



TRIBAL AFFAIRS STAUS REPORT

Program Committee Meeting
 Reporting Period: August 11-September 2011

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Project Type	Description	Result
Public Awareness Efforts in Tribal Sectors	<p>Within this reporting period FTF Tribal Affairs was selected to provide an informational session to highlight FTF partnerships with Arizona Tribes at the following events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. The Southwestern Institute of the Education of Native Americans (SIENA) Early Childhood Care & Family Development Conference (August 12-13): The goal of this conference was to provide pertinent information via presentations and interactive workshops for parents of American Indian children. This event convened many partners ranging from tribal leaders, education professionals and Indian parents. During this conference, FTF Tribal Affairs provided two presentations that highlighted FTF funded culturally relevant early childhood strategies and services that are available in tribal communities. II. The National Indian Education Association Convention & Tradeshow took place October 27-30, 2011 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Tribal Affairs presented an informational session to highlight FTF partnerships with Arizona. The following team attended this event to represent FTF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vivian Saunders, Board Member • Beverly Russell, Senior Director of Tribal Affairs • Melissa Begay, Navajo Nation Regional Director • Lanna Flood, Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Director • LaToya Beatty, San Carlos Apache Regional Director III. Tribal Affairs attended the National Association for the Education of the Young Child Conference during the first week of November in Orlando, Florida. FTF hosted a booth in the gallery walk of this conference to share information about the strategies that are being implemented in tribal communities. This presentation also included information about the FTF Tribal Consultation Policy and our partnerships with 19 of Arizona’s 22 federally recognized tribes. 	<p>As a result of these activities FTF will have a unique opportunity to share information, network and serve as an early childhood resource a state and national conferences focused on tribal education initiatives.</p>

<p>Coordination and Collaboration</p>	<p>FTF recognizes that the system goals of FTF can only be achieved through coordination and collaboration with both public and private entities in order to leverage funding, ease families’ access to services, and maximize optimal results for young children. In recognition of this concept, First Things First has participated in the following meetings with tribal partners in the spirit of coordination and collaboration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. In late August, FTF hosted a pre-summit tribal gathering. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an informational exchange and learning opportunity for both tribal regional partnership councils and geographic regions that include tribes. II. This period, the Senior Director of Tribal Affairs met with the director of the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Baby FACES program in Albuquerque, NM. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss potential partnership opportunities between the Arizona based BIE pre-schools and programs and First Things First. III. In this report period FTF Tribal Affairs participated in the Arizona American Indian Oral Health Summit Planning Committee/Coalition. The focus of this meeting was to discuss the Tribal Leaders Roundtable on Oral Health planned for later this year. IV. First Things First Tribal Affairs has been invited to serve on the planning committee for the Statewide Arizona American Indian Pathways into Health Conference. The conference theme is “Building a Firm Foundation for the Future of American Indian Health Care”. The dates are April 4-5, 2012. 	<p>As a result of these meetings, First Things First has taken an active role in representing FTF early childhood information and education by entering into a dialogue with diverse tribal partners about early childhood resources that are currently being utilized in tribal communities. This discussion has also served as a starting point for identifying early childhood awareness and education material that is appropriate and relevant to tribes.</p> <p>Additionally, FTF has positioned itself to be an informational resource to tribes on early childhood health initiatives.</p>
<p>Tribal-State Relations</p>	<p>On September 7, the Senior Director of Tribal Affairs attended the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council meeting to present a resolution for approval to conduct the 2012 White Mountain Apache Tribe Needs and Assets Report.</p> <p>On September 14, Rhian Allvin, Chief Executive Officer, Vivian Saunders, Board Member, Sam Leyvas, Vice President of Government Affairs and Beverly Russell attended a meeting with Hualapai Tribal Chairwoman Louise Benson to share information about the status of the external evaluation.</p>	<p>The White Mountain Apache Tribal Council approved data collection for the 2012 White Mountain Apache Tribe Needs and Assets Report.</p>

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS BY TRIBAL AFFAIRS:

- FTF Tribal Affairs began outreach activities to the 22 Federally Recognized Arizona Tribes to provide information on the options available to Arizona Tribes for participation in First Things First. By March 1, 2012 tribes will inform FTF of their intent to participate in a separate region or remain in an established region.