



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Child Development and Health Board Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council

DRAFT MINUTES

Welcome and Roll Call of Regional Council

A Regular Meeting of the FTF Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council was held on October 14, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. DST. The meeting was located at the Navajo Nation Museum, Conference Room #2, Loop Road and Highway 264, Window Rock, Arizona 86515.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Martin at approximately 10:06 a.m. followed by roll call of the Regional Council.

Members Present: Benjamin Barney, Victoria Begay, Amelia Black, Grace Boyne, Harry Martin, Rhonda Etsitty, Valonia Hardy, Paula Seanez, and Dawn Yazzie

FTF Staff Present: Melissa Begay, Elyse Dempsey, Karen Peifer, Memarie Tsosie, and Virginia Turner

Call to the Public

Rose Phillips, Senior Program Manager at the Southwest Human Development, presented information regarding Smart Support, a statewide accessible early childhood mental health consultation program that supports the social/emotional development of young children and increases the capacity of early care providers to address mental health needs for at risk children. The program is funded by FTF and serves tribal communities in Arizona. Ms. Phillips asked the Regional Council to consider implementing and funding the program in the Navajo Nation Arizona Region in SFY2016.

Vikki Shirley, Regional Coordinator of Reach Out and Reach Arizona, provided implementation updates regarding book distribution for SFY2015 and expressed gratitude for the support demonstrated by the Regional Council.

Discussion and Possible Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Vice Chair Boyne that the Regional Council approve the September 9, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes and the September 12, 2014 Special Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Member Seanez. Motion carried.

Conflict of Interest: Council Members will Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on this Agenda

Chair Martin disclosed conflict with Agenda Item #10: Discussion and Possible Action on SFY2016-2018 Quality First and Quality First Scholarships. Chair Martin is employed by the Kayenta Unified School District, which receives Quality First Scholarship funding.

Vice Chair Boyne disclosed conflict with Agenda Item #10: Discussion and Possible Action on SFY2016-2018 Quality First and Quality First Scholarships. Vice Chair Boyne is employed by the Navajo Nation Child Care and Development Fund, which may receive Quality First Scholarship funding. Vice Chair Boyne recused herself from discussion and action.

Member Etsitty disclosed conflict with Agenda Item #10: Discussion and Possible Action on SFY2016-2018 Quality First and Quality First Scholarships. Member Etsitty is employed by Association for Supportive Child Care, which receives funding from the Quality First strategy. Member Etsitty recused herself from discussion and action on Quality First and abstained from discussion and action on Quality First Scholarships.

To ensure quorum for discussion and action on Agenda Item #10, Chair Martin announced that the agenda item would be introduced and addressed earlier in the agenda than scheduled. Chair Martin specified that discussion and action would begin upon the arrival of Member Hardy, who would establish full attendance by the Regional Council.

Program Update from Navajo Nation Regional Grantees

A. Navajo County Public Health Services District's Oral Health

Mary Tyler, Director of Navajo County Public Health Services District's Oral Health program, in partnership with Coconino County Public Health Services District reported updates for the region including an excess number of children and adults served based on contracted service units for the SFY2014. The success was in part attributed to a contract with a dental hygienist who carried out dental screenings. However, the hygienist has recently moved out of the region and is unable to continue work with the program. Ms. Tyler reported that the program has since identified five part-time hygienists to continue screenings, and that advertisement in various local newspaper sources to recruit additional hygienists continues. One of the successes of the oral health program include the early childhood training program, which teaches child care providers, parents, or adults who work with children 0 -5 about the importance of oral health.

Member Seanez commented that Navajo Head Start also implements a dental program and asked if the counties were partnering with head start to expand services. In addition, Member Seanez inquired of any programs similar to the American Academy of Pediatrics' Brush, Book, Bed program that are being implemented as a part of oral health education, which could be a partnership with Reach Out and Read. Ms. Tyler indicated that with the level of assessment provided by a qualified dental hygienist at dental visits, the visits can qualify as exam, which is a higher level of dental assessment than screenings that are provided by head start. In noting so, in previous fiscal years, visits were made to head start centers in more rural communities of the region, and provide dental exams by the hygienist. Regarding dental health and reading routines for young children, Ms. Tyler indicated that Reach Out and Read would be contacted about the possible partnership.

Member Yazzie recommended that the Oral Health program also partnership with regional hospitals and health clinics to provide information for pregnant women about oral health.

Member Black inquired of the process in which schools are selected to receive dental screenings and varnishes. Ms. Tyler explained that notices are provided to all schools that are known to enroll children birth to age five, including Baby FACE.

Chair Martin requested an update for the tele-dentistry program. With SFY2015 being the planning year, Ms. Tyler reported that contact is being made with communities and early care providers to let them know about tele-dentistry. In addition, Ms. Tyler has communicated with the Navajo Nation Director of Health and Assistant Director of Health as well as the dental directors within with region. Moreover, necessary equipment will soon be purchased and a site will be identified to conduct a tele-dentistry event in spring 2015, where the Regional Council will be invited.

B. Dine College's Scholarships non-TEACH

Dan McLaughlin, Chair of the Center for Diné Teacher Education, reported findings from a recent First Things First Quality Assurance Site Visit of the Scholarship non-TEACH program in which barriers and success were identified. Barriers include a declined student enrollment in the early childhood education associate's degree program due to similar programs being offered by local higher education institutions; an intensified hiring requirement for early childhood providers to acquire bachelor degrees; and internal challenges and planning to address student enrollment. As for successes, Mr. McLaughlin indicated that 28 scholarships have been awarded since spring 2014; announced plans to expand the early childhood education associates degree program to the Diné College Tuba City campus; and further noted a successful one-day conference for early child care providers in spring 2014.

Discussion and Possible Action on SFY2016-2018 Quality First and Quality First Scholarships

Chair Martin requested that Agenda Item 10 be moved for discussion upon the arrival of Member Hardy, who would maintain quorum for discussion and possible action. Agenda Item 10 was moved up after Agenda Item 5. Chair Martin, Vice Chair Boyne, and Member Etsitty declared conflict with Agenda Item 10; thusly, Member Seanez served as chair for the agenda item.

Regional Director Begay indicated that this agenda item would have been presented in the November meeting of the Regional Council. However, in consideration of attendance and a potential loss of quorum, Regional Director Begay asked that the Regional Council consider the agenda item for discussion during the October Regular Meeting.

Regional Director Begay reviewed Quality First and the Quality First Scholarships for SFY2015 and recommended funding allotments and target service units for SFY2016. In regards to Quality First in SFY2016, Regional Director Begay recommended decreasing the funding allotment and maintaining the number of target service units at 25 child care centers. Funding in SFY2016 for Quality First will support 18 centers with scholarship and 7 vacant slots without scholarships. If potential centers enroll in Quality First, Regional Director Begay explained that funding could be allocated to the centers in SFY2017. As for Quality First Scholarships, Regional Director Begay recommended a decrease in funding allotment and target service units where funding would be for scholarships for 18 centers, 67 additional scholarships, and an increased 75 scholarships for Navajo college student.

Member Black moved that the Regional Partnership Council approve the Quality First Strategy package for 25 Center Based Providers with a funding allotment of \$368,022 in SFY2016. The Quality First package includes the following strategies for enrolled providers: Quality First Coaching and Incentives, Quality First Academy and Quality First Specialized Technical Assistance, seconded by Member Begay. Motion carried.

Member Begay moved that the Regional Partnership Council approve the Quality First Child Care Scholarship Strategy with a total allotment of \$1,877,345 for an estimate of 169 Quality First Scholarships for 18 Center Based providers enrolled in Quality First; an additional 67 Quality First Scholarships for children birth to age five in the following zip codes 86033, 86031, 86510, 87328, 86503, and 86504; and 75 scholarships for children of Navajo college students temporarily living off the Navajo Nation in SFY2016, seconded by Member Barney. Motion carried.

Grant Update from Child Care Development Fund on Family, Friends, and Neighbors

Selena Curley, Principal Social Worker with the Navajo Nation Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Program, provided updates for the Navajo Nation Child Care Development Fund program under the Family, Friend, and Neighbors strategy. Ms. Curley reported that in SFY2014 83 child care providers were served with trainings to become regulated, and children services tracking continues to identify children birth through age five who receive care from home based providers.

Member Barney inquired of the number of children who are disenrollment. Ms. Curley indicated that children are disenrolled when families move out of the region; children are not dismissed due to behavior. Ms. Curley noted that the ages and stages questionnaire targets five elements from personal care to social and emotional development for children.

Member Seanez asked if the goal is to have providers regulated, why is there one of 44 in Chinle regulated. Selena indicated that there are many certifications and trainings required that sometimes are barriers in providers' completion. Regional Director Begay noted that the goal of the CCDF program is to provide quality learning environment for young children and updated the Regional Council that CCDF declined the SFY2015 grant award to redevelopment the Scope of Work; the program is not focused on regulation, but on quality of child care providers serving young children.

Member Yazzie recommended communicating with Navajo Head Start to expand service efforts for young children.

Member Barney inquired of Navajo cultural practices that are implemented in the trainings for Navajo families.

Presentation on Community Outreach Quarterly Report

Community Outreach Coordinator Tsosie reported quarterly goals and outcomes, indicating changes being made to Google maps for easier navigation; and efforts to move friends and supporters to champions. Ms. Tsosie also shared information for quarterly presentations, stories, site tour, media opportunities, speaker trainings and informal networking event.

Presentation and Discussion on SFY 2014 Year-end Financial Reports

Regional Director Begay presented the SFY 2014 year-end financial report demonstrating the grantee expenditures. Regional Director Begay noted that more than seventy-five percent of grant awards for Community Awareness, Family Support, Health, and Professional Development had been expended. As for Evaluation, and Quality and Access, less than forty-five percent of grant awards had been expended respectively. An award was not made to the Needs and Assets Report by the Regional Council as no additional work was needed for the 2014 Needs and Assets Report. Regarding the Quality and Access goal area, timing and enrollment of providers in Quality First prevented expending usage of scholarship funds. Regional Director Begay also provided information on the growth of the regional Carry-Forward balance, and asked the Regional Council to consider strategic planning for SFY 2016-2018.

Presentation and Discussion of SFY 2016-2018 Strategic Planning

Derived from feedback from the Regional Council, Regional Director Begay presented a reordered prioritized need list for the region: 1) limited knowledge about the importance of early childhood development and health; 2) lack number of health specialists and professionals in early childhood development to ensure the healthy social-emotional development of young children; 3) limited

access to quality, affordable early care and education programs; and 4) increase family support services including parent education, prevention health and dental services, and early literacy. Regional Director Begay presented current strategies implemented in the region and new short-term strategies, requesting feedback from the Regional Council regarding implementation to address system gaps and fulfill the vision previously established by the Regional Council.

Member Barney request for clarification regarding priority needs and the amount of allocated funding. Regional Director Begay clarified that the Regional Council does not need to consider the order of the prioritized needs when determining funding allocations for those needs.

Member Hardy recommended, in regards to priority need 1 and the Community Awareness strategies, development and implementation of a strategy that targets the general public on a global scale of the importance of early childhood through media outlets; and a message campaign to inform public of healthy early childhood habits that could change behavior.

Member Seanez commented the importance for consistent messaging across the region on the importance of early childhood development and health.

Vice Chair Boyne commented on the relationship between adequate knowledge of the important of early childhood development and effective advocacy.

Regional Director Begay also presented continuing strategies for SFY 2016-2018 with current funding allotments for SFY 2015 and recommended allotments for SFY 2016. In an effort to prevent growth of the regional Carry Forward balance, decreases in funding allotments is attributed to recognition of historical expenditures for each strategy and matching with grant awards. Regional Director Begay also commented on the Family, Friends, and Neighbors strategy, where the current grantee elected to forego funding in SFY 2015 to review and update the Scope of Work; and the Home Visitation program, where the Baby FACE program has requested assistance from the Regional Council to continue programming. Regional Director Begay also informed the Regional Council of updates regarding the Curriculum Development and Parent Education strategy, where the Regional Council elected to hire a consultant to assess the region for resources and needs prior to implementing the Native Language Preservation strategy. Regarding the Native Language Preservation strategy, FTF would like to first establish tribal approval for use of data and information.

Member Seanez expressed concern with providing funding to the Baby FACE program due to cost of operation and longevity of the program if funded by the Regional Council, and requested additional information regarding expenses and implementation.

Member Black expressed interest in programmatic aspects of the Baby FACE program, and possible evidence-based information that can be learned from the program and possibility implemented into FTF strategies.

Member Seanez commented that if tribal approval is not necessary, then the process to completing the consultants work on the Native Language Preservation strategy would be expedited; and recommended that a courtesy letter be provided to tribal leadership with final review and approval of the proposal being directed to the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board.

Regarding recommended new strategies for SFY 2016-2018, Regional Director Begay introduced the Professional Development for Early Childhood Professionals strategy, the Mental Health Consultation strategy, and the Kindergarten Transition of Community Practice strategy to address service gaps and enable spend-down of the regional Carry Forward balance.

Member Seanez commented that the proposed Professional Development for Early Childhood Professionals strategy should lead to a degree program where early childhood professionals are enhancing skillsets. In regards to the Mental Health Consultation, Member Seanez noted that Navajo Head Start has been implementing a similar strategy, and recommended that information be obtained regarding cost, challenges, and benefits prior to implementing in the region. In addition, Member Seanez commented that the hiring of mental health consultants who are from the region would benefit the young children of the region.

Member Etsitty confirmed the need of the Mental Health Consultation support within the region.

Regional Director Begay informed the Regional Council that additional information is being retrieved for the Kindergarten Transition of Community Practice strategy, and may allow successful implementation in SFY 2016 or 2017; and invited the Regional Council to attend forums hosted by FTF and Arizona Department of Education to discuss the strategy in Flagstaff, Arizona on October 23rd.

Future Agenda Items and Announcements

Chair Martin announced that due to limited time Agenda Item 11, Presentation on School Readiness Indicators, would be discussed at the November Regular Meeting of the Navajo Nation Regional Council.

Member Black noted that early registration for Diné College will begin on November 21. Diné College is also in communication with Northern Arizona University regarding a two plus two program for students with associate degrees to prepare for bachelor degrees.

Member Begay informed the Regional Council of the 30th Annual Indian Child and Family Conference scheduled on December 4th and 5th in Scottsdale, Arizona.

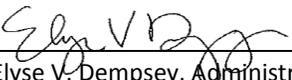
Adjournment

A motion was made by Member Seanez to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Black. Motion carried. Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:35 p.m.

Dated this 17th day of October, 2014

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD

Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council



Elyse V. Dempsey, Administrative Assistant II

Harry Martin, Chair



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council

SFY 2016 Funding Plan

Strategy Name	FY16 Allotment	FY16 Target Service Units	Strategic Direction	Funding Mechanism
Community Outreach	\$83,000	N/A	Recommended allocation is slightly lower, based on historical costs specific to the region.	FTF-Directed
Community Awareness	\$30,000		Maintain FY15 level funding.	
Media	\$65,000		Maintain FY15 level funding.	
Child Care Health Consultation	\$74,250	25 center based providers	Maintain FY15 level funding to support services to Quality First centers. A frontier adjustment is included to provide additional funds for mileage and travel for service delivery in the region.	FTF-Directed
Professional REWARD\$	\$40,500	30 incentive awards distributed	Recommended allocation is lower, based on historical usage and costs.	Statewide
Expansion: Start Up and/or Capital Expense	\$300,000	2 center based providers	Recommended allocation will support and recruit two new or existing providers to begin to serve or expand services to preschool aged children (ages 3 to 4 years).	New Government Grant Agreements
Food Security	\$180,000	9,000 food boxes distributed	Maintain FY15 level funding.	Renewal, Year 2 grant award
Nutrition/Obesity Prevention/Physical Activity	\$582,930	2,000 children served 4,000 participating adults	Recommended allocation matches FY15 grant award.	Renewal, Year 2 grant award
Oral Health	\$405,828	2,200 children receiving oral health screenings 2,200 fluoride varnishes applied 200 participating adults	Recommended allocation matches FY15 grant award.	New Government Grant Agreement
Parenting Outreach and Awareness	\$90,000	6,400 books distributed 1,500 local resource guides distributed 7 participating practices	Maintain FY15 level funding to support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Literacy Kit: \$17,400 • Reach Out & Read: \$72,600 	FTF-Directed RFGA

SFY 2016 – 2018 Funding Plan

Strategy Name	FY16 Allotment	FY16 Target Service Units	Strategic Direction	Funding Mechanism
Native Language Preservation	\$60,000	No TSUs will be set	Decrease allotment to support the completion of the Resource and Needs Assessment of the Navajo Language Preservation in Early Childhood Environments.	RFP
Recruitment – Stipend/Loan Forgiveness	\$0	2 therapists receiving loan forgiveness/stipends	The current contract will end in FY16, and all expenses have been accounted for with the FY15 funds, so no other funds will need to be allotted for this strategy in FY16.	Statewide
Statewide Evaluation	\$199,085	N/A	The allotment for FY16 is based on the Board’s approval of the FY13-17 Research and Evaluation implementation plan.	Statewide
College Scholarships for Early Childhood Professionals	\$447,221	70 full-time scholarships for CDA 20 full-time scholarships for AA 5 full-time scholarships for BA	The recommended allocation will support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current grant awards of \$393,221 • Regional allotment of \$54,000 to support bachelor degree coursework 	Renewals, Year 3 grant awards and Statewide
Home Visitation	\$389,966 Or \$1,159,966	150 families served Or 450 families served	Recommended allocation matches FY15 grant award. Or The \$1,159,966 allotment is an increase to support an additional 300 families above current TSUs.	Renewal, Year 3 grant award RFGA
Professional Development for Early Childhood Professionals	\$125,000	20 participating professionals	Recommended allocation will support program start-up year activities to provide high quality professional development for those that teach and care for young children.	RFGA
Mental Health Consultation	\$104,032	8 center based providers 1 home visitation program	Recommended allocation will provide mental health consultation to build the skills and capacity of early childhood professionals to support healthy social and emotional development of children.	Statewide
Family, Friends, and Neighbors	\$150,000	25 home based providers served	Recommended allocation and TSUs is based on an anticipated 6 month grant award. The allotment will support home based providers to receive training, professional development and financial resources.	New Tribal Grant Agreement



SCHOOL READINESS INDICATORS

Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Arizona Early Childhood System

Vision for Children in Arizona

System to Support that Vision (both content and characteristics)

First Things First Role, Outcomes and Benchmarks

Useful Tool for Regional Partnership Councils, Statewide Strategies, Public Affairs Agenda



School Readiness Indicators

1. School Readiness Indicators provide a comprehensive measure to show whether young children are ready for success as they prepare to enter kindergarten.
2. FTF's commitment to young children means more than simply funding programs & services:
 - Having a shared vision about what being prepared for kindergarten actually means
 - Identifying a collective set of strategies that work together to improve the outcomes for children
 - Establishing the supports, services & resources regionally that will establish a high quality early childhood system
 - Focusing on how strategies build upon each other and existing resources



School Readiness Indicators

Child Development & Learning:

1. #/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language & literacy, cognitive, & motor & physical
2. #/% of children enrolled in an early care & education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars
3. #/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care & education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars
4. #/% of families that spend no more than 10% of the regional median family income on quality care & education with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars
5. % of children with newly identified developmental delays during the kindergarten year
6. # of children entering kindergarten exiting preschool special education to regular education



School Readiness Indicators

Children's Health:

7. #/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index – BMI)
8. #/% of children receiving timely well child visits
9. #/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay

Family Support & Literacy:

10. % of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well-being



School Readiness Indicators

- The SFY 2013 Funding Plans were aligned with School Readiness Indicators
- Regional Council selected 5 highest priority indicators based on:
 - What are our strategies/approaches?
 - How well are we doing it?
 - Are Children and Families Better Off?



Regional Council's School Readiness Indicators (SRI)

Child Development & Early Learning:

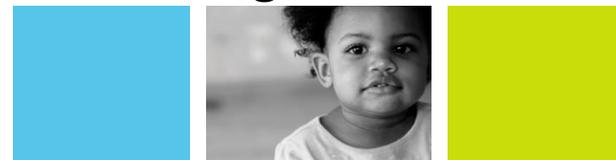
- #/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical
- #/% of children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

Children's Health:

- #/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index – BMI)
- #/% of children receiving timely well child visits

Family Support & Literacy

- % of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well-being



Children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical

Intent of indicator is to increase the number of children with equal opportunity to be successful in school and close the achievement gap before kindergarten entry

Data is not currently available. State and regional benchmarks will be recommended in SFY17 based on baseline data from the Arizona kindergarten entry assessment available Fall 2017, (will be known as Arizona Kindergarten Developmental Inventory)

Strategies with direct impact:

- Quality First
- Quality First Scholarships
- Inclusion of Children with Special Needs
- Mental Health Consultation
- Child Care Health Consultation
- Expansion: Increase Slots and/or Capital Expense
- Kindergarten Transition
- Summer Transition to Kindergarten
- College Scholarships for Early Childhood Professionals
- FTF Professional REWARD\$
- Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals
- Care Coordination/Medical Home
- Oral Health
- Nutrition/Obesity/Physical Activity
- Developmental and Sensory Screening
- Home Visitation
- Parenting Education
- Native Language Preservation
- Consultation: Language and Communication
- Family, Friend and Neighbor Care



Children enrolled in an early care & education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

Intent of indicator is to increase the number of children with access to affordable high quality early learning programs

Data will be available through the FTF Quality First data system at the statewide and regional levels and Child Population Census Data

Related strategies are aligned with the SRI and will likely contribute to meaningful progress on indicator benchmarks over time:

- **Quality First**
- **Quality First Scholarships**
- **Family, Friends, & Neighbors**
- **Mental Health Consultation**
- **Expansion: Start-up and/or Capital Expense**
- **College Scholarships for Early Care and Education Providers (Scholarships non-TEACH)**
- **Professional Development for Early Care and Education Professionals**



Children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (BMI)

Intent of indicator is to increase the number of children who maintain a healthy body weight

Data to be collected from Navajo Nation's Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) program

Strategy directly associated with school readiness indicator is **Nutrition/Obesity/Physical Activity**.

Other strategies linked to the indicator:

- **Physician Education and Outreach**
- **Comprehensive Preventative Health Programs**
- **Child Care Health Consultation**
- **Care Coordination/Medical Home**
- **Food Security**
- **Home Visitation**



Children receiving timely well child visits

Intent of indicator is to increase the number of children with consistent well child visits where there is higher opportunity for immunizations, appropriate screenings and early identification of development delays, other medical healthcare, and support for family members to understand their child's health.

Data to be collected from Indian Health Services and AHCCCS Claims Data – provides health insurance for over 50% of children five and under in Arizona.

Strategies associated with school readiness indicator:

- **Health Professional Education and Outreach**
- **Care Coordination/Medical Home**
- **Developmental & Sensory Screening**
- **Home Visitation**

Other strategies linked to the indicator:

- **Arizona Parent Kit**
- **Parenting Outreach and Awareness**



Families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well-being

Intent of indicator is to increase the number of families who report they are competent & confident to support their child.

Data to be collected as a composite of several measures in the FTF Family Community Survey.

Strategies with direct impact:

- **Family Resource Centers**
- **Home Visitation**
- **Parenting Education**
- **Family Support Coordination**
- **Food Security**
- **Curriculum Development Parent Education (Native Language Preservation)**
- **Parenting Outreach and Awareness**
- **Parent Kits (statewide)**



Regional Priority Needs to be Addressed	SFY 2016 – 2018 Approaches (Strategies) to Address Priority Needs	School Readiness Indicators Aligned with Priority Needs and Approaches
<p>Limited knowledge about the importance of early childhood development and health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Outreach • Community Awareness • Media • Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals 	<p>No SRI associated with this priority area</p>
<p>Lack number of health specialists and professionals in early childhood development to ensure the healthy social-emotional development of young children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care Health Consultation (CCHC) • College Scholarships for Early Childhood Professionals • Professional REWARD\$ • Mental Health Consultation • Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals 	<p>Children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars</p> <p>Children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical</p>
<p>Limited access to quality, affordable early care and education programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality First • Quality First Scholarships • Family, Friends, and Neighbors • Expansion: Start Up and/or Capital Expense • Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals 	<p>Children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars</p> <p>Children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical</p>
<p>Increase family support services including parent education, preventive health and dental services, and early literacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Visitation • Curriculum Development Parent Education (Native Language Preservation) • Food Security • Nutrition/Obesity Prevention/Physical Activity • Oral Health • Parenting Outreach and Awareness 	<p>Families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child’s safety, health and well being</p> <p>Children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index-BMI)</p> <p>Children receiving timely well child visits</p>



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Navajo Nation Regional Partnership Council

Agenda Item #7: Regional Director's Report

Background: An overview of regional events, meetings, and updates:

Meetings and Events attended:

1. Navajo Head Start Health Service Advisory Council, September 19, 2014, Window Rock, Arizona
2. Tribal Consultation, October 7, 2014, Phoenix, Arizona. Discussions were held on System Building and Public Private Partnerships.
3. American Indian Oral Health Summit, October 8, 2014, Phoenix, Arizona

Updates:

1. Candida Hunter, New Senior Director of Tribal Affairs. Candida is a member of the Hualapai Tribe.
2. Chair/Vice Chair Leadership Conference Call on October 20, 2014. Discussions were held on strategic planning, upcoming legislative session, and Regional Council support needs.
3. Convened an Early Childhood Workshop committee. Committee members include Amelia Black, Grace Boyne, Rhonda Etsitty, Melissa Begay, Elyse Dempsey, and Memarie Tsosie. The committee selected Wednesday, April 15, 2015 as the date of the workshop.
4. Arizona Parent Kit distribution at Chinle Comprehensive Health Care has stopped as of October 2014. The hospital is part of the Baby Friendly Initiative, which does not allow any "adverse information" such as pacifier use or use of formula. The kit has some "non-baby friendly" information in it with regards to formula and pacifier use. Chinle will send the AZ Parent Kit to the Baby Friendly Initiative coordinator for review.
5. Quality Assurance Visits:
 - Diné College, Scholarships non-TEACH grant
 - St. Mary's Food Bank, Food Security grant
6. Financial Site Visit
 - Navajo County Public Health Services District, Nutrition/Obesity/Physical Activity grant

Recommendation: For informational only.