



Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

August 26, 2014 – *Draft* Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at Avondale City Hall, 11465 West Civic Center, Avondale, Arizona 85323.

Chair Dr. Dawson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 5:32 p.m.

Members Present:

Dora Barrio, Kelli Cordova Wright, Dr. Carlian Dawson, Colleen Day Mach, Kimberly Flack, Wendy Krisik, Amanda Reyes, Marithe Denys Sandoval, Arlene Santos, David Schwake and Christine Tax

Members Absent:

None.

Call to the Public:

Donna Krejci , Pediatric Occupational Therapist/Director, Tobbrary – Mr. Krejci provided information about the the toy lending library and mentioned that they received their 501 © 3 from the IRS and are now IRS approved. The Toybrary operates similar to traditional book-lending libraries and came about as a surprise. The Toybrary loans quality educational and adaptive toys that motivate kids to learn by having fun and helps kids with special needs by playing it forward. Ms. Krejci mentioned that they hope to get into some of the Resource Centers in the Southwest Region and set up the miniature satellite Toybrary versions in the different areas including the outlined areas that are underserve and asked Council to consider providing seed money/funding for the Toybrary to help them get started.

Joyce Gross, Buckeye Resource Center - Ms. Gross provided council with an update of the “Back to School Backpack and Supply Drive”. They ended up providing over 800 backpacks with supplies, 70 shoe carts to supply to families and children in need at schools. There were over 50 community members, business and faith based groups that donated both monetary and supplies to the drive. They had over 160 volunteers over 3 days and had an emergency cruise from the fire and police departments. They provided 120 free haircuts and it was very successful drive for children in Kindergarten through the 12th grade. They have great ideas for future drives and good things are happening in Buckeye.

Marjorie Jones, Arizona Learning Institute – Ms. Jones mentioned that as Council looks at what they will strategize and budget for the new coming years that is data driven activities and intervention, some of the questions to consider is; are the children ready to enter school and how many children are ready to enter into schools. Ms. Jones asked Council to look at what their strategies are right now and what they are going to put on the table for the new strategies. Ms. Jones highly encouraged the Council to look at the developmental screening strategy as a separate strategy to have data set to answer their questions.

Review and Approval of July 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Vice Chair Flack made a motion to approve the July 15, 2014 meeting minutes with accepted changes. Motion was seconded by Council Member Barrio and carried out by unanimous vote.

Discussion and Possible Action 2014 Regional Needs and Assets Report:

Regional Director Santiago mentioned that a copy of the 2nd revision draft report of the Needs and Assets was mailed out to all Council Members for review. This new draft was reflecting the comments made at the June Council meeting as to what changes needed to be made. If there are any changes or gaps in the report between now and October that may effect some of the numbers it will be taken into account when going through the strategic planning process. The Needs and Assest report will be submitted for possible approval to the Board at the next state Board meeting. September 1, 2014 is the deadline to submit to the state Board. Council discussed and provided feedback on the draft of the Needs and Assets Report.

Council Member Day mentioned that one of the things talked about in the service areas is how the state identifies them, they just state "LUKE" and there is a wealth of resources but is not called out anywhere as to what that is. All other areas are named by the city but there is not anything in the report that talked about why this is different. Member Day suggested that the vendor indicate or add what Luke Air Force Base is on the report.

Council Member Barrio made a motion to approve the needs and assets report with the recommendation made. Motion was seconded by Council Member Santos and carried out by unanimous vote.

First Things First Summit Debrief:

Chair Dr. Dawson asked Council for feedback on the First Things First Summit. Chair Dr. Dawson mentioned that some people were blocked out of sessions. There were suggestions that there be a pre-registration for individuals to register ahead of time. Council discussed and provided feedback for future Summits. Some suggestions made were as follows:

Member Day Mach – There were too many sessions to choose from, maybe they can have fewer sessions at future Summits.

Member Sandoval – First Things First should provide a webinar after the Summit so that those individuals that were not able to attend all the sessions could view the webinars on the First Things First website. Council Member Sandoval suggested that Council Members be given first priority into the sessions and that a certificate is provided to Council members who attend the Summit.

Member Cordova Wright – Possibly adding ½ a day to the conference. Also take note of the most popular sessions so that they can be offered at future Summits. There was some frustration and disappointment due to people having to leave sessions early to make the next session. The lunch speaker was phenomenal.

Regional Director Santiago - Outside of the early childhood science subjects as a Council Member did you find the Summit useful for further professional development individually as far as information needed to continue to be an effective Council Member?

Council Member Barrio stated that she attended many great sessions that addressed the populations that the Council works with. The challenge was trying to get to as many sessions as you can. Member Barrio suggested that they indicate which sessions are recommended specifically for Council Members and that handouts and PowerPoints are provided.

Council Member Santos appreciated the fact that there was a track to pick what is appropriate. Time is valuable and 30 minutes between sessions is too long. Maybe they can shorten the time between sessions. Member Santos also stated that the idea of reserving seats for Council members was helpful.

Regional Director Santiago mentioned that First Things First is in the process of working on developing webinars for professional education specifically for Council members. Once developed there will be a schedule on webinars on subjects strictly for Council Members.

Vice Chair Flack mentioned that the Sunday Event was valuable without a speaker. Council Members were able to spend more time chatting and enjoying one another's company.

Strategic Planning Process:

Regional Director Santiago provided Council with a PowerPoint handout and updated Council on the Strategic Planning and Funding Plan Development in The Context of Early Childhood System Building. Director Santiago brought up the fact that he is in the process of accumulating and asking some of the grantees and other sectors that have information pertaining to the Southwest Region for sources of information. Regional Director Santiago provided information about some of the community input from partners and stakeholders. Director Santiago has had discussion with the evaluation department to come up with a formatted survey so that the sources can provide the appropriate information needed. Information will need to be gathered so that we can expedite the information and utilize it. Regional Director Santiago provided a list of sources and asked Council to email him information/suggestions on any other sources they might know of. The final tool for Quality First will be provided in approximately two weeks.

Council Member Day Mach suggested that Regional Director Santiago provide information on the Quality First tools once they are available, possibly for the next meeting to guide Council during their Strategic Planning discussion.

Regional Director Santiago will provide the Quality First Tool to Council once available.

Chair Dr. Dawson mentioned possibly collaborating with the Northwest Region. At one of our Chair/Vice Chair meetings Vice Chair and I had discussion with the Northwest Region on doing some collaboration. A while back we had discussion on having a major early childhood, early education to really highlight the families and community on the West side. Approximately 2 months ago Council Member Reyes came forward and talked about putting together something that would highlight the West Side.

Council Member Reyes presented Council with her idea and how she would like to move this forward. The idea is getting more polished and condensed by putting together a West Side Symposium. We can have some keynote speakers and this would be a place where kids can come and play and parents can get information. We would work in collaboration with the Northwest Region. Member Reyes mentioned that she has the time to put this together and asked Council if they have any suggestions, ideas or feedback to please present them to her. Member Reyes mentioned that she would need a committee with Council Members from both the Southwest and Northwest Councils and Community Leaders to

help plan this project. There was discussion on possibly doing this Symposium in late April, but no date has been set in stone yet. Council discussed this idea and shared their feedback.

Dr. Dawson asked for volunteers to work on this project with Council Member Reyes, possibly a committee.

General Council Consensus is for Council Member Reyes to continue working on this project to build a committee and come back to Council with more specifics. Once information and specifics are provided Council can vote on more specifics and this project would be in Collaboration with the Northwest Maricopa Region.

Council Member Updates:

Community Outreach Coordinator Victoria Bray mentioned that Council mentioned in the past an interest as a Council to meet in another region. Ms. Bray informed Council that she spoke with the City of Goodyear and they are offering their new library for the Council to have meetings. Ms. Bray will provide Administrative Assistant Gandara with the information to possibly use this location for the October Council meeting.

Council Member Santos mentioned that the Estrella Health Center is available if Council would like to meet there.

Council Member Day Mach passed around a booklet that was recently printed by MIHS regarding Pediatric Medical Homes and Care Coordination. Member Day Mach will provide extra booklets to those who want them. The program has funded a fairly new grant and they have exceeded their target numbers in the first month. They have been doing quarterly meetings for all First Things First programs and they get about 40 or 50 staff members to do professional development collaboration. All of the Care Coordinators have attended the National Care Coordination Conference Certification Program.

Council Member Cordova Wright shared that the Hope Center is having an Open House on November 1, 2014. Member Cordova Wright shared that the Center is amazing and she is very excited that it is in the Southwest Region.

Council Member Barrio mentioned that the Hope Center will be sending out invitations for the November 1, 2014 Open House. Once the flyer is ready Member Barrio will provide Council with more information.

Council Member Krisik shared information on the location of the Hope Center.

Chair Dr. Dawson provided some schedules for the Parenting Classes that are being offered by the Nurturing Parents Raise Kids Program.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Dr. Dawson adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.