



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

## 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 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010** at 9:00 a.m. at the Fort Mojave Education Center, located at 1599 Plantation Road, Mohave Valley, AZ 86440.

Chairman Allsbrooks called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Guests were invited to introduce themselves.

Members present:

Jose Garcia, Alisa Burroughs, William Allsbrooks, Betsy Lewis, Debra Weger, Riley Frei, Terri Holloway, Lenore Knudtson, Vijette Saari (telephonically)

Members absent: Nancy Mongeau, Melissa Howell

Chair Allsbrooks presented certificates to recognize Council Member's years of service on the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council.

##### **Approval of Agenda**

Member Garcia made a motion to approve the day's agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Holloway. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

##### **Call to the Public**

There were no calls to the public at this time.

##### **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda included the minutes of the April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. Member Holloway made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Frei. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

##### **Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on this Agenda**

No Council Members declared a conflict of interest regarding any item on the agenda.

##### **First Read & Possible Adoption of Statement on HCR2001**

Chair Allsbrooks gave a brief summary of the State Legislature's past efforts to sweep First Things First funding and explained their intent to eliminate First Things First through a ballot measure in November. Chair Allsbrooks reminded the group that FTF tried to help the State with the budget deficit by offering a loan, but the Legislature did not want to repay a loan. Chair Allsbrooks read a resolution passed by the Board opposing the ballot measure that will go to voters in November, House Concurrent Resolution 2001.

Member Frei moved to approve the adoption of the statement in opposition to HCR2001. The motion was seconded by Member Holloway. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

**Discussion & Possible Action on Regional Communications Strategy**

Coordinator Beckett reviewed with the Regional Council the Statewide communication plan which was approved by the State Board and the document "Fulfilling Arizona's Commitment to Our Youngest Kids." Coordinator Beckett reminded Council Members that La Paz/Mohave has a communication strategy in the funding plan; however it was put on hold by the State Board pending alignment with an approved statewide communication strategy. Coordinator Beckett briefly reviewed the four objectives of the statewide communications plan and the proposed La Paz/Mohave participation. Coordinator Beckett described the proposed media buys and the role and responsibilities of the proposed Parent Awareness and Community Outreach Liaison.

Member Holloway moved to adopt the communications plan with the following changes to the proposed media buy: Decrease the amount of grocery branding by 50% and use those funds to increase cable television by 40% and radio by 60%. The motion was seconded by Member Frei. Motion failed (4 opposed).

Member Frei moved to approve the plan by reducing grocery by 50% and use those funds to increase the radio buy. The motion was seconded by Member Burroughs. Members discussed the motion.

Member Frei moved to amend his motion to approve the plan with a 50% reduction in grocery with those funds to be split evenly between local radio and local newspaper. Member Burroughs provided the second on the amended motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

**Discussion & Possible Action on TEACH & Quality First SFY2011 Renewals**

Melody Johnson, T.E.A.C.H. Assistant Program Coordinator for Association for Supportive Child Care reviewed a status report with the Regional Council. Ms. Johnson stated that T.E.A.C.H. has a strong grasp of the expectations of the Regional Council in terms of awarded scholars and outreach efforts. Ms. Johnson talked about the cumulative outreach efforts for the region and stated that they are shifting from informational outreach to motivational and supportive types of outreach.

Vice Chair Knudtson moved to reduce the number of regionally-funded T.E.A.C.H slots in SFY 2011 by 50 percent to a total of 20 scholars instead of 40 and to move the remaining funds to the communications strategy. The motion was seconded by Member Garcia. The motion carried, 7 – 1 vote. Member Lewis opposed the motion.

Coordinator Beckett reminded the Regional Council of the recommendation to renew the regionally-funded Quality First strategy.

Member Frei moved to renew Quality First at the recommended level and maintain regional funding for 10 slots in SFY 2011. The motion was seconded by Member Holloway. The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

**Discussion & Possible Action on Election of Officers SFY2011**

Chair Allsbrooks explained that according to the Governance Policy officers are to be elected each May for the following fiscal year and explained that the Council could also wait to elect officers until after the new council members are appointed by the State Board in June. Chair Allsbrooks expressed support for term limits for officers and an interest in seeing new leadership emerge in the group. Chair Allsbrooks asked if there were volunteers or nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

Member Frei moved to retain the existing officers. The motion was seconded by Member Garcia. The motion carried (6-2 vote). Chair Allsbrooks and Vice Chair Knudtson abstained.

**Coordinator Report and Possible Discussion**

Coordinator Beckett announced that the first Grantee Coordination Meeting will be held in Lake Havasu May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010. There will be representatives from all regional grantees, including T.E.A.C.H. and Quality First. The agenda will focus on presentations from each organization and services they provided and conversation on how we can work collaboratively to better coordinate services. Susan Perkins Fry will be presenting an overview of the Arizona Parent Kits. Coordinator Beckett reminded Council Members they are welcome and encouraged to attend. Regional Manager Gary Arnold stated the intent is to better link existing services.

**Funding Plan Update**

Coordinator Beckett reviewed the funding plan update with the Council Members. All four of the Pre-Kindergarten expansion contracts have been approved by the State Board. We have received written responses from two of the four districts and anticipate the other two will come in June to start services July 1<sup>st</sup>. We have officially signed a contract for Child Care Health Consultation in the region which includes the last two months of 2010 to continue through SFY 2011.

**Needs and Assets Report Update**

The University of Arizona has been participating in community events through-out the region to complete the additional data collection requested by the Council. All parent surveys, key informant interviews, and additional qualitative work the Council purchased has been completed and is now being analyzed. The consultants will forward a first draft to Coordinator Beckett in June. A second draft will be brought to the Council for review in July and in order to meet the requirements in statute, the Needs and Asset report will need to be approved by the Council in August to be forwarded to the State Board by September 1<sup>st</sup>. The University of Arizona consultants have been working closely with Member Lewis and have received approval from the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe to include data from the Tribe in this report.

**Regional Partnership Council Member Announcements**

Member Holloway will be leaving Health Choice. She will work for North Country Health running their Fit at 50 Program.

**Adjourn**

Member Garcia made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Member Frei. Motion to adjourn carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

Chairman Allsbrooks adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

**Minutes NOT approved**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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**Della Gray, Administrative Assistant**

**Approved by:**

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**William Allsbrooks, Chair**