



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

Regular Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First – South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council was held on October 19, 2010, at the Cartwright Elementary School District Board Room, 3401 North 67th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85033. Chair Robert Donofrio called the regular meeting to order at 3:46 p.m.

Members Present

Robert Donofrio, Chair
James Washington, Vice Chair
Ida Rose Florez, At Large Member
Jasmine Sanchez, Parent Member
Kristi Langley-Wells, School Administrator Member
Patricia Merk, Educator Member

Members Absent

Mary Thomson, Philanthropy Member
Charles Newman, Faith Based Member
Eva Marie Shivers, At Large Member
Riann Balch, Child Care Provider Member

First Things First (FTF) Staff Present

Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator
Kelley Murphy, Sr. Policy Specialist
Rana Hermsillo, Community Outreach Liaison
Edward Valinski, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present

Janice Webb
Nora Carrillo, Phoenix Children's Hospital
Joan Shaffer, Southwest Human Development

Chair Donofrio conducted a brief welcome and introductions of those in attendance took place. Chair Donofrio also gave a brief recap of the Region Partnership Council check presentation on October 18, 2010 and displayed the check that was used at the presentation.

2. Consent Agenda

The items on the Consent Agenda include the minutes of the September 21, 2010 regular meeting. Member Florez moved to adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Member Sanchez. All in favor; motion carried.

3. Call to the Public

None

4. Discussion and Possible Approval of Expansion of Health Prevention Plan Strategy With Oral Health Component

Regional Coordinator Jonathon Gonzales gave a brief overview of the oral health strategy components and additional funding requirements. Mr. Gonzales requested that the Council review the oral health strategy component to find areas where maximum use of funding can be employed to best impact the strategy needs. Mr. Gonzales stated that one possibility is to consider a provider survey to identify areas of critical need. He pointed out that the results of a previous survey were still available and, if still relevant, the data from that survey could be used.

Chair Donofrio mentioned that a local organization has a mobile dental unit that provides full dental services. He also questioned why the Council would expend funds to seek additional data when it may exist elsewhere. He also questioned why full oral health service isn't being funded by First Things First (FTF). Mr. Gonzales explained the conflict First Things First has with providing direct services and the reminded the Council of the importance of supporting preventative services. Kelley Murphy added that the FTF Policy Unit is working to bridge an existing gap between direct services and preventative care to develop a process in which children may be referred to providers as a follow up to preventative care.

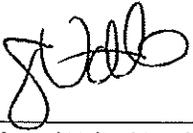
Chair Donofrio remarked that the oral health component of this strategy has been pending for several months and the Council is no closer to awarding a Request For Grant Application (RFGA) for this component. Mr. Gonzales reminded the Council that there was a poor response to the previous RFGA process with a lack of adequate providers responding. Mr. Gonzales added that even though progress with this component has been slow, that preventive care is still an important factor when considering all around oral health.

Member Langley-Wells inquired on what action could the Council take to ensure that providers are available to offer preventive care. Ms. Murphy explained that incentives to providers are available that could be used to entice providers to offer their services in the region. Mr. Gonzales continued discussing the difficulties in finding willing providers and that it is important to review collected data to better understand the needs in order to convey those needs to potential providers. Chair Donofrio asked for clarification on how data currently held by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) will be reviewed and what return will the Council realize on the line item investment of \$80,000.00 for Data Analysis and Provider Survey. He then asked if the strategy is passed as is, could the Council reallocate funds within the strategy from one line item to another. Mr. Gonzales stated that the recommendation to apply \$80,000 to data analysis reflects the reality of costs services during these difficult economic times. He added that ADHS would typically analyze the current data but cannot due to budget cuts within ADHS. As a result, the RPC must incur costs to obtain quality data analysis. Mr. Gonzales also cautioned the Council to ensure that the approval process of any strategy should incorporate a good understanding of baseline data available. Mr. Gonzales stated, for the record, that he has put a lot of effort into this strategy and has worked hard to ensure that FTF presents best practices and provides the Council with a proposal with the best course of action.

Member Merk stated that the Oral Health component is concerning to her. She added that she has witnessed the effects of poor oral hygiene in young children and feels that the strategy needs to be approved and moved forward. Member Merk moved to approve the Health Prevention Plan strategy with the Oral Health component as presented. Motion seconded by Member Sanchez. Motion approved with the stipulation that follow-up information be provided that gives details on the specific services the Council will realize for expending monies allocated toward data analysis.

Chair Donofrio reminded the Council that he had a schedule conflict and then excused himself from the meeting. As a matter of process, the meeting ended due to a lack of quorum. The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m. with the remaining agenda items tabled until the next scheduled regular meeting.

Submitted By:



Edward Valinski, Administrative Assistant
Greater Phoenix Yavapai Regional Partnership Councils

Approved By:



Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator
South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

Council Approval:



Robert Donofrio, Chair
South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council