



**FIRST THINGS FIRST**  
*The right systems for bright futures*

**Date:** May 4, 2009  
**To:** San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council Members  
**From:** Beverly Russell, Regional Coordinator-San Carlos  
**Subject:** Staff Report for the month of April/May  
**Cc:** file

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**SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBAL RELATIONS**

April 1--The San Carlos Apache Education Committee convened a special meeting to review the First Things First (FTF) Programming and Data Collection Resolution. The Regional Coordinator provided the committee with a brief overview of FTF, the Emergency Early Childhood Response Package, and the draft resolution on First Things First programming and data collection. The San Carlos Apache Education Committee approved the resolution and requested that FTF proceed with presenting the resolution to the full Tribal Council for consideration.

April 7—The Regional Partnership Council and FTF staff participated in a Regular San Carlos Apache Tribal Council Meeting for the following items:

- To seek approval for the dissemination and publication of the San Carlos Apache Needs and Assets Report
- To seek approval of a San Carlos Apache Resolution on FTF Programming and Data Collection.
- To make a San Carlos Apache regional funding allocation presentation.

The Regional Partnership Council was successful at gaining approval of the presented resolution. Additionally the check presentation was well received. However, the Tribal Council requested additional time to review the Needs and Assets Report and have committed to placing it on the next Special Tribal Council Meeting agenda for consideration. Additionally, they requested that a resolution be presented to document their approval of the publication and dissemination of the Needs and Assets Report.

The coordinator has drafted the resolution and present to the Council at the May meeting for their feedback.

## **FTF REGIONAL NEWS**

I am happy to announce that the Central East Region has a new addition to our team. Ms. Marla Chamberlain recently stepped into the role of manager for our region. She comes to us with great experience as the former manager of the Yuma region. I look forward to introducing her to the San Carlos Apache community.

## **FIRST THINGS FIRST INFORMATION**

### ***Quality First:***

The Regional Coordinator is pleased to report that two center-based applications have recently been submitted for participation in the Quality First Program.

### ***Update on FTF Emergency Response Package:***

Child Care Scholarships—

- The Valley of the Sun United Way will serve as the administrative home for the San Carlos Apache Region.
- Center- and home-based child care providers who are accredited by national organizations recognized by the Arizona Department of Education and the Department of Economic Security and/or who have applied to and are eligible for Quality First may participate in the emergency scholarship response. Accredited centers and those who applied for Quality First can contact the appropriate United Way to apply to participate. They can also visit <http://www.emergencyscholarships.org> for the application.

Emergency Food Boxes---

The San Carlos Apache Region was allocated \$3,236 to initiate temporary emergency hunger relief efforts for families with children 0-5 in San Carlos. The application was due on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Thus far, there have been no applicants to provide this service in San Carlos. The coordinator has contacted the following entities seeking interest: The United Food Bank in Mesa, Tribal Social Services, Tribal Health Department, Tribal TANF Program, Graham County Food Bank and St. Charles Church. Unfortunately, these programs are either unable or unwilling to participate at this time. On Friday, April 17- the Tribal CHR Program, Emergency Medical Services, and the Tribal Fire Department all committed to submitting applications to provide this service. As of May 4<sup>th</sup> no applications have been received.

## **FTF LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

### **Early Childhood Development and Health Board**

Dr. Arturo Gonzalez is scheduled for an Executive Nomination hearing in the Public Safety and Human Services Committee next week on Wednesday, May 6 at 10:30 a.m.

He was appointed by Governor Janice K. Brewer to fill a term that expires on January 17, 2011. After this hearing, Dr. Gonzalez's nomination will go to the full Senate for a final vote for confirmation.

**Arizona Supreme Court – FTF Investment Funds (from Elliott Hibbs - FTF Executive Director )**

Without comment, the Court denied our request to stay the transfer of FTF investment funds. This was not a surprise. We had to show irreparable harm from having the money swept, which could only be argued if we were to lose the interest earnings from not having the \$7 million in our account versus the state General Fund account. The other party had already conceded in its response to our request for a stay that they would have to pay interest on the money if swept and then later returned to FTF by order of the Court.

**APRIL-MAY MEETINGS/EVENTS ATTENDED**

April 1—San Carlos Apache Tribe Education Meeting, San Carlos, AZ

April 7—San Carlos Apache Tribal Council Meeting, San Carlos, AZ

April 8—Coordinator on scheduled Annual Leave

April 20—San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council Meeting-Cancelled

April 24—Meeting with Quality First Coach—Linda Willians Chugue, Globe AZ

April 29—SCA Health Intervention RFGA Grant Review Session, Globe, AZ

May 1—FTF Coordinator's Meeting, Phoenix, AZ

May 12-15—Coordinator on scheduled Annual Leave

**TO DO LIST**

- Schedule a photo shoot with San Carlos Head Start and the Apache Kid Child Care Center to get photos for San Carlos FTF Brochure.