



Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

**MINUTES**  
**Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council Meeting**  
**October 1, 2013**

**Welcome and Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the First Things First Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on October 1, 2013 at the St. Patrick's Catholic Community Administration Building, 10815 North 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

Chair VanMaanen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**Members Present**

Chair Patricia VanMaanen, Vice Chair Marie Raymond and Council Members Joanne Meehan, Bill Myhr, Jenny Stahl, Stu Turgel and Dana Vela

**Members Absent**

Council Member Mary Permoda

**Members of the Public**

There were six members of the public present.

**Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2013**

Council Member Meehan moved to approve the August 13, 2013 regular meeting minutes. Council Member Myhr seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously, 7-0.

**System Building Work**

Community Outreach Coordinator Oluyi updated the Council on the meeting she and Council Member Mary Permoda had with Senior Director Wendy Sabatini and the steps which they developed to increase the awareness of First Things First services in the region and the importance of early childhood in the faith community. These include an email blast which will be sent out by the beginning of next week as well as having Smart Support personnel attend a behavioral health committee meeting at St. Patrick's. Presentations will be given at the Fall and Spring Interfaith Breakfasts and information will also be disseminated to Arizona foster and adoptive families at their events at both St. Patrick's and in Chandler. Council Member Permoda will be presenting to the Community Navigators group. Faith organizations will be encouraged to post the First Things First link on their websites.

**Quality First Launch**

The Quality First video regarding the launch was shown. Senior Director Sabatini referred the Council members to Attachment 2, the Quality First Talking Points. Pursuant to a question from a Council Member, Senior Director Sabatini stated that scholarship dollars may be used by the sites to apply those toward their state licensing cost or operating expenses. Senior Director said she will verify for Council Member Myhr that a link to the Quality First website may be shown on the Ft. McDowell website.

**Quarter 4 Data and Narrative Reports**

Senior Director Sabatini reviewed the data and narrative summaries (Attachment 3a). She stated that as to the Family Support – Children With Special Needs strategy, she has spoken with the North Phoenix First Things First staff who stated that the grantee is also having the same challenges in that region. In partnership with North Phoenix, a meeting is being set up this month with AzEIP (Arizona Early Intervention Program), the Division of



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Developmental Disabilities, and school districts to bring the players together with the grantee to talk about how to enhance the referrals. The meeting will be held on October 29 at the Paiute Center.

Senior Director Sabatini also reviewed the Ft. McDowell Home Visitation strategy and noted that there has been no turnover in staff which is critical in a home visitation program. Chair VanMaanen asked what the reasons were for disenrollment, and Senior Director Sabatini stated she would follow up with the grantee and provide that information at the next meeting.

Senior Director Sabatini gave a brief review of the remainder of the data and narrative reports. She stated that the City of Scottsdale highlighted their summer program, and the Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation collaborations section highlights success in that area. Although Ft. McDowell has struggled with low attendance at the monthly parenting groups, they continue to reach out to the families and determine why they are not attending the meetings and attempt to find a solution. Council members had no questions.

#### **Update on Regional Transition Plans**

Chair VanMaanen updated the Council members about the meeting which she and Vice Chair Raymond attended with First Things First Board Chair Steve Lynn and the Chair and Vice Chair from Central Maricopa as well as First Things First staff. She referred everyone to the documents contained in Attachment 4 to include the timeline. Chair VanMaanen stated that Council members would need to apply for the new East Maricopa Regional Partnership Council if they want to be considered for the new council. Half of the council members will serve for two years, with the other half serving for four years.

Chair Van Maanen stated that a committee to discuss the combined funding plan for SFY 2015 will be comprised of the Chairs and Vice Chairs from both the Central and Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Councils as well as Council Member Myhr from the Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council and another representative from the Central Maricopa Regional Partnership Council. She stated the discussion today would be for the Council members to provide their input to the representatives for the committee meeting.

Senior Director Sabatini reviewed the *Central and Northeast Maricopa FY14 Strategies and Contracts* document in Attachment 4 and also reviewed the financial document which reflects the allocation which the First Things First Board approved at their October 1<sup>st</sup> Board meeting. Senior Director Sabatini reviewed the strategy line items with the Council. She noted that the perspective from the Community Outreach supervisor, as well as taking into consideration the size of the new East Maricopa Council, is to continue with funding both Community Outreach staff for SFY2015. All Council members stated they were in agreement with that plan. Senior Director Sabatini asked Council members to declare a conflict if they have one with any of the strategies. She stated that today's purpose is to have a general discussion as to the Council Members' position as to continued funding of the strategies, and then the committee will look at the combined funding plan for the East Maricopa region. Chair VanMaanen noted that should the Council members wish to maintain all strategies at their current level, that essentially, they will be asking Central Maricopa to use part of their allocations to fund those strategies. Council members expressed concerns about continuing with the Family Support – Children with Special Needs strategy. Council Member Myhr declared a conflict of interest as to the Home Visitation strategy. Council Member Stahl declared a conflict of interest as to the Mental Health Consultation strategy.

Senior Director Sabatini stated that due to the consolidated Needs and Assets report, funds will be available for additional items the Council might want to add to the report. It was noted that although there are presently two separate grantees for Oral Health in the two regions, that a one-year contract extension could be executed with Maricopa County for SFY 2015. Council members stated they might be interested in having a joint meeting with

Central Maricopa to vote on the funding plan; however, they want to first see what the results were of the joint committee meeting before making that decision.

**Community Outreach Report**

Community Outreach Coordinator Tina Oluyi reported on her activities for the month and highlighted her presentation to the Lions Club and the Speaker's Series Training she has presented to other agencies as well as grantees. Coordinator Oluyi stated that Habitat for Humanity in the Cave Creek/Carefree area recently built twenty homes in that area, and the Our Lady of Joy preschool will be reaching out to those families and share information about the programs provided through First Things First. She also shared that agencies have stated they are still providing a lot of emergency assistance to families in the region and that the demand has not really fallen off with the rebound in the economy. Coordinator Oluyi stated that a site tour will be held at the Chaparral Christian Preschool in the morning from 9:15 to about 10:15 on November 5 and asked if any Council members would be able to attend. Vice Chair Raymond and Council Members Stahl volunteered to attend the site tour. Coordinator Oluyi also asked for Council Members to let her know if they have the names of any community leaders who might be interested or available to attend the site tour.

**Director's Update**

- Senior Director Sabatini thanked Council Member Stahl for her participation in the Phoenix/Maricopa benchmarking committee which recently met on the benchmarks for Indicator 2. The written recommendations for the benchmark will then be brought back to the Regional Councils.
- Senior Director Sabatini stated that the pilot project for the Quality Assurance site visits has been completed. Different sites are now being scheduled for the site visits, which last from two to five days.
- Senior Director Sabatini stated that Scottsdale Healthcare is opening their new NOAH Cholla Clinic on October 14.
- Senior Director Sabatini reported that First Things First, in collaboration with other state agencies, will again be putting together a grant proposal for Race to the Top.

**Regional Council Member Updates**

Council Member Myhr reported that the Scottsdale Library visits have been occurring with up to 16 children and 15 parents attending the visits. Senior Director Sabatini also thanked Dr. Myhr for attending the Kiwanis event with her.

**Call to the Public**

Marcela Polo with TEACH provided updates on the program which includes new incentives for participants.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair VanMaanen adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Caitlyn Hollins, Administrative Assistant III  
Maricopa Region

Approved by:

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Patricia VanMaanen, Chair  
Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council