



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

*The right system for bright futures*

### Arizona Early Child Development and Health Board Yavapai Regional Partnership Council

#### **DRAFT** Minutes

#### **Call to Order**

A special meeting of the First Things First – Yavapai Regional Partnership Council was held on September 15, 2009 at Yavapai County Mackin Building, 840 Rodeo Drive, Prescott, AZ 86305.

Anne Babinsky, Regional Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members Present: Anne Babinsky, Barbara Jorgensen, Margie Beach, Becky Ruffner, Ann Sult, Ophelia Tewawina and Mica Williams.

Members Absent: Kelly McCready and Tammy Linn.

Members of the public introduced themselves.

Council member Mica Williams declared a conflict of interest with regard to agenda item 3 because she works for any organization that currently receives emergency scholarships and may receive regional scholarships in the future.

#### **Approve RPC Meeting Minutes**

Member Becky Ruffner made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Yavapai Regional Partnership Council, as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Jorgensen and passed unanimously.

#### **Regional Scholarships**

Regional Coordinator Marcia Jacobson provided an overview of the recommendation of the Access and Affordability Sub-committee with regard to implementation of the regional scholarship strategy. Items for additional consideration were also presented. Dr. Jillynn Stevens, First Things First Senior Policy Specialist for Early Care and Education responded to requests for clarification and additional information.

The Regional Council entertained public comment related to the regional scholarship discussion. Vickey LaMotte, Director of the Del E. Webb Family Enrichment Center; Anelizabeth Darst, Director of Grannie's House; and Sherry Birch, Director of Sonshine Learning Center addressed the Regional Council.

Council member Margie Beach made a motion to increase the funding allocation for Strategy 4b: Scholarships from \$285,151 to \$480,151 by moving \$195,000 from Strategy 3: expand infant and toddler care. The motion was seconded by Member Ruffner. The motion was defeated with two Council members voting in favor and four opposed.

Council member Barbara Jorgensen made a motion to implement Strategy 4b: Scholarships to include the following components: 1) scholarship amount will be based on 60% of the 75th percentile of the 2008 Market Rate Survey (\$360 per month for infant and toddler, \$312 per month for 3 to 5 year old), 2) family eligibility will be determined by the same method used by the emergency scholarship program, 3) providers that are enrolled in Quality First and non-Quality First

providers that currently receive emergency scholarships are eligible to apply for regional scholarships and 4) priority will be given to infants and toddlers, children in single parent families and children with special needs. The motion was seconded by Member Beach. The motion was approved with four Council members voting in favor and two opposed.

The Regional Office was directed to evaluate the impact to families related to adoption of the scholarship amount.

**Family Support Collaborative**

Regional Coordinator Marcia Jacobson provided an overview of the recommendation of the Family Support Collaborative Sub-committee with regard to implementation of the Family Support Collaborative strategy. Member Barbara Jorgensen made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Family Support Collaborative sub-committee which included the following components: 1) adoption of the Procedure for Providing Financial Support for Community Collaboration and System Improvement Projects, with a modification to include that requests for funding need to be submitted at least sixty (60) days in advance of needing to expend funds, 2) adoption of the Request for Financial Support form, 3) approval of the Child Care Coalition's request for financial support to conduct a Child Care Coalition Conference with the following changes: disallow food costs; require identification of measurable outcomes; and require further justification of requested facility costs, 4) support the provision of an Early Childhood Community Resource Fair to coincide with Week of the Young Child in April 2010 and 5) direct the Regional Office to work with Yavapai Communities for Young Children to explore opportunities for strengthening collaboration between early childhood coalitions throughout the region. The motion was seconded by Member Beach and passed unanimously.

Council Member Ann Sult made a motion to add Margie Beach to the Family Support Collaborative Sub-Committee and to authorize the Sub-Committee to review, approve or disapprove requests for funding on behalf of the Regional Council according to the Procedure for Providing Financial Support for Community Collaboration and System Improvement Projects. The motion was seconded by Member Ruffner and passed unanimously.

**FY2011 Funding Plan**

The Regional Council reviewed the Funding Philosophy that was adopted on September 25, 2008. The Funding Philosophy was revised as follows: Yavapai Regional Partnership Council will build an early childhood system that mobilizes the community around young children, improves the way early childhood service providers operate and work together, supports collaboration that improves outcomes for young children and provides a benefit to participants, and identifies and responds to unmet early childhood system needs within the region.

The Regional Coordinator reviewed the tiered service delivery system model. The Regional Council discussed system building as a component of future funding.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Regional Partnership Council is September 23, 2009, 9:00 am to noon. The meetings will be held in Prescott.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Marcia M. Jacobson

Marcia M. Jacobson, Regional Coordinator

Approved:

September 23, 2009

Anne Babinsky, Chair