



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

## Meeting Minutes

### **#1 Call to Order/Welcome**

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Santa Cruz Regional Partnership Council was held on Monday September 17, 2012 at the Nogales Family Resource Center @ AJ Mitchell Elementary School, 855 North Bautista Street, Nogales, Arizona 85621. Vice-Chair Karen Woodford welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3: 35 p.m. She thanked Debbie Curley for providing the meeting room and organizing the Grand Opening that will follow. She thanked Senior Director Erin Lyons for assisting with the meeting and welcomed the new Regional Director, Francisco "Pancho" Padilla and new Regional Partnership Council Member Anna Lepa, representing Health Services Provider.

### **Members Present**

Vice-Chair Karen Woodford, Lee Vellom, William Kirkpatrick, Anna Lepa, Renee Travers-Huerta, and (telephonically) Dr. Melisa Lunderville and (telephonically) Danna Gallardo.

### **Members Absent**

None

### **#2 Call to the Public**

None

### **#3 Approval of Minutes**

Vice-Chair Woodford directed everyone to the draft of the minutes of August 06, 2012 and asked if there was a motion to approve. Member Kirkpatrick so moved, Member Travers-Huerta seconded the motion, motion carried.

### **#4 Presentation: Family Support Regional Evaluation**

Vice-Chair Woodford explained that the Regional Council had allocated funds for a regional evaluation of their Family Support strategies. The presentation would consist first of the First Things First Evaluation teams' function, followed by The Harder & Company's description of the process to provide credible, useful, actionable information to make the best decisions for the Santa Cruz Region. Speaking for First Things First were Kristen Richardson and Lisa Colling. Presenting from Harder & Co., were Michelle Magee, Vice President, and Anna Cruz. They reviewed the questions that will be asked and advised that their final report will be released winter 2013.

### **#5 Discussion and Highlights of 2012 Early Childhood Summit**

Vice-Chair Woodford recounted the variety of excellent sessions available at the First Things First Early Childhood Summit held August 19-21, 2012. She provided copies of hand-outs from two sessions she had attended. She expressed pride that both Child Care Health Consultant Hannah Carlson and Family Resource Center Director Debbie Curley were presenters. She encouraged all members to try to adjust their schedules to attend next year. She noted the discussion lead by State Board Chair Steven Lynn and Rhian Allvin Evans, CEO on the Benchmarking progress, that discussion will continue at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Chair and Vice-Chair meeting in Phoenix.

### **#6. Fiscal Year 2014 Strategic Planning Discussion**

Senior Director Erin Lyons led everyone through the provided 3 month timeline. The Regional Council will be advised of their final carry-forward amount at the October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. It appears to be approximately \$182,000. During the last funding plan cycle the strong consideration was to invest those funds in additional Quality First homes/centers. Discussions will continue through October and November. Within the discussion the Regional Council will revisit their previously selected indicators and benchmarks. She advised that the Regional Council had allocated over \$100,000. for additional Quality First Child Care Scholarships, which were

available to Quality First participants and those on the Quality First Wait List. As of FY2014, only participating homes/centers will be eligible. She explained that in November the Regional Council would go through each strategy for discussion and potential approval.

**#7. Regional Director's Report**

Regional Director Padilla provided an update of the Community Outreach Event. The last meeting was on August 16, 2012, at that meeting it was confirmed that the event will be on February 9, 2013, 11:30-4:30, at the Americana Hotel, named First Things First Loves the Young Child. There have been 4 responding participants to date. The next meeting will be September 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:30, meeting at the Mastick Way Regional office or telephonically.

Senior Director Lyons reviewed the Contract Detail Reports provided for both SFY 2012 and SFY2013. She also explained the Data and Narrative reports and noted that all grantees were on target for service numbers. Any discrepancies will be investigated and clarified at the next meeting.

**#8. Discussion and Possible Action: Election of Chair for Fiscal Year 2013**

Vice-Chair Woodford explained that with the resignation of Ms. Anna Rosas the Regional Council now lacked a Chair. Member Kirkpatrick has advised his interest in the position. A motion to elect Member Kirkpatrick as Chair was made by Member Travers-Huerta and seconded by Member Vellom. Motion carried.

**#9. Regional Council and Staff Announcements**

Administrative Assistant Faubion announced that Member Vellom's birthday will be September 21<sup>st</sup>; Member Vellom added that he will be 80. Vice-Chair Woodford thanked both Harder & Co. staff and First Things First staff for coming and proving their information.

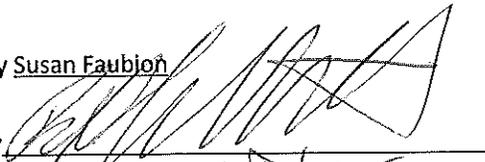
**#10. General Discussion**

Senior Director Lyons presented a gift and card to Administrative Assistant Faubion for her upcoming 4 year First Things First anniversary.

**#11. Meeting Reminder/Adjourn**

Chair-Elect Kirkpatrick thanked everyone for attending and announced that the next meeting would be held at the Peña Blanca Elementary School, 131 Camino Maricopa, Rio Rico, Arizona 85648, on October 1, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. Having no further business he adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Submitted by Susan Faubion

Approved by 

Dated this 1 day of October, 2012