



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

### Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council

#### Meeting Minutes

##### **Call to Order/Welcome/Introduction of Guests**

The regular meeting of the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council was held on August 22, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. at the Lake Havasu City Regional Office, 1979 North McCulloch Boulevard, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403.

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

Members Present: Howard Weiske, Riley Frei, Lenore Knudtson, Betsy Lewis, Nancy Mongeau, Vijette Saari and Debra Weger participated telephonically.

Members Absent: Alisa Burroughs, Jose Garcia, Terri Holloway and Catie Sondrol.

##### **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

None

##### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Member Weiske made a motion to approve the July 25, 2013 meeting minutes. Vice Chair Frei seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

##### **Possible Action on Vacancies in Quality First for SFY 2014**

Regional Director Merritt Beckett provided the additional information requested by the council regarding the sites on the waitlist for Quality First. She reviewed the geographic distribution of existing sites, and based on children in poverty, children served, and children on wait lists, recommended prioritizing zip codes in Dolan Springs and Bullhead City to fill two center slot vacancies and one home slot vacancy in Quality First. Member Knudtson made a motion to accept Director Beckett's recommendation to prioritize the identified zip codes. Member Weiske seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

##### **Possible Action to Reduce Service Numbers**

Director Beckett explained that the grant with Child and Family Resources, Inc. for the Children with Special Needs program in SFY 2014 is for \$150,000 to serve 60 families. The grantee has requested a reduction in the number of families to be served from 60 to 50 families. The recommendation from staff is to approve the reduction. The following reasons support the recommendation: First Things First Standards of practice for the strategy require a maximum case load of 1:15 for each home visitor. This contract employs two full-time home visitors. The number of families served in SFY 2013 was 31 families. Known barriers are being addressed and an outreach plan has been developed to increase referrals. At a cost of \$3,000 per family, the cost per family with the reduction will still be on the low end of the average cost per family for a home visitation program. Vice Chair Frei made a motion to accept Director Beckett's recommendation to reduce the target service numbers from sixty to fifty. Member Weiske seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

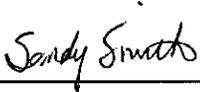
**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at the Centennial Community Center located at 69725 Centennial Park Road, Wenden, Arizona 85357.

**Adjourn**

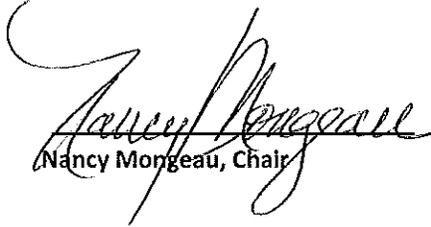
Vice Chair Frei made a motion to adjourn at 9:51 a.m. Member Weiske seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**SUBMITTED BY:**



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Sandy Smith, Administrative Assistant

**APPROVED BY:**



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Nancy Mongeau, Chair