

# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

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

**Call to Order/Welcome**

The regular meeting of the First Things First Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on March 12, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Hualapai Health Education and Wellness Department in Peach Springs, Arizona, 86434.

**Members Present**

Reverend Pete Imus, Chair; Candida Hunter, Vice Chair; Omaovensí Coochwytewa; Darren Hudak; Charlene Imus; Sandra Irwin; Dr. Anthony Perkins and Barbara Tinhorn

**Members Absent**

Joyce Holgate and Lucille Watahomigie

Chair Imus called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m.

**Possible Approval of February 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chair Hunter made a motion to approve the February 12, 2014 meeting minutes. Member Irwin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Call to the Public**

There were no responses to the call to the public.

**Regional Partnership Council Member Announcements**

Chair Imus introduced Loveena Watahomigie, Youth Council Treasurer, who was present at the meeting.

Member Irwin announced submission of the Circles of Care grant application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) for Maternal Child Health to coordinate those who work with young children in the community.

Chair Imus announced the Youth Council's Family Fun Night, the Spring Break Carnival, and the Color Run.

**Fiscal Year 2014 Implementation Update**

Regional Director Ashley Pascual reviewed the second quarter grantee report, and noted that in following up from the last regional council meeting, she connected the TEACH scholarship program with Sheila Halbert, Head Start Director. Director Pascual reviewed the grantee narrative data summary. Senior Director Gary Arnold inquired whether the expansion grantee (Hualapai Day Care Center) was provided ongoing training information, and Director Pascual advised they were. Director Pascual also reviewed the financial expenditures to date.

**Hualapai Early Childhood System - Progress and Next Steps**

Chair Imus and Director Pascual reviewed the current status of the community vision and partnership, and noted the five focus areas prioritized last year for the building up of the early childhood system. Dr. Perkins provided an update on developmental screening and services, another one of the focus areas. Dr. Perkins noted that Beth Ferry, Special Education Director for the Peach Springs Unified School District, provided training and communicated to parents and Tribal entities how and where to obtain assistance; however, a need still exists and she will continue visits as necessary. Members discussed ideas for additional outreach, and Dr. Perkins will ensure information is provided in the Gamyu. Dr. Perkins also noted some

system building efforts in the community to facilitate a smoother transition for children advancing from Head Start to elementary school, and encouraged members to help get the word out about the Kindergarten Roundup.

Chair Imus also highlighted the community vision and partnership efforts of the Youth Partners.

Members discussed the effects of domestic violence on children, and trainings that could benefit the community. There was discussion about grantee accountability through data reporting. Other ideas for partnerships were attending Hualapai Health Education and Wellness Department meetings and Head Start Policy Council meetings, possibly using the medicine wheel as a starting point for discussion on what it means to have a system in place. Members commented on the need for better tracking of data, and that a community effort with community involvement is necessary.

#### **National Advisory Panel for Research and Evaluation**

Candida Hunter, Vice Chair and National Evaluation Advisory Panel Member, discussed the role of the panel which includes data collection and evaluation, and ensuring First Things First is using the best approaches for data collection, maintenance and analysis for measuring the school readiness indicators.

#### **Discussion on the Fiscal Year 2015 Meeting Schedule**

Chair Imus led a discussion about filling vacant regional partnership council seats, and accommodating members' work schedules in order to continue meeting quorum requirements. Members agreed to consider moving the meeting time to 3:00pm in the next fiscal year, and maintaining the second Wednesday of the month. Director Pascual will provide the fiscal year 2015 meeting schedule for possible adoption at the next meeting.

#### **Regional Director's Report**

Director Pascual provided an update on the search for a new Chief Executive Officer and several other items. She will bring more information about the BUILD Arizona Initiative to the regional partnership council at a future meeting.

Director Pascual reviewed a timeline for strategic planning for fiscal years 2016-2018.

Director Pascual shared news of the passing of Beverly Russell.

#### **Next Meeting**

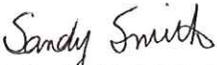
The next meeting will be held April 9, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. at the Hualapai Department of Cultural Resources.

#### **Adjourn**

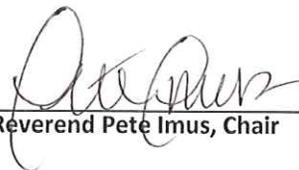
Chair Imus adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**APPROVED BY:**



Sandy Smith, Administrative Assistant



Reverend Pete Imus, Chair