# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

## Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council

## Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the First Things First Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 3:00 p.m., at Northland Pioneer College, Nizhoni Learning Center Room 142, 2251 North Navajo Boulevard, Holbrook, Arizona 86025.

Vice Chair Meyer called the meeting to order at approximately 3:25 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Members Present:
Sheila Chairez, Michael Downs, Claude Endfield, Kalman Mannis, Leslie Meyer, Jeffrey Northup, Cathy Taylor (via phone) and Amy Tregaskes

Members Absent: Tom Barela and Margie Tapia

Others Present:
Joyce Alves, Margine Bawden, Jan Bishop, Kathy Brown, Kate Dobler-Allen, Rhonda Etsitty, Pam Flake, Michelle Katona, Mary Koski, Byron Lewis, Deborah Lewis, Michelle Pansulla, Karen Peifer, Pam Powell, Denise Rominger, Maureen Theobald, Virginia Turner, Mary Tyler, Juanita Waits and Amy Zak-Urban

**Member Reports and Updates**

Member Endfield reminded everyone of the upcoming Early Childhood Fair on September 24, 2011 at Northland Pioneer College in Snowflake, Arizona. Vice Chair Meyer shared that close to 500 surveys have been completed for the Needs and Assets Report Face-to-Face Parent Survey.

**Call to the Public**

**a.** First Things First Board Member Dr. Pamela Powell expressed accolades to all volunteer Regional Council members for their dedication and also described the dedicated, state-wide effort that went into determining the First Things First School Readiness Indicators.

**b.** Amy Zak-Urban, Southwest Human Development described the Smart Support Program which provides mental health consultation for early care and education programs.

**Disclosure of Conflicts**

None

**Discussion and Possible Adoption of August 10, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Member Endfield moved to accept the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council, held on August 10, 2011, as presented. Member Mannis seconded; the motion passed.

*Member Chairez arrived and Member Taylor joined via phone.*

**Program Updates**

**a. Nutrition Education**: Joyce Alves, Margine Bawden, Mary Koski and Juanita Waits of the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension provided a program update and shared that the Nutrition Education program will be represented at the upcoming Early Childhood Fair.

**b. Community-based Training**: Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed the program status report prepared by Northland Pioneer College staff and stated that this is the third year for this program.

**c. Director Mentoring**: Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed the program status report provided by Northland Pioneer College staff and stated there is a cohort of four in the Emergent Leaders project this year.

**d. Healthy Steps for Young Children**: Deborah and Byron Lewis of North Country HealthCare displayed the type of information gathered in the database of over 500 children and discussed the positive impact the Healthy Steps program is having on children and their families.

**e. Oral Health and Dental Varnish**: Mary Tyler, Navajo County Public Health District Services shared that State Fiscal Year 2011 was the first full year of this program; 1,073 fluoride treatments were provided against a target of 1,060. Sixteen providers have received oral health education. The Oral Health program will be represented at the Early Childhood Fair.

**Regional Director's Report**

**a. Monthly Report**: Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed the upcoming meetings/presentations and highlighted the "Big Check" presentation for State Fiscal Year 2013, which will take place at 9:00 a.m., October 4, 2011, at North Country HealthCare in Springerville.

**b. Financial Report**: Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed the State Fiscal Year 2012 Funding Plan Summary and the Contract Detail report and then gave an overview of the State Fiscal Year 2010-2012 Funding Plan Summary. Member Downs expressed the importance of matching resources with needs for the upcoming strategic planning this fall.

**c. Community Outreach Coordinator Update**: Community Outreach Coordinator Michelle Pansulla reviewed her report for August 2011 and presented the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council Parent Guide that is now available.

*Members Northup and Taylor left the meeting.*

**Presentation and Discussion of State Fiscal Years 2013-2015 Strategic Planning Process and Timeline**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen presented the overview and timeline for the Strategic Planning process for State Fiscal Years 2013-2015. Member Downs expressed that it appears that concrete strategies are more successful than abstract ones and asked that the members also consider what has worked well in other regions of the State.

**Presentation and Discussion of State Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011 Year-End Data**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed the Contract Detail reports for State Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011.

**Presentation and Discussion of State Fiscal Year 2011 Quarter 4 Narrative Reports**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen shared highlights from the 4th Quarter Narrative Reports and noted the collaboration that is taking place within the region among grantees.

**Presentation, Review and Discussion of First Things First Board-Approved Arizona School Readiness Indicators**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen reviewed the First Things First School Readiness Indicators. Regional Director Dobler-Allen then gave an overview of the First Things First system outcomes, goals and the details of the indicators and explained that Regional Councils are expected to align their funding plans with three of the indicators for State Fiscal Year 2013.

**Presentation and Discussion of Quality First Model for State Fiscal Years 2013-2015**

Regional Director Dobler-Allen noted that there are currently two centers and one home in this region, all of which are in Navajo County and then discussed the Quality First Cost Model, which will require regional funding in State Fiscal Year 2013. Significant discussion followed related to the differences between rural and urban regions and the resources available to early care and education providers in each.

**Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Navajo/Apache Regional Partnership Council will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at the Chamber of Commerce, 180 West Cleveland, St. Johns, Arizona 85936. There being no further business, Vice Chair Meyer adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:20 p.m.

Leslie Meyer, Vice Chair

Kate Dobler-Allen, Regional Director