



**FIRST THINGS FIRST**  
*The right system for bright futures*

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the First Things First Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on July 15, 2009 at Ben Furlong Education Building – 8700 S. Kyrene Rd., Tempe AZ 85284.

Jackie Garner, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

**Members Present**

Andrea Colby, Angela Capone, Bonni Pomush, Genoveva Acosta-Bueno, Glenn Waterkotte, Hope Dillon, Jackie Garner, Karen Emery, Maureen Duane, Trinity Donovan

**Members Absent**

Kathy Halter

**Guests**

Elliott Hibbs, First Things First Executive Director  
Lyra Contreras, First Things First Grants and Contracts Specialist  
Seven members from the public

**Approval of Minutes**

Vice Chair Dillon motioned to approve the May 20, 2009 regular meeting minutes, seconded by Member Duane. Motion carried.

**Call to the Public**

Four members of the public thanked the Council for the First Things First emergency childcare scholarships their childcare organizations are receiving and shared the economic impact the funding has had on families. They each stressed the need for continued funding and asked the Council to consider extending the availability of the scholarships with additional funding, if possible.

**Presentation of Medical Legal Partnerships**

Ann-Marie Alameddin, Esq gave a brief history of this program and shared their process for promoting and providing child health through preventative law. Ms. Alameddin shared information about the medical/legal partnership they currently have with Mountain Park Health Center.

**Medical Home Model Strategies**

Member Waterkotte stated that the goal for this strategy is to create and educate medical practices, physicians and families of young children about the importance of having a medical home. The three components that are being considered are: 1) propose/request for a proposal that would include the generation of practice manager coaches who would work with practices to improve their business practices to provide continuity of care for families with young children; 2) medical home care coordinators who may or may not be based in the practices and would provide the support necessary to coordinate all the medical and social services a family with young children may need; and 3) Provide support in helping physicians and practices achieve accreditation from the National Center for Quality

Assurance. The Physician Practice Connections – Patient-Centered Medical Home (PPC®-PCMH™) is a three-level accreditation system. One of the desires of the founders and creators of the national effort is to have those that become certified as a medical home office would receive an increase in reimbursement for office visits as an incentive to provide a medical home model of practice.

Vice Chair Dillon motioned to adopt the Medical Home Strategy, seconded by Member Capone. Motion carried.

### **Presentation of Anniversary Pins**

Elliott Hibbs, First Things First Executive Director, provided a First Things First pin to each Council Member honoring their one year of service with the Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council. Mr. Hibbs praised the Council for being a “solid, cohesive group” and thanked the Council for the “tremendous Job” they continue to do for the children in their Region.

### **Discussion and Possible Adoption of Review Committee Recommendations for Professional Development and Oral Health Strategies**

Chair Garner, Vice Chair Dillon and Member Capone disclosed a potential conflict regarding Professional Development agenda item #6 and will therefore recuse themselves from any discussion or vote during the Executive Session.

Member Acosta-Bueno disclosed a potential conflict regarding Oral Health agenda item #6 and will therefore recuse herself from any discussion or vote during the Executive Session.

Member Pomush called for a motion to move into Executive Session for the purposes of Agenda Item #6, discussion of confidential information regarding *Oral Health and Professional Development Strategies*. Vice-Chair Dillon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Professional Development**

Coordinator Floth asked Council Members who recused themselves and all members of the public to step out of the room. After discussion and vote of this agenda item, Chair Garner, Vice Chair Dillon and Member Capone rejoined the meeting.

### **Oral Health**

Coordinator Floth asked Council Members who recused themselves to step out of the room.

The Council reconvened the regular meeting at 5:05 p.m. and everyone rejoined the regular meeting.

Vice Chair Dillon motioned to accept the review committee’s recommendations that were discussed in the Executive Session, seconded by Member Donovan. Motion carried.

### **Regional Council Member Updates**

Member Colby

- Her organization received a Family Literacy Grant. They also anticipate a 21% reduction in Block Grants, which is equivalent to about \$120,000.
- Accepted a position to attend an early childhood delegation to China to gather information on how they implement their programs.

Member Donovan

- As a Chandler City Council Member, she will showcase First Things First and the benefits to the Chandler district through the program, Chandler In Focus, which will be aired on Channel 11. The program will also be available on the web for viewers outside the Chandler district.

**Coordinator Floth**

- Provided the Council with a Regional Council attendance policy and asked for individual input which will be shared with the First Things First State Board.
- Provided the Council with a copy of the latest Operational Plan, which lists the RFGAs, studies, and other strategies that the Central Maricopa Council has implemented.
- Informed the Council that Mr. Hibbs will send them an email surveying their impressions about their first year with First Things First. Council suggestions are also welcomed.
- Shared the boundaries of the Central Maricopa Region and stated that the Council should expect an email from Linda Cannon for feedback to see if boundaries are correctly reflected within its region.
- Thanked Council member Bonni Pomush for her service on the Council. Ms. Pomush is resigning her position in order to move to California. Council members and Ms. Floth wished her the best of luck for her move to California and encouraged her to stay in touch.

**Next Meeting**

August 19, 2009 – Chandler School District Offices  
1550 E Chandler Heights Rd., Chandler, AZ 85249

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Vice Chair Dillon adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

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Sharon Smith, Administrative Assistant III

Approved:

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Jacqueline F. Garner, Regional Council Chair