



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 October 16, 2014, 4:30 p.m. at the Harvest Preparatory Academy, 350 E. 18th Street, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

Chair Hawkins called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Darren Hawkins
Vice Chair Irene Garza
Member Janell F. Johnson
Member Judy Watkinson
Member Mary Beth Turner
Member Dr. Mario Ybarra (joined at 4:45 p.m.)
Member Pilar Moreno
Member Ricardo Perez

Members Absent:

Member Gloria Cisneros
Member Kim Fanning
Member Rebecca Ramirez

Conflict of Interest

None declared at this time.

Consent Agenda

The items on the consent agenda included the minutes of the September 18, 2014, Yuma Regional Partnership Council regular meeting, September 24, 2014 and October 6, 2014 special meeting.

A motion was made by Member Watkinson to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Member Turner. Motion carried.

Statewide Update

First Things First Chief Regional Officer, Michelle Katona, addressed the Regional Council and provided a brief update on First Things First. Ms. Katona stated the Board visit scheduled last month was cancelled and is rescheduled to be held sometime in April 2015 in Yuma, AZ. Items included in the update are: upcoming tour visit to Regional Councils by Chief Executive Officer, Sam Leyvas., focus on government relations and public private partnerships, leverage of Regional Councils/members in interfacing/interacting particularly with state legislature and other public officials/public entities. Ms. Katona further stated ongoing efforts continue in exploring opportunities/avenues regarding federal grants and or partnering/engaging with other organizations and are currently focused on ways to partner with individual private business and philanthropic organizations. Other items included in the update

were: Strategic Planning process, decline of tobacco revenue and the fiscal policy, resetting of SFY2016 budget resulting in lower allocations for Regional Councils, college scholarships, and care coordination.

Family Support Update

Family Support and Literacy Sr. Director, Dr. Aaliyah Samuel, provided an update on statewide family support and literacy efforts particularly in addressing “word gap” at a national, statewide and local level. The national organization Zero to Three has developed a web portal, Beyond the Word Gap, where parents and providers have access to help/encourage and increase the amount of language spoken and helping parents and providers understand that from “birth – five learning experiences are happening all the time” and to capitalizing on those learning experiences. Dr. Samuel provided insight at a statewide level on the Continuum of Effective Practices (First Things First partnership with Read On Arizona and Arizona Department of Education-ADE.) The Continuum of Effective Practices Committee began in early 2013 recognizing that it was necessary to develop a prenatal to grade three reading continuum to help parents and practitioners understand the literacy milestones and best overall practices by age. The Continuum of Effective Practices will be released throughout ADE, First Things First and all Read On Arizona partners. It will be available in Spanish and English and can be found on the First Things First and ADE website. The goal is to have one consistent message that all partners can use around early literacy and ensuring that those best practices are infused with everyone who plays a role in the caring/education of our young children. All FY2016 Family Support Strategies/grant application released will include the Continuum of Effective Practices component.

Regional Council Special Meeting Update

Regional Director Rudy J. Ortiz reiterated the strategic planning process and discussions from the September 24, 2014 and October 6, 2014 special meeting that enabled/guided the Regional Council in prioritizing strategies/needs for FY2016. The Regional Council will convene one more time to discuss the funding plan either by a special meeting or workgroup prior to the November 20, 2014 meeting at which time a final draft of the Funding Plan will be up for consideration by the Regional Council.

Regional Director’s Report

- a. Champion for Young Children Award: Nominations are now open. Final award to be announced at the November 20, 2014 Yuma Regional Partnership Council meeting
- b. Early Childhood System Collaboration meeting: November 3, 2014, Yuma Main Library

Call to the Public

Albie Abrahams, Smart Support Program Director, provided the summary of evaluation findings for the program.

Announcements

Service award and recognition were given to Member Moreno and Member Perez for their commitment and contribution in the Yuma Regional Partnership Council. The Regional Council acknowledged and congratulated Sr. Director Gary P. Arnold on his retirement. Director Arnold’s retirement comes after twenty five years of state service and outstanding leadership and service to the children of Arizona. Annual canned food drive, November 20, 2014, Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Yuma Regional Partnership Council is scheduled on November 20, 2014, 4:30 p.m., Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church, 150 W. 28th Street, Yuma, Arizona 85364.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY:

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

November 20th, 2014

DRAFT

Regional Director Update



November 2014

- **Yuma County Early Childhood Collaboration Meeting**

- Read On Yuma United Way
- Early Literacy & Word Gap

- **The Kith & Kin Site Tour**

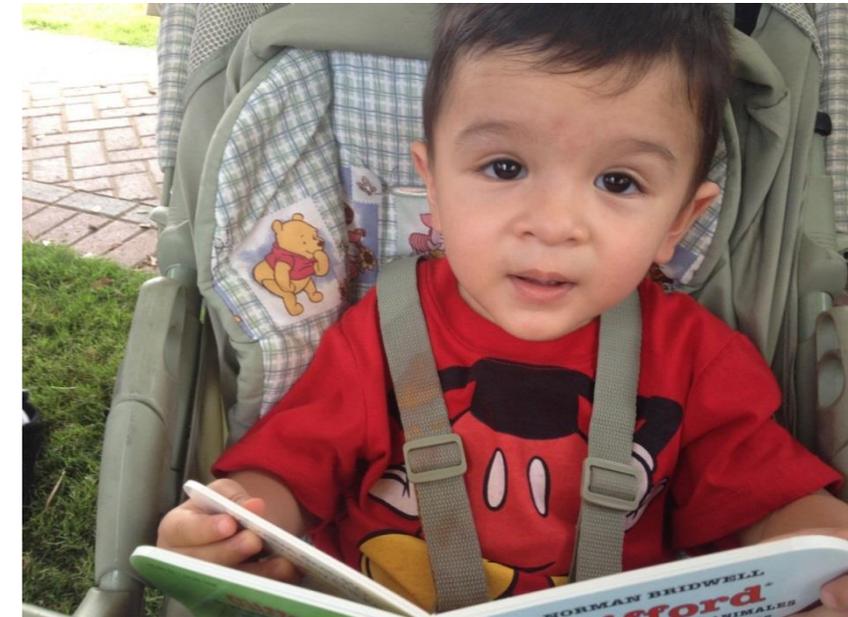
- November 17th

- **Incredible Years, Easter Seals Blake Foundation**

- November 18
- Research-based, proven effective parent education and skill building programs for reducing children's aggression and behavior problems and increasing social competence at home and at school

- **Yuma Hopeful Hearts Team (previously Best for Babies)**

- Jose Amparo, Child and Family Therapist (Easter Seals Blake Foundation)



Strategic Planning



Yuma Regional Partnership Council

Strategic Planning for SFY16-18

Regional Priorities, Selected FTF Indicators and Priority Roles, and Strategies to Achieve Outcomes

Regional Priority to be addressed	School Readiness Indicators Correlated to the needs and priority roles	FTF Priority Roles in the Early Childhood System	SFY 2013-2015 Strategies
<p>School Readiness – Limited pre-school opportunities, parents need education about preparing children for school</p> <p>Children w/Disabilities – lack of therapy services, early identification of special needs</p> <p>Access to affordable Quality Child Care – High Unemployment/ Poverty rates, more/Family, Friend and Neighbor Care</p> <p>Parent’s awareness of the needs of young children.</p>	<p>#/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical</p> <p>#/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars</p> <p>#/% of children receiving well child visits</p> <p>#/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index-BMI)</p> <p>#/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay</p> <p>% of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child’s safety, health and well being</p>	<p>Quality, Access, and Affordability of Regulated Early Care and Education Settings – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive and affordable early care and education programs.</p> <p>Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services – Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families</p> <p>Professional Development System – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and enhancement of an early childhood professional development system that addresses availability, accessibility, affordability, quality, and articulation.</p> <p>Supports and services for families – Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.</p>	<p>Quality First (including CCHC, TEACH and Scholarships)</p> <p>Scholarship-non TEACH</p> <p>Inclusion of Children with Special Need</p> <p>Family Support–Children with Special Needs</p> <p>Recruitment Stipends/Loan Forgiveness (SFY13, SFY14)</p> <p>Community Based Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals</p> <p>Oral Health</p> <p>Family, Friends and Neighbors</p> <p>Mental Health Consultation</p> <p>Home Visitation</p> <p>Parent Outreach and Awareness</p> <p>Food Security</p> <p>Parent Education Community Based Training</p> <p>Expansion: Increase slots and/or capitol expense</p> <p>Reach Out and Read</p> <p>Needs and Assets (SFY14)</p> <p>Community Awareness</p> <p>Community Outreach</p> <p>Media</p> <p>Statewide Evaluation</p>

Common Vision #1

Yuma Children Ready To Succeed In Their Academic Career

Key Words/Phrases: School Readiness, Executive Function, Quality, Access, Professional Development, Collaboration, Early Literacy

Aligned to:

Regional Priority:

School Readiness – Limited pre-school opportunities, parents need education about preparing children for school

Access to affordable Quality Child Care – High Unemployment/ Poverty rates, more/Family, Friend and Neighbor Care

School Readiness Indicator:

#/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical

#/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

FTF Priority Roles:

Quality, Access, and Affordability of Regulated Early Care and Education Settings – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive and affordable early care and education programs.

Professional Development System – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and enhancement of an early childhood professional development system that addresses availability, accessibility, affordability, quality, and articulation.

Common Vision #2

Goal: Healthy Children

Key Words/Phrases: BMI, Maternal Health, Oral Health, Health Insurance, Special Needs, Collaboration, Early Literacy

Aligned to:

Regional Priority:

**Children w/Disabilities – lack of therapy services, early identification of special needs
Parent’s awareness of the needs of young children**

School Readiness Indicator:

#/% of children receiving well child visits

#/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index-BMI)

#/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay

% of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child’s safety, health and well being

#/% of children with special needs/rights enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars

FTF Priority Roles:

Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services – Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families

Supports and services for families – Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.

Common Vision #3

Strong Families

Key Words/Phrases: Family Support, Resource Guide, Referral Form, Collaboration, Early Literacy

Aligned to:

Regional Priority:

Parent's awareness of the needs of young children

School Readiness – Limited pre-school opportunities, parents need education about preparing children for school

School Readiness Indicator:

% of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well being

FTF Priority Roles:

Supports and services for families – Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families.

Next Steps

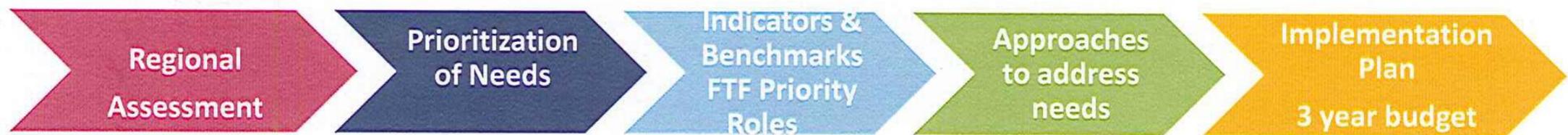
- Starting our Strategic Planning Process
- Listen to our community: Include community voice in our strategic planning process.
- Needs and Assets: include the report in our strategic planning process.
- Wait for Allocation of Funds From State Board

Foundation: Collective Impact!

Review Strategic Planning

- **Key Components**
 - Imagined future: What does 2020 look like?
 - Our Vision (Big Picture)
 - Default Future (If we don't have a strategic plan)
 - Identify Assets
 - Build Goals
 - Identify Challenges
 - Create Actions

Strategic Planning Framework



- Needs & Assets Reports
- SFY13-15 Strategic Direction & Implementation
- Data & Discussion from Benchmarking
- Reports/Data from partners
- Visioning/Big Picture
- System building levers: quality, partnerships, infrastructure & capacity, scope & scale
- Engagement of partners

- Define areas of need
- Prioritize— where should we focus our efforts

- Alignment of needs with SRI and benchmarks
- Alignment of needs to FTF priority roles

- Determine approaches to take (funded/unfunded) to address the prioritized needs and advance the early childhood system in the region

- Set three year budget based on approaches
- Implementation plans for unfunded approaches— system building efforts



Collaboration Meeting & Town Halls

FTF needs you! The Yuma Regional Partnership Council believes it's critical in their strategic planning to gather your input and ideas of how they should prioritize their next three year funding plan. (handouts)

Yuma Regional Partnership Council: Special Meeting 1

Regional Priorities, Priority Roles, and Strategies to Achieve Outcomes

Regional Priority to be addressed	FTF Priority Roles In the Early Childhood System	Strategies
<p>Access to affordable Quality Child Care – High Unemployment/Poverty rates, more/Family, Friend and Neighbor Care</p> <p>School Readiness – Limited pre-school opportunities, parents need education about preparing children for school</p> <p>Children w/Disabilities – lack of therapy services, early identification of special needs Early Identification/Prescreening</p> <p>Parent’s awareness of the needs of young children (Early Literacy).</p>	<p>Quality, Access, and Affordability of Regulated Early Care and Education Settings – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for increased availability of and access to high quality, regulated, culturally responsive and affordable early care and education programs.</p> <p>Supports and services for families – Convene partners, provide leadership, provide funding, and advocate for development, enhancement, and sustainability of a variety of high quality, culturally responsive, and affordable services, supports, and community resources for young children and their families</p> <p>Professional Development System – Convene partners, provide leadership, and provide funding for the development and enhancement of an early childhood professional development system that addresses availability, accessibility, affordability, quality, and articulation.</p> <p>Access to Quality Health Care Coverage and Services – Collaborate with partners to increase access to high quality care services (including oral health and mental health) and affordable health care coverage for young children and their families.</p>	<p>Quality First (including CCH, TEACH and Scholarships), Family, Friends, and Neighbors</p> <p>Community Based Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals</p> <p>Inclusion of Children with Special Needs</p> <p>Reach Out and Read</p> <p>Oral Health</p> <p>Parent Education Community Based Training</p> <p>Food Security</p> <p>Home Visitation (Fathers), Family Support–Children with Special Needs, Parent Outreach and Awareness</p> <p>Community Awareness</p> <p>Community Outreach</p> <p>Needs and Assets</p> <p>Media</p> <p>Statewide Evaluation</p>

CEO: Sam Leyvas

“..Unfortunately, over the past 5 years, tobacco-tax revenue has decreased by about 23%, meaning that we have \$39 million less to work with on an annual basis than we did in prior years.

Over the last year, the First Things First Board, regional partnership councils and community stakeholders have been engaged in planning discussions on the long-term sustainability of our early childhood investments.

Throughout these conversations, there has been a shared understanding and agreement that current spending levels simply could not be sustained given the reductions in tobacco-tax revenue.

Current regional spending levels have been supported in part by regional carry forward balances generated in the first few years of programmatic spending. However, if FTF were to continue regional spending at its current levels, virtually all carry forward dollars would be depleted within the next three years. Doing so would result in multiple rounds of service/program reductions as each region reached the point when its budget could no longer support spending levels.

The First Things First Board decided that the most responsible thing to do was to establish a new baseline budget now for FY16 so that regional councils can take this in to account as they plan for fiscal years 2016 to 2018. To that end, the FTF Board right-sized the budget to better align future spending to revenue and established a baseline program budget of \$126.6 million beginning in FY2016. Moving forward, we will see fewer dollars available for regional and statewide programming beginning in FY2016.

Regional councils have initiated their strategic planning discussions and will be finalizing FY16-18 strategic plans to present to the FTF Board for approval at their January 2015 meeting. Regional councils will be determining a set of prioritized needs to focus on, which will then lead to conversations around which strategies in their region are most impactful in addressing those prioritized needs. I encourage your organizations to be active participants in these important conversations”

Yuma Regional Partnerships Council: Special Meeting 2 & 3

Funded and Unfunded Strategies:

Funded: \$4,945,570 Yuma Allocation (Attached)

Unfunded: **Early Identification (Family Resource**

Fairs), Early Literacy, Resource Guide

(Community of Practice), Virtual and Community

Hub Resource Centers

2013 FTF Summit

“We take pride in our multiple disciplinary approach, which provides high quality choices for our families, and engages our community to take responsibility for a connected early childhood system, caring for the whole child and their family.”

Allocations and Funding Sources	2016-2018
FY Allocation	\$4,945,570

	Strategies	Proposed Allotment	Target Service Units
Total QF Investment FY16 \$2,561,753 FY 16 Total Unallotted: \$22 FY17 2,548,257 FY17 Total Unallotted: \$13,518 FY18 \$2,545,069 FY18 Total Unallotted: \$16, 728	Quality First Scholarships	\$2,054,250	270 slots for children 0-5
	Family, Friends & Neighbors	\$120,000	60 home based providers served
	Quality First	-	-
	Quality First Coaching & Incentives	\$366,283	14 centers/20 homes/7 rating only centers
	Quality First Academy	\$38,540	-
	Quality First Specialized Technical Assistance	\$18,700	-
	Child Care Health Consultation	\$83,980	14 centers/20 homes
	Community Based Professional Development Early Care and Education Professionals	\$125,000	300 participating professionals
	Home Visitation	\$850,000	245 number of families served
	Family Support – Children with Special Needs	\$240,000	70 number of families served
	Inclusion of Children with Special Needs	\$200,000	14 number center based providers served/12 numbers of home based providers served/ 26 number of participating children with special needs
	Parenting Education	\$100,000	50 adults completing a series
	Parent Outreach and Awareness (including Reach Out and Read \$80,000)	\$96,000	120,000 number of resource guides distributed ROR: 17 participating practices/ 6,436 number of books distributed
	Oral Health	\$220,000	3625 of fluoride varnishes applied/ 180 number of participating adults/ 35 number of participating professionals/ 3625 number of children receiving oral health screenings
	College Scholarships for Early Childhood Professionals	\$33,000	15 number of full-time scholarships for CDA/AA 0 number of full-time scholarships for BA
	Community Outreach	\$80,000	-
	Community Awareness	\$15,000	-
	Food Security	\$20,000	3,333 food back packs
	Media	\$20,000	-
	Statewide Evaluation	\$264,795	-
	Total	\$4,945,548	
	Total Unallotted	\$22	