



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

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August 1, 2011

Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board  
First Things First  
4000 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board,

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council, in partnership with the Town of Gila Bend and Care 1st, is renovating a building to be used as a Family Resource Center. This renovation is expected to be completed by the beginning of September. The new Family Resource Center will be operated by the Town of Gila Bend. It will provide parent education to families with children 5 years old and under; early language and literacy classes; infant/toddler food boxes for families in crisis; and linkages and referrals to other community and social services that meet the needs of families. While this renovation was taking place, the Regional Council partnered with the Gila Bend Unified School District to operate a Family Resource Center to provide families with access to needed services and supports.

With the completion of the Family Resource Center, the Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council is requesting the following for Board consideration for SFY2012. At its Regional Council meeting on July 19, 2011, the Council approved the following actions:

#### Government to Government Agreements:

- a) As jointly agreed upon by the Gila Bend Unified School District and the Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council, terminate contract Award # GRA-RC007-01-Y2 with the Gila Bend Unified School District, effective August 31, 2011. The contract is in the amount of \$150,000.00.
- b) Enter into a new agreement with the Town of Gila Bend in the amount of \$66,424.00 to implement the Family Resource Center with 325 families to be served.

This request to terminate the contract with the Gila Bend Unified School District will allow the Regional Council to complete services on August 31st and the services will transition to the newly renovated Family Resource Center. The amount of \$66,424 will be utilized to begin providing services.

The Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council respectfully requests that the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board approve the Council's request. The Council is confident that this request is in the best interest of children and families in the Southwest Maricopa Region and supports the Board approved priorities, aligning with the Early Childhood System that First Things First is working to build.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carlian Dawson , Council Chair