

Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2013

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the First Things First Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on September 11, 2013 at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85282.

Chair Duane welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 3:34 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Maureen Duane and Council Members Trinity Donovan, Beth Haas, Mara de Luca Funke, Zita Johnson, Frank Narducci, and Tina Wilson

Members Absent:

Vice Chair Genoveva Acosta-Bueno and Council Members Lyra Contreras, Karen Emery, and Kathy Halter

There were 12 members of the public present.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2013

Council Member Donovan moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 12, 2013. Council Member Wilson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously, 7-0.

Call to the Public

Carla Sahr with TEACH presented an update on the program and stated there is a new Quick Start model which lasts for one semester, with students taking one to six credits. After the student successfully completes the training, they would be eligible for a bonus and to re-apply to the regular Associates Degree program. Graduates of this program would owe their employers a minimum of six months employment. A refer-a-friend program has also begun with gift cards if the person referred also completes the program. Additional bonuses are also now given to those scholars who stay in the program each semester including the summer session.

Isela Blanc with Thrive to Five stated she enjoyed the Summit and was grateful for the opportunity to present one of the sessions. She also stated that their First Annual Parent University will be held on Saturday, October 19 at Getz School. They are hoping to serve between 150 and 200 families. Dignity Health will be providing fluoride varnish treatments, and Maricopa Integrated Health Systems will be providing safety classes as well as up to 24 car seats.

Margaret Eldridge with Southwest Human Development provided an overview of the inclusion support program from their agency.

Family Resource Collaborative (called out of order)

Regional Director Joanne Floth provided an update on the collaborative, responded to questions, and recommended that the Council approve \$37,030 of the up to \$50,000 previously approved by the Council to support the collaborative. A lack of quorum occurred due to conflicts of interest by both Council Members Donovan and Funke, and other council members being absent; thus the matter was tabled.

Needs and Assets Plan

John Daws, Research Scientist with the University of Arizona Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences presented information regarding the process. Regional Director Floth stated that since there will be one report for the newly combined East Maricopa region, there may be a possibility to add additional deliverables to the contract. She asked for any other ideas the Council members might wish to add.

Quality First Model Changes – Regional Perspective

Quality First Program Coordinators Brooke Travis and Leslie Totten provided an overview of the Quality First program and provided updates on the upcoming 2015 model changes. There are presently four open Rating Only slots for the region. There are also two home slots to be filled. There are approximately 80 centers still on the waitlist. They further explained that as of SFY15, all scholarships will be called Quality First Childcare Scholarships. Only those programs which are rated may receive scholarships. Additionally, only three to five-star programs are eligible for Pre-K scholarships. No one-star programs will receive scholarships. As of July 1, 2015, only three to five-star programs will be eligible to receive scholarships. A waiver process is presently being developed for those regions which may not have any or very few three to five-star programs.

Update of Regional Transition Plans

Chair Duane noted that the State Board will be approving the actual allocations on October 1. The funding plan for the new region will be developed in a joint meeting on October 3 with the respective Chairs and Vice Chairs as well as an additional Council member from both Central and Northeast Maricopa (Trinity Donovan from Central Maricopa and Dr. Bill Myhr from Northeast Maricopa, who is also the Tribal representative). The Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation has until March, 2014 to decide whether they wish to stay with the newly combined region or become their new region. Current council members are encouraged to reapply for the new council, which will be a combination of two and four-year appointments.

System Building Work

The agenda item was tabled due to time constraints.

Review of Summit and Council Member Presentations

Council Member Donovan stated she especially enjoyed the Pre-Summit on Sunday, and Council members discussed some of the sessions which they attended. The general consensus was that it would have been nice to have sessions presented more than once so that a person would have more than one opportunity to fit them into their schedule.

Funding Plan 2014 Preparation

Regional Director Floth provided summaries of the year end data reports noting that if Council members wished to see the entire data and narrative reports, to let her know.

Council Updates

Council Member Funke stated that she and Council Member Wilson are on the benchmarking committee and attended a meeting of all the Metropolitan Phoenix and Maricopa regions on September 9th to develop common benchmarks for the group.

Adjournment

Chair Duane asked for any additional questions or comments from the Council and receiving none, adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.

Submitted By _____
Caitlyn Hollins, Administrative Assistant III

Approved By _____
Maureen Duane, Chair