



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

### **Regional Partnership Councils August 2009 Report**

**Regional Partnership Council Appointments:** A total of 306 Regional Council seats are filled. Since July there were eight resignations. Ten individuals are being recommended to the Board for appointment to the Central Pima, Tohono O’odham Nation, Coconino, Navajo/Apache, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Pinal, Yuma, LaPaz/Mohave, South Phoenix, and Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Councils.

**Regional Funding Plans:** The Gila River Indian Community, Cocopah Tribe, Santa Cruz, Graham/Greenlee, Yuma, LaPaz/Mohave, Central Maricopa, and North Phoenix Regional Partnership Councils are submitting revised or new strategies for the Board’s review and consideration. Included in the Board book is a memo from each Regional Council Chair, a summary of the regional funding plan for each Regional Council and the revised or new strategy. In addition, the Central Pima Regional Partnership Council is requesting approval from the Board for additional funds in the amount of \$575,000 to continue the Emergency Scholarships in the region. A letter from the Regional Council chair provides the background and rationale for their decision. Staff recommends that all new and revised strategies presented to the Board for consideration be approved.

**Request for Grant Applications (RFGAs):** Currently there are no open RFGAs. Staff are reviewing applications for twelve RFGAs that were released in June and July. A total of 35 applications were received for these RFGAs. Grant award recommendations will be presented to the Board at the September meeting and programs will begin October 1, 2009.

**Attendance Policy for Regional Council members:** Regional Councils reviewed the draft attendance policy at their June and July meetings and provided feedback to FTF staff leadership. Feedback has been incorporated and the attendance policy is included in the Board materials for review and consideration by the Board.

**Review of Regional Boundaries:** Linda Cannon and Eva Lester completed the review of the Regional Boundaries. A full report is included in the Board materials with the recommendations for the SFY2011 Regional Boundaries.

**Award Presentations:** The Tohono O’odham Nation Regional Council held their award presentation on July 1, 2009. Award presentations were held for all 31 Regional Partnership Councils.

**Regional Chairs and Vice Chairs for SFY 2010:** Below is the list of Chairs and Vice Chairs for the Regional Councils for SFY2010. The Chairs and Vice Chairs will convene on September 10, 2009 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm at the Arizona State University Mercado Center with Board and Staff leadership.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>Central Maricopa</b>	Jackie Garner	Hope Dillon
<b>Central Phoenix</b>	Judi Gottschalk	Theresa Gonzales
<b>Central Pima</b>	Andrew Arthur	Peg Harmon
<b>Cochise</b>	Jane Strain	David Howe
<b>Coconino</b>	Julianne Hartzell	Josh Allen
<b>Cocopah Tribe</b>	Jill McCormick	Dr. Michael Reed
<b>Colorado River Indian Tribes</b>	Veronica Homer	James "Dan" Wolfe
<b>Gila</b>	Alexis Rivera	Roger Kortman
<b>Gila River Indian Community</b>	Priscilla Foote	To be elected 9/3/09
<b>Graham/Greenlee</b>	Laurie Smith	Cindi Alva
<b>Hualapai Tribe (to be elected August 17<sup>th</sup>)</b>		
<b>LaPaz/Mohave</b>	William Allsbrooks	Lenore Knudtson
<b>Navajo Nation</b>	Paula Hale	Jenny Rodgers
<b>Navajo/Apache</b>	Melissa Webb	Rance Pullin
<b>NE Maricopa</b>	DeAnne Davies	Wendy Lyons
<b>North Phoenix</b>	Bill Adams	Sally Downing
<b>North Pima</b>	Naomi Karp	Dorothy Johnson
<b>NW Maricopa</b>	Jannelle Radoccia	Dr. Deborah Pischke
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe</b>	Shanna Ioane Tautolo	Amalia Reyes
<b>Pinal</b>	Barbara Mazzio	Kai Gerkey
<b>Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community</b>	Lori Calderon	Renee Murphy
<b>San Carlos Apache</b>	Catherine Steele	David Reede
<b>Santa Cruz</b>	Danna Gallardo	Anna Rosas
<b>SE Maricopa</b>	Dee Tamminen	Mary Baldwin
<b>South Phoenix</b>	Dr. Robert Donofrio	James Washington, MPH
<b>South Pima</b>	Anthony Bruno	Jane Kroesen
<b>SW Maricopa</b>	Colleen Day	Dr. Carlian Dawson
<b>Tohono O'odham Nation</b>	Louis Johnson	Mildred Manuel
<b>White Mountain Apache Tribe</b>	Kirk Massey, Jr.	Laurel Endfield
<b>Yavapai</b>	Anne Babinsky	Barbara Jorgensen
<b>Yuma</b>	Madeleine Coil	Roselia Ramirez

**Regional Council Survey:** A survey for Regional Council members has been developed and will be released this month. The survey provides the opportunity to hear from the Regional Council members about their experience as a Regional Council member and their perspective on how First Things First and the Regional Councils are working.

**Regional Division Monthly Meetings:** The July and August Regional Division meetings have focused on preparing for the SFY11 regional funding plans that are due November 10, 2009. In addition, working with the finance, evaluation and policy divisions, processes for receiving and reviewing financial and program performance data from the grantees are being finalized. Lastly, the regional staff with the

evaluation division are preparing for the next Regional Needs and Assets Reports due to the Board September 2010. A full report on the process for conducting the next regional needs and assets report will be presented at the October Board meeting including approval of Regional Council funds to expand the scope of data collection for the report using the regional allocation.

**Regional Staff:** Melissa Begay will begin on August 31, 2009 as the Navajo Nation Regional Coordinator. Ms. Begay has a Masters degree in Administration with an emphasis in Education Leadership. She has been the program manager for the NAU Nizhoni Academy for the past 5 years. Nizhoni Academy is a summer residential academic program for Native American high school students designed to improve access and opportunities for higher education after high school. Ms. Begay brings her extensive educational knowledge, leadership experience, public relations and program management skills to her new position.

Kim VanPelt will be leaving First Things First to accept a position at St. Luke's Health Initiatives on August 28<sup>th</sup>. She will be serving as Associate Director of Arizona Health Futures – SLHI's health policy research, education, and advocacy arm. Kim has been a tremendous asset to FTF and her passion and dedication to children and families is extraordinary.