrol seconded the motion. All members present were in favor of the motion. Motion carried and approved for allocated funds for additional work for the 2012 Needs and Assets report.

Discussion and Possible Action on 2012 Regional Community Outreach Plan

Director Beckett explained to the Regional Council that raising public awareness of the importance of early childhood is included in the statute for First Things First (FTF) which is why the Board approved regional communications and community outreach strategies last year. Director Beckett further explained that it is now time to approve a plan specific to the region and a line item budget for the region's SFY 2012 community outreach activities. Director Beckett presented the draft plan and line item budget and explained the three key strategies and tactics for completing these strategies. Director Beckett then asked for the Regional Council's feedback on the proposed Regional Community Outreach Plan. Director Beckett explained that the Community Outreach Coordinator and staff do not want to duplicate events that are already happening elsewhere in the communities. Instead staff are suggesting we participate in existing key events for children and families in the region and host only three new FTF-sponsored Family Fun Days. Member Mongeau suggested Kiwanis and Moose be included in the list of service organizations to approach. Chair Frei asked if there is allowance in the budget to purchase space at paid events. Director Beckett answered in the affirmative. A question was raised about the process of making changes in the budget for community outreach. Director Beckett explained that public awareness is a staff-directed strategy. Senior Director Arnold further explained the internal process for approving funding for community outreach. Director Beckett then outlined the transition from the target audience of K-12 education and schools to medical professionals and service organizations. Member Mongeau suggested approaching dental and allied health professionals. Member Holloway suggested having lunches with the different doctors' offices. Member Mongeau made a motion to accept the 2012 Regional Community Outreach Plan as written. Member Saari seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of accepting the plan as written. Motion carries and is approved.

Discussion and Possible Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Director Beckett explained that in accordance with the governance policies each year during the May meeting the council elects a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for the coming fiscal year. Director Beckett informed the Regional Council that current Vice Chair Knudtson has said she will not be able to continue as Vice Chair beginning July 1 because of time constraints. Member Holloway nominated Member Mongeau to be the new Vice Chair. All members present voted in favor of Member Mongeau becoming Vice Chair effective July 1, 2011. Member Saari nominated Chair Frei to continue as Chair. All members present voted in favor of Chair Frei continuing as Chair for SFY2012. Member Mongeau accepted the position of Vice Chair, and Chair Frei accepted the continued position of Chair.

Discussion and Possible Action on New Agreements for SFY2012

Director Beckett explained the three proposed new agreements for SFY 2012. Director Beckett informed the Regional Council that the Kingman Unified School District has proposed to add two Pre-K classrooms as part of the Regional Council's Pre-Kindergarten Expansion strategy. Director Beckett also explained the two vendors from the state vendor list being used for the new Food Security strategy are Yuma Community Food Bank for La Paz County and St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance for Mohave County. Member

Mongeau asked for clarification on how a school district is chosen to be included in the Pre-K Expansion strategy. Director Beckett clarified that the school districts were initially surveyed to determine their interest in partnering with FTF to expand preschool programs and then those who were interested were prioritized based on the availability of other regulated care in the community – those with no other regulated care were selected first and those with the most families on the wait list to receive DES child care subsidies were second. Member Saari made a motion to approve the new agreements for the SFY2012. Member Holloway seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of approval of the new agreements. Motion carries and is approved.

Regional Director Report & Possible Discussion

Director Beckett gave an update on upcoming events, including the Grantee Coordination meeting in Kingman on May 31, 2011. Director Beckett reminded the Regional Council of the upcoming Regional Area Forum on June 10, 2011, in Lake Havasu City, and explained the importance of attending the forum as any feedback on the indicators being presented will be crucial to future funding plan development. Chair Frei and Members Mongeau, Holloway, Weger, and Saari stated they would be attending the Regional Forum on June 10, 2011. Director Beckett informed the Regional Council that the “Save the Date” for the annual FTF Summit to be held in August of 2011 has gone out to the public and the planning committee has been formed to meet in June and July.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is at 9:30a.m. on Thursday, June 23, 2011, at the Mohave County Sheriff’s Department Training Room located at 600 Beale Street, Kingman, Arizona 86401.

Adjourn

Member Saari made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Member Mongeau. Motion carried unanimously by members present.

There being no further business, Chair Frei adjourned the meeting at 10:40a.m.

Minutes **NOT** approved

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Julia Cosmano, Administrative Assistant II

Riley Frei, Chair