

# 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/Roll Call/Welcome**

The regular meeting of the First Things First Hualapai Tribe Regional Partnership Council was held on July 9, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Hualapai Health, Education and Wellness Department in Peach Springs, Arizona, 86434.

**Members Present**

Candida Hunter, Chair; Darren Hudak, Vice Chair; Reverend Pete Imus; Sandra Irwin; Dr. Anthony Perkins  
Omaovensi Coochwyteawa and Charlene Imus participated telephonically

**Members Absent**

Barbara Tinhorn and Lucille Watahomigie

Chair Hunter called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

**Possible Approval of May 14, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Member Perkins made a motion to approve the May 14, 2014 meeting minutes. Reverend Imus 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 and Reports**

Vice Chair Hudak provided a summary of the West Regional–Board Forum that he attended on May 22 along with Member Irwin and Member C. Imus. Vice Chair Hudak enjoyed the opportunity to network with other regional council members and new First Things First Chief Executive Officer Sam Leyvas. Vice Chair Hudak noted the advantages of sharing best practices and formulating solutions together.

Reverend Imus shared a summary of the First Things First Faith-based Forum, which was the first of its type. Reverend Imus noted one discussion that stood out was developing messaging for faith-based representatives and defining their roles in the community.

**Fiscal and Program Updates**

Regional Director Ashley Pascual reviewed the FY2014 financial expenditures, noting that even though FY2014 is over, grantees have forty-five days to submit reimbursement requests. FTF Finance personnel are in contact with the Tribal Finance Department and St. Mary's to assist so all requests are received before the deadline.

Director Pascual also reviewed the FY2014 quarter 3 grantee data reports and offered additional explanation about the implementation of the programs.

Director Pascual discussed implementation plans for FY2015, which began July 1, noting Quality First is back in the region, with the opportunity to enroll the Hualapai Day Care Center.

**SFY2016-2018 Strategic Planning Discussion**

Director Pascual noted that council members had requested community input, so a community gathering was held in May, which Member Irwin and Member C. Imus also attended. Following an overview of the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study

(ACES), the fifteen attendees discussed community strengths, provided input on pertinent childhood issues, and offered ideas to prioritize areas of focus in planning. One recurring theme was the need for outreach.

Director Pascual provided an update on State Board direction, noting the action items pending the Board's July meeting. Director Pascual discussed the next steps, and asked regional members whether they have sufficient information to complete the strategic planning process. Discussion ensued about the need for a specialist for children with emotional issues, in addition to the current services provided by the special education staff at Peach Springs Unified School District. Director Pascual will arrange a focus group with Head Start and Child Care Center staff, and already plans one with Behavioral Health staff. Chair Hunter acknowledged this is a time-consuming task, especially in light of the decreasing budget and the importance of leveraging resources and working together. Director Pascual noted the State Board would not set exact regional allotments until September/October.

#### **Discussion on First Draft Needs and Assets Assessment**

Chair Hunter advised members to submit their comments to Director Pascual. Members discussed the difference between pending items that will be included in the next draft, and items that may or may not be provided for the report. Senior Director Gary Arnold mentioned that some other regions have noticed inconsistencies on maps.

#### **Parent Awareness and Community Outreach Report**

Erin Taylor, Community Outreach Coordinator, discussed the Association for Supportive Child Care conference held in Laughlin on June 21, which Hualapai Head Start and Child Care Center staff attended. She advised that Director Pascual presented at the Hualapai Day Care Center's Parent Night. There are plans a site tour of the Mobile Food Pantry, and Coordinator Taylor noted recent changes have increased distribution while food storage remains an issue. This site visit is scheduled the same day as the Mother/Daughter Retreat; however, the visit is before the retreat so invitations will be sent to Tribal Council and regional council members. Coordinator Taylor will also participate in the Back to School Bash on August 1.

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

Director Pascual provided regional and statewide updates, and offered congratulations to the reappointed regional council members. Director Pascual mentioned the presentation to Tribal Council on July 2, and noted the August 13 regional council meeting is important as the vendor for the Needs and Assets Report will present the final draft.

#### **Next Meeting**

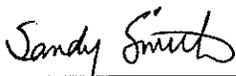
Chair Hunter reminded the regional council of the next meeting, which will be held August 13, 2014, at 3:00pm at the Hualapai Health Education and Wellness Center.

#### **Adjourn**

Chair Hunter adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**APPROVED BY:**



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Sandy Smith, Administrative Assistant II



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Candida Hunter, Chair