



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD SOUTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the First Things First South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on December 15, 2009 in Building 1, Room 104 at South Mountain Community College; 7050 South 24th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85042.

Chair Robert Donofrio called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m. A brief welcome by Chair Donofrio and introduction of Council Members, First Things First Staff, and guests in attendance took place. An introduction of Tracey Craig, Regional Manager for Greater Phoenix/Yavapai also took place.

Council Members in Attendance: Robert Donofrio, Chair, James Washington, Vice Chair, William Ellert, Member; Moises Gallegos, Member; Patricia Merk, Member; Eva Marie Shivers, Member; Mauricio Martinez, Member.

Members Not in Attendance: Rosalind Polston, Member; Mary Thomson, Member, Cindy Segotta-Jones, Member.

Staff in Attendance: Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator, Tracey Craig, Regional Manager, Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant

Quorum: Established.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Member Moises Gallegos moved to approve the Special meeting minutes of November 3, 2009, second by member Mauricio Martinez, all in favor, no discussion; motion carried.

3. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** Reverend Charles Norris introduced himself and Arnold Jackson who is the Executive Director/Chief Operations Officer for Tanner Community Development Corporation to the Council and thanked the Council for their funding support. Reverend Norris advised that TCDC is in collaboration with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, My Sister My Friend, and two of the Child Help Centers. TCDC also has parent educators in the field providing services to help parents with their children in preparation for kindergarten. Reverend Norris plans to update the Council next month with information of where they are with the grant received from First Things First. Chair Donofrio thanked Reverend Norris and Mr. Jackson for their help in providing services to children.

Sarah O'Campo from the Association for Supportive Child Care Kith and Kin project thanked the Council for their funding support and advised that ASCC is busy with expansion and has as many as 15 providers in their group with their max set at 20. Ms. O'Campo recently met with Coordinator Gonzales to explore other potential partnerships within the region and encouraged the Council to share any names of providers they may have that are interested in Kith & Kin and provided contact material in the event they think of anyone that would be interested. The Kith and Kin grantee is very excited about the funding provided, the growth, and the very intense evaluation components. Chair Donofrio thanked Ms. Ocampo for her work.

4. **COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES:** The Council members in attendance gave updates which included a statewide emergency Chair/Vice Chair teleconference on funding cuts, the grand opening of the Family Resource Center, Tapestry Project Updates, Head start updates, and Data Collection on Kith & Kin, and the importance of the services provided by First Things First in the South Phoenix Region. Mr. Martinez thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve, Mr. Washington thanked all for prayers and donations on behalf of his parents, and Jonathon was thanked for all of his hard work.

5. **REGIONAL COORDINATOR UPDATE: Scholarships:** Coordinator Gonzales advised that the Council was approved to spend an additional million dollars for this year to continue scholarships, and there is a commitment from the South Phoenix Council to continue providing scholarships through the next few fiscal years. **Evaluation:** South Phoenix has a total of four hundred fifty thousand dollars to go towards evaluation. One hundred fifty thousand to St. Luke's, two hundred fifty thousand will go towards the child care study and fifty thousand to be as a place-holder. With the help of Dr. Shivers and her review, one hundred fifty thousand of those dollars will go to St. Luke's to do a study in conjunction with the state and will buy the Council target information that will help in making better decisions. St. Luke's will also go out into the community for some of the evaluations because they are aware that not all the population has phones. **Needs & Assets:** The Council did not put additional dollars as other Councils did for this study. The bid review for Needs and Assets which will be Maricopa wide will take place as soon as the information is available. Volunteers from the South Phoenix Council will be needed to help in the review process. **Term Limits:** The two year terms for Council Members are approaching with the end of the Fiscal Year. Coordinator Gonzales requested that the Council let him know if they are planning on seeking another term. First Things First is currently working on the process of renewal to determine what that process will be. **Pre-K Slots:** Regional Coordinator Gonzales informed the Council that the South Phoenix Council funded two hundred and forty full-time and part-time slots within Laveen, Tolleson, Isaac, Murphy, Cartwright, Fowler, and Riverside. The only two districts that did not receive slots due to time constraints were Roosevelt and Pendergast. The funded slots are curriculum based with wrap around services. The Pre-K Slots will be provided through Arizona Department of Education who will do all the paperwork, site monitoring, and technical assistance. **Outreach Advocacy Center:** Coordinator Gonzales with the help of Dr. Shivers and Marcia Jacobson drafted the first strategy worksheet that will be placed in the South Phoenix Funding Plan for approval once it is finalized.

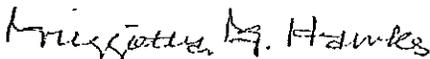
6. **FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE:** Tabled.

7. **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** January 19, 2010, may be a phone meeting later in lieu of this meeting for item #6 approvals.

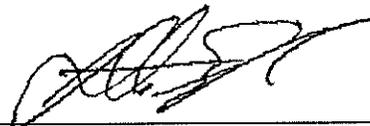
8. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Regular meeting of the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:



Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant



Jonathon Gonzales, Regional Coordinator

COUNCIL APPROVAL:



12/15/09

Robert Donofrio, Chair