



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Yuma Regional Partnership Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First – Yuma Regional Partnership Council was held on August 15, 2013, 4:30 p.m. at the Yuma Regional Medical Center Main Campus, 2400 S. Avenue A, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

Chair Hawkins called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Darren Hawkins
Member Kim Fanning
Member Judy Watkinson
Member Rebecca Ramirez

Members Present Via Conference Call:

Vice Chair Irene Garza
Member Gloria Cisneros
Member Dr. Mario Ybarra (joined approximately at 5:00 p.m.)

Members Absent:

Member Laurie Gail Senko
Member Ricardo Perez
Member Mary Beth Turner
Member Pilar Moreno

Conflict of Interest

Chair Hawkins provided the Regional Council with an opportunity to declare any conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda. There were no conflicts declared at this time.

Consent Agenda

The items on the consent agenda included the minutes of the July 18, 2013, Yuma Regional Partnership Council regular meeting. A motion was made by Member Fanning to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Member Watkinson, and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Discussion on 2014 Needs & Assets Assessment

DeeDee Avery, Evaluation Specialist for the University of Arizona Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences and Project Coordinator Shanelle Washington, provided an overview on the upcoming 2014 Needs & Assets Assessment Report. The presentation overview included a summarization of the Scope of Work base report, goals and additional work/process to be implemented to provide the Regional Council with a document indicative/reflective of data for the region.

Presentation on Raising Special Kids Program

Gloria Demara, Family Support Specialist for the Raising Special Kids Program, presented to the Regional Council on the mission, goals and support services available by the program to families in Arizona. The program now has a specialist and office in Yuma.

Discussion on FY2013 Financial Report

Regional Director, Rudy J. Ortiz, engaged the Regional Council in a review of the FY 2013 Financial Expenditures Report. The report included an updated account of but was not limited to: monies allotted, awarded, year to date expense as well as reimbursement activity for First Things First Funded programs in Yuma, AZ. Further stating the total unallotted dollar amount for FY13 is \$3,026,261, \$348,677 unawarded and partial carry-forward of \$3,374,938 for the Yuma region.

Early Literacy Stations Site Tour

The Early Literacy Stations Site Tour is scheduled on Thursday, August 29, 3:00 p.m., Yuma Library District, 2951 S. 21st Dr., Yuma, AZ. Regional Council members were encouraged to attend.

Regional Director's Report

1) System Building:

- Yuma Early Childhood System Collaboration Meeting, August 12, 2013: These meetings have evolved beyond networking and continue moving towards bringing agencies to come together to enhance the Early Childhood System for all Yuma families and children.
- BMI Update: Non-funded First Things First Agencies attending the collaboration meetings play a significant role and are a great tool to help shed important data concerning the BMI (Body Mass Index) indicator. Collaboration was engaged with Yuma Regional Medical Center and Yuma County Health Department. The goal is to establish/infuse collaboration in the Health community thereby providing yet another resource to contribute to this indicator.

2) Grantee Update:

- Quality First Website Launch: August 20, 2013
- Quality First Scholarships: future changes regarding the 50/50 split with private and public partnerships and what the changes mean to the Yuma region.
- San Luis Pre-K: Arizona Department of Education Early Childhood Division: has established an Autism Cohort Program (3 cohorts). School Districts will be recruited to form part of the team to help facilitate trainings/resources/expertise on working with children with autism. The cohort will be an excellent tool that will benefit the local community.

Call to the Public

Renee Hartje, Easter Seals Blake Foundation representative, addressed the Regional Council and shared insight on Project "Me Too!," a statewide program funded by the Department of Economic Security. Through Project "Me Too!" Easter Seals Blake Foundation provides professional development workshops as well as technical assistance to family childcare, group home and center based early childhood and school age program providers to support inclusion of children with special needs.

Announcements

2013 Arizona Early Childhood Summit is scheduled August 25-27, 2013, Phoenix, AZ.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Yuma Regional Partnership Council is scheduled on September 19, 2013, 4:30 p.m., Yuma Regional Medical Center Materials Management Building, 725 W. 32nd, Street, Suite 1, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

Adjourn

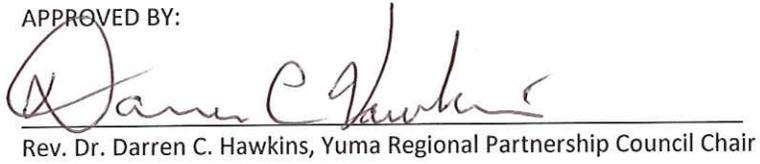
There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Marje Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY:



Rev. Dr. Darren C. Hawkins, Yuma Regional Partnership Council Chair

September 19th, 2013