FIRST THINGS FIRST

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11-21-2013 CCHS Attachment 1

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board
Cochise Regional Partnership Council

Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2013

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Cochise Regional Partnership Council was held on Thursday, October 17, 2013, at the Sierra Vista Police Department, 911 North Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona, 85635.

Council Members Present:
Danielle Brownrigg, Shawn Buckhanan, Marge Dailey, Dr. Stephen Poling, Melanie Rottweiler, Pastor Tommy Simpson (via Phone), Jane Strain, Kathleen Vedock, Michael Vetter and Nancy-Jean Welker (via Phone)

Council Members Absent: Chuck Hoyack

Chair Rottweiler welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at approximately 1:06 p.m. Chair Rottweiler led the Regional Council Members and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Chair Rottweiler explained to the Regional Council Members that they could declare their Conflicts of Interests at this time or wait until the specified agenda item. No Regional Council Members declared a Conflict of Interest at this time.

Call to the Public

Chair Rottweiler made a Call to the Public. There were two responses to the Call to Public.

Joyce Flieger, University of Arizona, First Smiles Program, informed the Regional Council Members and Public that on October 28, 2013 there will be a meeting at the Bisbee City Council Chamber for the Commission on sustainability for the City of Bisbee. They will be discussing the removal of fluoridation in the Bisbee water supply. Ms. Flieger stated that she would like as much support as possible to be present at the meeting and that it would be nice to kill it in committee before it goes to the mayor and city council.

Ken Foster, Lieutenant, Cochise County Sherriff's Department, informed the Regional Council that he was acting on behalf of Sherriff Daniels and came to learn about First Things First and offer any assistance First Things First may need. Mr. Foster inquired about the Cochise County resource guides for the Sherriff's vehicles and left his card with his contact information with the Regional Council.

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Discussion and Possible Approval of Minutes
Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the September 19, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Member Strain to approve the September 19, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes; Member Dailey seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (8-0-0).

Presentation and Discussion: SFY13 Financial Reconciliation, SFY14 Funding Plan Review and SFY15 Allocation

Member Buckhanan arrived at 1:11 pm.

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who gave a brief description of the charts provided in the packet regarding the unexpended Quality First funds. Ms. Avant introduced Lindsay Kaid, Fiscal Specialist, Finance, who explained in more detail the unexpended Quality First Scholarship funds. A discussion between Ms. Kaid and the Regional Council took place regarding the scholarship usage, scholarship eligibility requirements and whether the scholarships are full or partial.

Ms. Avant gave a quick overview of SFY13, SFY14, and SFY15 allocations and information on the charts provided in the packets.

Overview and Discussion: SFY15 Funding
Chair Rottweiler recognized Ms. Avant who gave a brief overview of charts provided and information regarding choices about the extra funding and where it could be utilized. Ms. Avant recognized Ms. Kaid who explained the SFY15 childcare rates and how they are determined. Ms. Kaid stated, "How much does Quality Cost?" and discussed the Cost of Quality vs. the Quality First Star Rating system.

Ms. Avant explained in detail about the choices the Regional Council will need to make regarding the slots for homes and centers in Quality First. A lengthy discussion took place among the Regional Council, Ms. Avant, and Ms. Kaid regarding different scenarios with the number of slots for homes and centers. The final decisions will be made at the next Regional Council meeting.

Presentation and Discussion: Requested Information
Chair Rottweiler recognized Ms. Avant who gave a brief update on the following topics:

A. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren – Grandparents can access First Things First services and the Arizona Kinship Support Services through the Arizona Children's Association. There are programs in place for helping foster parents.

B. Professional Development- Community Based Early Childhood Education (ECE) Training – a description of information provided in the packet regarding Early Childhood Education trainings in Cochise County including the TEACH program.

C. ASQ: Ages & Stages Questionnaires Online Tool – a very brief description of the online tool, stated that it is a good System Building Tool and talked about possibly adding it in the future to Home Visitation.

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D. Stipend/Loan Forgiveness Program: Therapists – a brief description of the information provided in the packet and Ms. Avant asked that the Regional Council read over the information provided.

Overview and Discussion: Priorities and Timeline On System Building within Cochise County
Chair Rottweiler recognized Ms. Avant who gave a general overview of System Building Charts, General Timeline, and Ideas provided in the Council member packet. Ms. Avant invited the Council Members to email her with any questions they might have regarding the information discussed. A brief discussion between the Council Members and Ms. Avant took place at this time.

Member Simpson arrived at 2:45pm Via Phone

Chair and Vice Chair Update from Chairs Meeting
Chair Rottweiler gave a very brief report of happenings at the Chair and Vice Chair meeting.

Regional Director's Report
Chair Rottweiler recognized Ms. Avant who gave an update on the following topics: Read On Arizona, Cochise County Resource Guide, 2014 Needs and Assets Report, Discretionary Funding Committee, in which Ms. Avant asked Member Buckhanan to speak about, KDI Update, and the Race to the Top Application Update.

Announcements
A. Next Regular Meeting – November 21, 2013 , 1:00pm, Benson
B. Community and Council Updates

Member Vetter – mentioned the upcoming variety shows and the need for adoptive families.

Member Strain – mentioned that she will be attending the Communications and Government Committee on October 24, 2013

Chair Rottweiler – said Happy Birthday to Sarah Furnas, Administrative Assistant II, and gave her a card from the Regional Council

Member Welker – mentioned the Governor's meeting in Flagstaff on the importance of Early Childhood Education

Member Buckhanan – mentioned that he would be attending the Arizona Town Hall meeting at the Grand Canyon on November 3, 2013

Member Simpson – updated the Regional Council that his church, New Jerusalem Community Church, is hosting the Best Home Foods Program.

Adjournment
With no further business before the Regional Council, Chair Rottweiler adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

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Submitted By: Sarah Furnas
Administrative Assistant II

Approved By: _____
Chair, Melanie Rottweiler

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