



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 **July 22, 2010** at 9:00 a.m. at the Kingman Unified School District #20, 3033 MacDonald Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86401.

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

Members present: William Allsbrooks, Jose Garcia, Terri Holloway, Vijette Saari, Nancy Mongeau, Riley Frei (telephonically), Lenore Knudtson (telephonically), Betsy Lewis (telephonically)

Members absent: Alisa Burroughs, Melissa Howell, Debra Weger

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 May 25th, 2010. Member Saari made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Garcia. Member Holloway noted a correction to the announcements from "North Country Health Fit" to "North Country Health Care." The motion carried with a unanimous vote by the members present.

Conflict of Interest

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

Presentation & Discussion of Draft Needs and Assets Assessment

Dee Dee Avery, University of Arizona Consultant, summarized the intent of the Needs and Assets Report. John Daws, University of Arizona Consultant, reviewed the draft with the Regional Council and asked for feedback to be incorporated into the final draft.

Chair Allsbrooks and the Regional Partnership Council Members expressed their appreciation for the fine work completed by the University of Arizona and the usefulness of the qualitative data specific to the region.

Coordinator Beckett announced that the final draft will be presented for approval at the August 26th Regional Council Meeting.

Member Recognition

Chair Allsbrooks recognized Member Saari with a certificate of appreciation for one year of service on the Regional Council.

Coordinator Report and Possible Discussion

*** Funding Plan Update**

Coordinator Beckett announced that the Regional Council's contract renewal recommendations were approved by the State Board in June. All grantees began their new contracts July 1st, 2010. The SFY 2011 regional communications strategy was also approved by the State Board in June. The Coordinator is working with Moses Ansell to finalize the fall media buy. The job announcement for the Parent Awareness and Community Outreach Liaison was posted and five interviews are scheduled for today. The State Board



FIRST THINGS FIRST
The right system for bright futures

also approved the transfer of funds from SFY 2010 to 2011 for the Pre-Kindergarten strategy. Agreements were signed by the school districts and the Executive Director to begin July 1, 2010, with the exception of Topock, which is being finalized. The home visitation contract with the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe was approved by the Board and will begin once approved and signed by the Tribe.

***System-Building Update**

An email was sent to Council Members from FTF Deputy Director Karen Woodhouse about the Arizona Early Childhood Taskforce. The Taskforce was created by the State Board to further define the role of First Things First in developing a statewide early childhood development and health system. August 11th will be the last meeting of the Taskforce and they are asking for Regional Council Members to complete an online survey to provide input on the system model they've developed. They will incorporate the feedback received from the online survey, a series of Regional Forums, and the Board/Council joint planning sessions at the FTF Summit in August into recommendations that will be shared with the State Board in September.

***Legislative Update**

The State Board took action to file a complaint for special action in Maricopa County Superior Court. The State Board felt that the ballot analysis that will accompany the initiative to eliminate First Things First in November (House Concurrent Resolution 2001/ Proposition 302) is not impartial. Specifically, the concerns they raised with the language in the Voter guide include: the ordering of the language does not provide background prior to the description of what the measure will do; the language does not let voters know that this tax was voter approved in 2006; the language does not accurately or fully describing the distribution of revenue between program and administrative costs (by law 90% to programs and only 10% to administrative costs); and the language does not indicate the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board is commonly referred to as First Things First. There was a hearing July 12th and another is scheduled for the judge to rule on the complaint on July 26th. First Things First has proposed alternative wording for the ballot analysis and the hope is that the Legislature will be required to reword the language in the ballot.

***Upcoming Events**

A new Council Member Orientation will be held in Lake Havasu on July 23, 2010. Even though there were no new Council Members appointed to the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council, the intent is to provide ongoing support to Regional Council Members. The orientation is open to any Council Member, new or returning, who is interested. A Grantee Coordination Meeting is scheduled in Kingman July 27th, 2010. Council Members are welcome to attend. The agenda for the meeting will include a coordination self assessment and next steps for improving service coordination. FTF Executive Director Rhian Evans Allvin is planning to attend the August 26th Regional Council Meeting in Bullhead City. Her intent is to improve communication and build the relationship between the State Board and the Regional Council. She will also be arranging to meet with local media while in the region. The FTF Early Childhood Summit is scheduled for August 30-31. Please save the date on your calendars.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held August 26th at the Bullhead City Elementary School District at 9am.

Adjourn

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

There being no further business, Chairman Allsbrooks adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

Minutes **NOT** approved

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Della Gray, Administrative Assistant

William Allsbrooks, Chair