



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting of the First Things First – Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on **October 13, 2010** at 1:00p.m. at the Hualapai Healthy Heart Program, Peach Springs, AZ.

Chair Irwin called the meeting to order at 1:10p.m.

Members present:

Rev. Pete Imus, Sandra Irwin, Charlene Imus, Shelly Bachison (telephonically), Helen J. Watahomigie, Scott Dunsmore

Members Absent: Cheryle Beecher, Penny Renfro, Candida Hunter, Lucille Watahomigie

Approval of September 8, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Member Imus moved to approve the September 8th, 2010 meeting minutes. Member Helen Watahomigie seconded the motion. Member Dunsmore abstained from voting. Motion passed, vote was not unanimous, due to Mr. Dunsmore's abstention.

Call to the Public

There were no responses for the Call to Public.

Address Potential Conflicts of Interest Regarding Items on the Agenda

No members expressed a conflict of interest regarding items on this agenda.

Regional Partnership Council Member Announcements

Chair Irwin introduced Mindy Jossefides from ITCA/WIC. Chair Irwin invited Ms. Jossefides due to concern that First Things First (FTF) may be eliminated and the importance of collaboration for the needs of children birth to 5. Vice-Chair Imus reminded the Regional Council members of Red Ribbon week at the end of the month. Member Charlene Imus advised the Regional Council there are fund raising opportunities at the fair that are game or activity oriented. Any fund raising groups are permitted to set up a booth.

FTF Grantee Program Updates

Jennifer Pope, RN, with Maternal Child Health (MCH) updated the Regional Council stating they are continuing developmental evaluations with AzEIP and scheduling children for audiology appointments with IHS. MCH is also working with Vanessa at Bright Start. MCH has finished kindergarten vision screenings, and is sending letters out to families with failed results for hearing and vision screenings, with referrals to HIS, so appropriate follow-up can be made. A letter was submitted to the Gamyu advising screenings were done and requesting parents to follow-up. The Cradle board contest was held during Indian Days. The next toddler's class on October 19th will focus on oral care, toddler safety, and healthy snacks. The November class will be on the importance of infant and toddler attachment. The November pre-natal class will cover gestational diabetes. MCH staff will be participating in the health fair during red ribbon week with a booth focusing on fetal alcohol syndrome and drug use during pregnancy. MCH is coordinating with WIC to answer questions regarding WIC and coupons. MCH has also focused on breastfeeding education and encouraging mothers to breastfeed.

Discussion and Possible Action on SFY2010 Unexpended Funds.

Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council the fiscal year 2011 allocation was reduced slightly to \$120,885. All of the grants for fiscal year 2010 were closed out which left an unexpended balance of \$34,963. Coordinator Pascual provided the Regional Council members with a handout indicating that unexpended funds were generated mostly through the Maternal Child Health grant and TEACH scholarships that were not utilized. At this time, the Regional Council has a balance of \$22,255.00 available in

unexpended funds. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council this is a onetime funding source. Chair Irwin requested suggestions from the Regional Council for utilizing unexpended funds. The Regional Council held discussion regarding additional funding to one or more of the existing strategies. Chair Irwin suggested waiting until the Regional Council has the opportunity to review the 2010 Needs & Assets report advising it may indicate a specific need that could be addressed from one time funding. Chair Irwin advised funding must be used for children 0-5. Member Charlene Imus asked Member Bachison if the Head Start offers speech and/or occupational therapy services for children. Member Bachison advised there is one person who provides speech therapy services for the elementary and Head Start. Occupational therapy is available as needed through the elementary school. Member Charlene Imus suggested a reading program for parents to read to children, and she advised the Regional Council the Training Center will be open in two weeks and suggested books for the pre-natal and zero to five section of the library. The Regional Council agreed to wait until next month's meeting to make a decision in order to confer with Regional Council members who were unable to attend today's meeting. In the meantime, Coordinator Pascual will research the cost of the Regional Council's suggestions for strategies. Vice-Chair Imus advised the Regional Council to send any suggestions to Coordinator Pascual so she can compile the information to present to the Regional Council at the next meeting.

Strategic Planning

- a. First Things First Priorities and Roles: Coordinator Pascual provided the Regional Council with a handout outlining the priority areas recommended by the Task Force for First Things First to focus on. The handout also included data with results of voting done at FTF's Early Childhood Summit. Coordinator Pascual reviewed the charts at length with the Regional Council and explained how the data was collected and compiled. The State board reviewed this data at the September meeting and a summary of that discussion will be provided to the Regional Council when it becomes available. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council that the Board agreed on six priority areas which FTF plays a vital role for children birth through five. They are: access to quality childcare, supports for families, building public awareness regarding the early years, professional development for early care providers, professional development for health professionals providing care to young children, and making sure that all children have access to quality healthcare.
- b. Board Approved FY2012 Regional Allotment: Coordinator Pascual reviewed the timeline and advised the Regional Council Chair Irwin will present the FY 2012 funding plan to the State Board in January, 2011. FY2012 allocation is \$118,147. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council, due to decreased funding, to consider narrowing their focus when reviewing the Needs & Assets and how current strategies are performing.
- c. Timeline and Planning: October 14th is the Regional Chair/Vice-chair meeting in Parker, AZ. The Check Tour presentation will be held on October 27th. Election Day is November 2nd. On November 6th, Tribal Council will be provided a presentation on the FTF external evaluation. FTF Executive Director Rhian Evans Allvin will be attending the November 10th Regional Partnership Council meeting. The Regional Council will also be reviewing the Needs & Assets Report and determining if the current strategies still align with the needs of the community. The Regional Council will finalize the FY2012 funding plan at the December meeting, present it to Tribal Council in early January, and present it to the State Board at the end of January. The Regional Council Members concurred with the planning outline for development of the FY2011 Funding Plan.

Discussion and Possible Approval of SFY11 Contract for Food Assistance

Coordinator Pascual advised she has been working with St Mary's Food Bank Alliance on the contract to provide food assistance to the community. St. Mary's responded to the grant application, however, there are two concerns for the Regional Council to consider in moving forward. First, the funding that is available would sustain what St. Mary's already has in place, which is working with the Education and Training Center and distributing food commodities to the community. The regional council funds would not increase the amount of food currently being distributed, however would assist in sustaining what is currently provided. Second, St Mary's cannot guarantee that 30% of the funds would be used for infant formula, as specifically directed by the Regional Council. The Regional Council held discussion regarding how to move forward with this strategy. Member Dunsmore asked Coordinator Pascual for recommendations. Coordinator Pascual stated when the Regional Council had a direct grant with the Education and Training Center, it was more flexible. The Education and Training Center was able to get the formula and provide specific formula that individual infants needed; however, Coordinator Pascual added that the emergency food assistance grant award did not allow for administrative costs which put some strain on the Training Center to cover those costs. The Regional Council held discussion regarding options and programs that could provide infant formula to families that need it.

Member Dunsmore made a motion to revoke 30% of the funds allocated for the St Mary's Food Alliance grant, and to use those funds to purchase infant formula locally. Motion seconded by Vice-Chair Imus. Motion passed unanimously by members present.

Coordinator Updates and Possible Discussion

Regional Update – Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council the FTF 2010 annual report is complete, however, due to Arizona law, a state agency is not allowed to print the annual report. Coordinator Pascual advised the Regional Council there were two success stories in the report and one of them was the Hualapai Maternal Child Health Program. Coordinator Pascual provided the Regional Council with the end of year grantee data report outlining how many families were served, how many children were screened and how many families received food assistance. This report includes screenings done by

FTF grantee's only. Jennifer Pope, RN of MCH will try to get a report of screenings done by various other sources and provide it to the Regional Council at the next meeting.

FTF External Evaluation – Coordinator Pascual provided the Regional Council with a handout outlining the three different studies the External Evaluation is conducting to see if FTF is making a difference in helping children be better prepared for school. This will be presented to Hualapai Tribal Council in November. In order for Peach Springs School District to participate in the kindergarten readiness study, Tribal Council would have to approve it.

The Check Tour Presentation – On October 27th at 12:15 the check presentation will be held at the Health Fair in the Tribal Gym. Coordinator Pascual will send a letter of invitation to Tribal Council Members.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting is set for November 10th, 2010 - 9:00a.m. at the Hualapai Health Department. Chair Irwin advised she will be out-of-town.

Adjourn

Vice-Chair Imus motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Dunsmore. Chair Irwin adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Jo Griffis, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

Sandra Irwin, Chair