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- Agenda Item:** Consent Agenda
- Attachment:** A. Pinal Regional Regular Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2014 – Attachment 01
- Background:** The attached minutes are from the Pinal Regional Council Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at the Central Arizona College Small Business Development Center (Camino Mercado – Board Room) 540 North Camino Mercado Suite 1 Casa Grande, Arizona 85122.
- Recommendations:** The Sr. Regional Director presents these minutes for the Regional Council's discussion and possible approval.



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Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 21, 2014

Welcome, Introductions and Call to Order

The Pinal Regional Partnership Council Regular Meeting was held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at the Central Arizona College Small Business Development Center (Camino Mercado – Board Room) 540 North Camino Mercado Suite 1 Casa Grande, Arizona 85122.

Regional Council Chair Fain called the meeting to order at approximately 8:34 a.m.

Regional Council Members Present: Mariano Baca, Kameron Bachert, Jill Broussard (arrived at 8:52 a.m.), Stuart Fain, Pauline Haas-Vaughn, Christina Jenkins, Adam Saks, and Norma Wyatt

Regional Council Members Not Present: Ashlea Anderson, Michael Kintner, and Richard Saran DDS

Chair Fain welcomed everyone in attendance.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Chair Fain asked the Regional Council Members if there were Conflicts of Interest regarding items on this agenda. There were no conflicts at this time.

Call to the Public

Chair Fain made a call to the public, there was one response to the call to public. Kelly Burgess, Outreach Coordinator, New Directions Institute, Arizona Children's Association. Ms. Burgess provided a brief summary on the services offered by her organization. Ms. Burgess shared a handout with information on workgroups that are offered by New Directions Institute.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Member Saks to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Member Haas-Vaughn. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Presentation on Evaluation

Chair Fain recognized Roopa Iyer, Ph. D., Senior Director, Research and Evaluation, First Things First (FTF). Dr. Iyer introduced Lisa Colling, Ph.D., Program Evaluation Specialist, Research and Evaluation, First Things First. Dr. Iyer provided an in depth overview on the history and current work plan of Research and Evaluation within First Things First to the Regional Council members.

Member Broussard arrived at 8:52 a.m.

Dr. Iyer and the Regional Council Members had a lengthy discussion on the FTF Research and Evaluation Overview document (Attachment 02). Aimee Kempton, Pinal Regional Director provided a lengthy presentation to the Regional Council members on the Pinal Data and Financial Reports (Attachment 03).

Chair Fain requested the Regional Council take a break at 09:55 a.m.; Chair Fain reconvened the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

Discussion of the Pinal Strategic Planning for Funding

Chair Fain recognized Aimee Kempton, Pinal Regional Director who presented the Strategic Planning for SFY2016- SFY2018 PowerPoint (Attachment 03) for the Regional Council members.

Chair Fain requested the leads for the committee meetings provide a brief summary to the Regional Council members. Member Haas-Vaughn presented the Health Committee meeting minutes (Attachment 04) and provided a summary of the identified needs, identified assets, prioritized benchmarks, and regional strategies. Vice Chair Bachert presented the Family Support Committee meeting minutes (Attachment 05) and provided a summary of the identified needs, identified assets, prioritized benchmarks, and prioritized regional strategies. Chair Fain presented the Early Care and Education Committee meeting minutes (Attachment 06) and provided a summary of the identified needs, identified assets, prioritized benchmarks, and prioritized regional strategies.

Ms. Kempton presented the Combined Community Forum notes (Attachment 07) and a handout including identified needs and identified assets, follow up questions/community feedback, and events was provided to the Regional Council members. The Regional Council had a lengthy discussion on the information received from the committee meeting and community forums.

Ms. Kempton provided the Regional Council members with individualized stickers to participate in an activity which allowed the council members to identify and prioritize the needs, benchmarks and strategies. Ms. Kempton and the Regional Council members had a lengthy discussion on the activity. Ms. Kempton shared that due to the time constraints; there may be a need to hold a special meeting to discuss the TSU's prior to the Regular meeting next month. Ms. Kempton suggested she could have one on one discussion with each of the council members and provide the feedback at the next council meeting. Chair Fain asked staff to schedule a special meeting prior to the November Regular meeting for the Regional Council to discuss TSU's.

Ms. Kempton reviewed the FY15 Funding Plan Summary & FY16 Allocation (Attachment 08) with the Regional Council.

Next Meeting

The next Pinal Regional Council Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18, 2014, in Casa Grande. Staff will schedule a Special Meeting to discuss TSU's prior to next month's Regular Meeting.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Regional Council, Chair Fain adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Submitted By:

Approved By:

Cindi Alva
Senior Regional Director
Pinal Regional Partnership Council

Stuart Fain
Chair, Pinal Regional Partnership Council



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Agenda Item: Consent Agenda

Attachment: B. Pinal Coordination Update - Attachment 02

Background: The Pinal Coordination Strategy is a First Things First Pinal Regional Directed Strategy that works to enhance cross-system efforts to build capacity to deliver services because organizations are working together to identify and address gaps in service.

Katrina DeVinny
Program Coordination Specialist
520.836.5838

Recommendations: The Sr. Regional Director presents the Coordination Update for Regional Council review and update.



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The intent of coordination strategies developed by First Things First is to support participant organizations in achieving high levels of coordination that result in significant changes in policies, programs and practices in the delivery of services to families with children birth through age five.

Coalition Meetings

Date: Thursday, September 11, 2014

Number of Attendees: 33 people in attendance

Agenda:

-
- Welcome and Introductions
 - Overview of Coordination & Collaboration Standards of Practice
 - Group Activity
 - Subcommittee Individual Discussions
 - Subcommittee Report Back
 - Next Steps and Additional Tools
-

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2014

Number of Attendees: __ people in attendance

Agenda:

-
- Welcome and Introductions
 - Shared Strategy Update and Discussion
 - Group Activity
 - Subcommittee Individual Discussions
 - Subcommittee Report Back
 - Closing and Next Steps
-

Strategic Plan

- **Strategy Updates:**
 - **Maintain a Current Regional Resource Guide** – A survey is currently being conducted in order to capture changes in agency information as well as gauge usability of the guide. A review of the changes has begun along with a streamlining of the information contained in the guide. A new edition will be available after the first of the year.
 - **Create a shared community resource referral form** - The form has been vetted back through the coalition for final review along with the agency descriptions. The coalition is currently setting up the training agenda and schedule to move the form to full implementation.
 - **Develop a system of networking meetings for child care providers** - The survey to child care providers in the Pinal Region is currently being collected in order to get feedback and buy-in for the design of this network. The leads and Katrina have been visiting other trainings and meetings for child care providers in the region to discuss partnerships and working together.



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AGENDA ITEM: Pinal Communications Outreach Update

BACKGROUND: The Pinal Regional Partnership Council implemented Community Outreach and Community Awareness strategies to address the prioritized need to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood. The strategy is part of the statewide communications campaign. Since starting in October of 2010, the Community Outreach Consultant has distributed important information about First Things First, as well as information on child development, parenting and literacy. Due to the collaborative efforts of grantees, agencies, school districts, city/town governments and First Things First, there has been great improvement in the ability of families to get the information and support they need to help their children be healthy and ready to succeed in school.

Brett Haupt
Parent Awareness and Community Outreach Coordinator
(480) 253-1456

RECOMMENDATION: The Sr. Regional Director presents the Communication Update for Regional Council review and update.



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The fall season is an exciting time on the community outreach front. With community events, fall festivals, and the holidays fast approaching, Pinal County is out and eager to learn of services for their children and families.

We kicked off the season with a site tour at the Early Childhood Learning Center in Casa Grande. With Casa Grande Mayor Robert Jackson, CGPD Chief Johnny Cervantes, Legislative Representative T.J. Shope, a member of the media and our own Chairman Stuart Fain, attendees were treated to a tour of the facility which showcased the quality early learning professionals teaching in the center as well as best practices and advanced technology to supplement the curriculum. The mayor, police chief and legislative representative all left with a greater sense of the importance of early childhood education and as stakeholders in the community, will support FTF in future endeavors and representation.



As we move towards community engagement we will host more site tours with other FTF programs to help showcase the impact of quality early childhood experiences to the community and stakeholders in various groups. All the feedback that the council has given on community outreach and references to community engagement is greatly appreciated and together we can ensure that parents and caregivers across the region move towards a higher understanding of the importance of the early years.

Around Pinal: Gaining the Power to Handle a Great Responsibility

Proud parents of two young girls, Katelyn Redlin and her husband live in Maricopa but work during the day in Chandler. Soon after their second child, Brooklyn, was born in 2012, the couple quickly found it difficult to manage the schedules of work, preschool and child care.

Katelyn's parents, Mike and Karen Redlin, were retired and living in South Dakota at the time, and Katelyn had an idea: What if they moved to Arizona and helped take care of the children? It was April at the time, and the weather in the Valley was perfect, a stark contrast to South Dakota in the spring.

"The decision was easy," said Mike. "A chance to be closer to family and be a part of the lives of our grandchildren was something we couldn't pass up."

So the Redlins moved to Arizona and started caring for Brooklyn and her older sister, Olive, while their parents were at work.

The newfound excitement of looking after their grandchildren was soon replaced with anxiety and nervousness at the responsibility. It had been more than 20 years since Mike and Karen had cared for young kids, and they weren't sure they had the skills they needed.

They soon discovered a program in their community that would help them develop their abilities to support the early learning of Olive and Brooklyn.

The Family Friends and Neighbors Caregivers Outreach Assistance Project (FFN) was created with a grant from First Things First to help those caring for children other than their own in the home. Families enrolled in the program attend trainings and group connections to enhance their interaction and approach to child care. By attending the trainings, they can also obtain up to \$2000 worth of education materials to use in their home.



Pinal County has one of the highest percentages of intergenerational families living in the same household in the state, and more than 90% of young children in the county are cared for in homes rather than early childhood centers. The FFN Project was designed to meet the unique needs of the early childhood landscape of the region and has been instrumental in helping many families obtain certification for licensed in-home child care.

For Mike and Karen, the program was exactly what they needed.

“All the tools they give you, best practices for interacting with the children, going to all the trainings... You learn a lot in a short amount of time,” said Karen Redlin.

After a year in the FFN Project, the Redlin’s interaction with their grandchildren is extraordinary.

“We ask her open ended questions, get her mind working, and listen to her,” said Mike while Brooklyn sat in his lap and traced the outline of his hand. “We let her speak and kind of sort through her own thoughts without us prompting any answers.”

With the help of First Things First and the Family, Friends and Neighbors Project, the Redlins are ready for whatever their grandchildren may throw at them, and they relish the opportunity to help during their early childhood years.

“We worked a lot throughout the early years of our children’s lives,” said Mike. “Looking back, we probably would have liked to have spent more time with them. I think it’s why, even though we knew we would be challenged, that we took on this responsibility.”