



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Yuma Regional Partnership Council Meeting

Diagnostic Imaging Center
1501 W. 24th Street
Yuma, Arizona 85364
August 20, 2009

Minutes

Welcome/Introduction/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Madeleine Coil. Members present included Vice Chair Roselia Ramirez, Council Member Irene Garza, Council Member Coranne Swift Arrow, Council Member Judy Watkinson, Council Member Dr. Mario Ybarra and Council Member Ricardo Perez. Council Member Sarah Seneker joined the meeting by means of a conference call however communication was lost early on in the meeting. Members not present included Council Member Susan Pond. Cocopah Regional Partnership Council Members Cristina Solarzano was also present. First Things First Staff: Regional Manager Gary P. Arnold, Cocopah Regional Coordinator Ashley Pascual, Yuma Regional Coordinator Mary Reyes Sanford and Administrative Assistant Marie Megui were also present.

FTF External Evaluation Presentation

University of Arizona representative David B. Yaden, Jr. and Northern Arizona University representative Lawrence Gallagher provided a presentation on the First Things First External Evaluation Process and engaged the council in a discussion of an overview of tools and goals. The Council reconvened at 5:15 p.m. after a five minute intermission following the presentation.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest regarding items on this agenda

Chair Madeleine Coil provided Council members with an opportunity to declare any conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda. Chair Madeleine Coil declared a conflict with Item #6 of the agenda (in reference to a substantial interest in the allocation of funds for Emergency Scholarships).

Consent Agenda

The items on the Consent Agenda included the Council Minutes of the July 16, 2009 meeting and the Executive Session minutes of the July 16, 2009 meeting. A motion was made by Council Member Judy Watkinson to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Irene Garza. Motion passed.

Casa Program Presentation

Terry Pray Coordinator for the Yuma County CASA Program and Judge John N. Nelson from the Yuma County Juvenile Court System provided an informational presentation on the CASA Program. Judge N. Nelson elaborated and emphasized the significance of and positive results and support of the CASA Program in connection with the youth and children of the Yuma Region. He also stated the importance of reaching our youngest members of the community in particular ages zero to five when they are in the developing stages and connecting emotionally.

Discussion and Possible Adoption FY2010 Operational Funding Plan Recommendations

Coordinator Sanford and Council Member Watkinson provided the Council with the Strategy 9 Workgroup Recommendations. A motion was made by Council Member Watkinson to not use the \$650,600 allocated for Center Based Enrollment for extending emergency child care scholarships but to use it as originally intended by the Council. Seconded by Council Member Ricardo Perez. Motion passed. Council Members expressed a desire for more information as to costs and service numbers per recommendation to assist them in making a decision on the specific recommendations. Council Member Dr. Mario Ybarra motioned to receive the funding information electronically and make a vote by phone conference within 10 days, seconded by Vice Chair Roselia Ramirez. Motion passed.

Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Sanford asked the Council if there were any questions on her narrative report. She did note that recommendations were going to the State Board which would fill all council seats and a number of strategies, agreements and review committee recommendations would also be going before the board on August 25, 2009.

Call to the Public

None

Next Meeting

September 17, 2009 4:30 p.m., Yuma Regional Medical Center Conference Room 1, 2, and 3, located at 2400 S. Avenue A, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Madeleine Coil
Chair



Marie Megui
Administrative Assistant II