



Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

September 16, 2014 – *Draft* Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on Tuesday, September 16, 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, Dr. Carlian Dawson, Colleen Day Mach, Kimberly Flack, Wendy Krisik, Amanda Reyes, Arlene Santos, David Schwake and Christine Tax

Please Note: Council Member Schwake entered the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Please Note: Council Member Santos entered the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Members Absent:

Kelli Cordova Wright and Marithe Denys Sandoval

Call to the Public:

Richard Yarbough, Pilgrim Rest Foundation/Faith Opportunity Zone (FOZ) – Mr. Yarbough introduced the Pilgrim Rest Foundation Faith Opportunity Zone Program, acknowledge two existing partnerships they currently have with First Things First and expressed their interest in continued endeavors with First Things First.

Sarah Wildenborg, Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services, Regional Manager provided an update on the Media Coverage about the decline on Teen Births and provided Council with some handouts with information on Statistics and Special Events in the Southwest Maricopa Region. Ms. Wildenborg thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve over 230 young families last year and hopes that the Parent Education Community Based strategy continues to allow them to do so.

Aleena Erickson, Benevilla Resource Center provided an update on the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program and provided Council with a packet of information on Grandfamilies Statistics for Maricopa County, Arizona. Ms. Erickson asked Council to consider the Grandparents Grandparent Education as a strategy to continue in the future.

Review and Approval of August 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Council Member Barrio made a motion to approve the August 26, 2014 meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Council Member Krisik and carried out by unanimous vote.

Strategic Planning Process (Discussion):

Regional Director Santiago talked about the Strategic Planning Process provided Council with the following information:

- Perspective and concept of the Strategic Planning
- Strategic Planning workbook highlighting main points in each section
- Reviewed where Council is today in regards to Strategic Planning Process
- Processes, assessments, priorities, goals, indicators and needs of the Southwest Region
- Approaches for funded and unfunded strategies
- Highlighted initial needs to be considered by Council

Regional Director mentioned that Council should consider unfunded approaches that are going to be targeting the collaboration and partnership of others in the community and targeting the same population in order to leverage funding. Regional Director Santiago will provide Council with updated information, benchmarks and data from the regions school districts to add to workbooks as needed .

- **Early Childhood System Framework**

Regional Director Santiago identified and defined the Early Childhood System Framework that Council should keep in mind when discussing the Strategic Planning Process.

- **Statewide Strategic Direction**

Regional Director Santiago talked about the Statewide Strategic Direction, Arizona's System Vision and School Readiness Indicators.

- **Fiscal and Program Policy**

Regional Director reviewed the Fiscal and Program Policy covering Policy Direction, Financial Incentives and Quality First Scholarships.

- **Regional Strategic Planning**

Regional Director Santiago updated Council on the First Things First Strategic Planning and Funding Plan Development in the context of Early Childhood System Building.

Regional Director Santiago brought up that in order for Council to discuss various aspects of the Strategic Funding Process and in order to accomplish having full discussions, Council may have to reconsider having small groups to work in the different goal areas or have the next council meeting to be extended.

Council Consensus was to have two meetings before the November 18, 2014 meeting to discuss the Strategic Planning Process. At the first meeting Council will meet and break out into workgroups to discuss the goal areas, Health, Family Support and Early Learning. Council will meet for the Regular Council meeting on October 21, 2014.

Regional Director Santiago will send out an email with dates to get a consensus on a day of the week that will work for Council to have a Special Meeting. The locations of the meetings may be moved to the Goodyear Branch Library. Once the location is determined Director Santiago will notify the Council.

Council will meet to discuss the following areas of the Strategic Planning Process:

- Frame of Strategic Planning
- Regional Assessment
- Prioritize Needs
- Look at Indicator Benchmarks and Roles To Address
- Approaches - Funded and Unfunded Strategies to Create 3 Year Plan

Please Note: Council Member Barrio left the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Council Member Updates (Discussion):

Council Member Day Mach provided booklets for the Care Coordination Pediatric Medical Home.

Council Member Schwake shared that he participated on a conference call regarding Farmers and there is a movement taking place where First Things First came up in the conversation.

Council Member Reyes shared that the Buckeye Resource Center Backpack Back to School Program was a big success for the Community of Buckeye. Ms. Joyce Gross got an award for that and there were over 500 families who attended the event. Member Reyes updated Council on the progress of the Young Childs Symposium and asked Council if they have any suggestions for contacts at a potential venue or location for the event.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Chair Dr. Dawson adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Eric Santiago, Southwest Maricopa Regional Director

Approved:

Dr. Carlian Dawson, Chair

Recorded by Cynthia E. Gandara

Cynthia E. Gandara, Administrative Assistant II



Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

October 6, 2014 – *Draft* Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the First Things First Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on Monday, October 6, 2014 at Goodyear Branch Library, 14455 West Van Buren, Goodyear, Arizona 85338.

Chair Dr. Dawson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 5:46 p.m.

Members Present:

Dora Barrio, Kelli Cordova Wright, Dr. Carlian Dawson, Colleen Day Mach, Kimberly Flack, Wendy Krisik and David Schwake

Members Absent:

Amanda Reyes, Marithe Denys Sandoval, Arlene Santos and Christine Tax

Strategic Planning Process (Discussion):

Council worked through the strategic planning process to discuss a list of identified needs. Regional Director Santiago will follow-up with Council by sending an email with identified needs for Council to review and provide comments. This will also be an opportunity for those members that didn't attend the meeting to provide feedback. Regional Director Santiago will continue to follow up with more information, i.e. financial, list of strategies and descriptions etc... prior to next council meeting.

Based on the discussion, the following are the prioritized needs of the region per goal area:

Family Support:

- Increase parent/caregiver access to child development information, and family literacy development
- Continue support for Family Resource Centers

Discussion:

- The council recognized the effectiveness of access to services through the use of Family Resource Centers, specifically in the rural areas.
- The council recognizes the need to increase focus in the area of family literacy development while continuing support parents and caregivers.
- Foster Care Parents was also a topic of discussion but the council recognized the support to this targeted group by the resource centers.

Early Learning:

- Continue support for increase access to high quality early care and education

- Continue support for increase professional development of early care and education providers
Discussion:
 - The council recognized the ongoing need to support the access to quality child care through the participation of the Quality First Program and the continuing support to Family Friends and Neighbors.
 - The council recognized services provided by Head Start which complement the work of the council through Quality First.
 - The council discussed the need to use other approaches for the increase support to care givers in the area of professional development, other models and strategies will be researched different than those implemented so far which have yielded low participation rates by providers.

Health:

- Continue support for access to early preventive dental care.
- Increase family and child care provider access to comprehensive health systems and prevention training
- Increase parent/caregiver access to child development information and identification of early developmental delays

Topics discussed:

- The council recognized the ongoing need to support strategies that addresses Obesity Prevention, Oral Health (kids and adults).
- The council identified the need to focus early intervention of developmental delays, the need to support parents in identifying developmental delays in the areas of education and referral, as well working with medical providers in the coordination of services.
- The council also identified the need to focus addressing Behavioral Health.

In the area of “unfunded strategies”, the council discussed the idea of forming an “advisory council” type of a group composed of local Elementary School Districts Superintendents and Medical Providers . It was also discussed the possibility development of private partnerships to leverage investments in strategies, i.e. sponsorship of scholarships, etc...

At the next council meeting, the council will work on approaches (strategies) to address areas of needs. The budget will be reviewed in order to find the appropriate levels of funding per approach for the effectiveness of the strategies. This will require the elimination of some current strategies or reduction of current level of funding. The council will consider if the work is already covered by others in the region, i.e. food boxes, etc.

Adjourn:

There being no further business, Chair Dr. Dawson adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Eric Santiago, Southwest Maricopa Regional Director

Approved:

Dr. Carlian Dawson, Chair

Recorded by Eric Santiago

Eric Santiago, Southwest Maricopa Regional Director