



**Tribal Consultation Summary Report
September 13, 2017
Phoenix, Arizona**

Pursuant to the First Things First (FTF) Tribal Consultation Policy and Arizona Revised Statutes section 41-2051, FTF convened a formal consultation session on Wednesday, September 13, 2017. The purpose of the consultation was to receive feedback on: 1) enhancing the government-to-government relationships-regional tribal consultations and 2) measuring the impact of early childhood investments.

First Things First is committed to meaningful consultation with tribes through which elected officials and other authorized representatives of the tribal governments have the opportunity to provide meaningful and timely input regarding the development of policies or procedures that affect Arizona's tribes, Native American children and their families.

The following summary reflects comments and questions raised by Arizona's tribal leaders and their authorized representatives/designees.

Participants

<i>Tribal Leaders and Tribal Representatives:</i> Robert Miguel, Chairman, Ak-Chin Indian Community	Roland Maldonado, Chairman, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians
Deal Begay Jr., Vice Chairman, Cocopah Tribe	Carmen Bradley, Vice Chairwoman, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians
Keith Moses, Vice Chairman, Colorado River Indian Tribes	Russell Begaye, President, Navajo Nation
Dr. Bill Myhr, Education Director, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation	Jonathan Nez, Vice President, Navajo Nation
Shan Lewis, Vice Chairman, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	Yvonne Kee-Billison, Executive Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation
Edmond Tilousi, Vice Chairman, Havasupai Tribe	Christopher Bahe, Staff Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation
Carlos Powell Sr., Head Start Director, Havasupai Tribe	Francisco Munoz, Councilman, Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Alfred Lomahquahu Jr., Vice Chairman, Hopi Tribe	Mario Molina, Education Director, Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Emma Tapija, Councilwoman, Hualapai Tribe	Cody Hartt, ICWA Specialist, Quechan Tribe
Stewart Crozier, Councilman, Hualapai Tribe	David Reede, Health Director, San Carlos Apache Tribe

Verlon Jose, Vice Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation

First Things First:

Nadine Mathis Basha, First Things First Board Member

Michelle Katona, First Things First Chief Program Officer

Vivian Saunders, First Things First Board Member

Kim VanPelt, First Things First Chief Regional Officer

Josh Allen, First Things First Interim CEO

Candida Hunter, First Things First Senior Director of Tribal Affairs

In addition, First Things First staff members, representatives from tribal departments, and staff from the Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care and the University of Arizona were in attendance to observe the consultation.

Summary

In statewide consultations, First Things First received feedback from tribal leaders that it would be beneficial for more tribal elected officials to have an understanding of the importance of early childhood and more information about the impact that First Things First's early childhood investments are having in their respective communities. In addition, in order to continue to build local early childhood systems that meet the unique needs of their regions – including greater collaboration and maximization of resources, it would be beneficial for First Things First regional partnership councils to be familiar with the priorities of the tribes in their area and the tribe's efforts to improve outcomes for young children. In response to the feedback from tribal leaders, FTF piloted regional tribal consultation in several regions during calendar year 2017. During the statewide consultation, tribal leaders shared their experience of participating in the regional tribal consultation pilot. Tribal leaders provided their perspective on tribal consultation, expressed their support for regional tribal consultations, shared how it is conducted in their tribal communities and suggested approaches to convening regional tribal consultations and issues/topics to discuss. Some tribal leaders also expressed a desire for the tribe to have greater input on the membership of the regional council and funded strategies. This could perhaps be a topic for regional consultation with those tribes. Tribal leaders also stressed the importance of communication and shared the status of young children and families' challenges and successes in their communities.

At prior consultations, tribal leaders shared ideas of how to gather information for continuous quality improvement and suggested that FTF consider developing a Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with tribes to request information for program improvement and evaluation purposes. Furthermore, FTF recognizes tribes are also interested in the outcomes of programs in relation to children and families living on their tribal lands and the need to track outcomes of children from birth to college. Tribal leaders shared their experience in tracking outcomes of young children. Furthermore, tribal leaders shared their perspective on MOUs, approval needed in order to collect data from tribal and non-tribal grantees providing services and information they are interested in to inform their work and decisions on behalf of young children.

Comments/Questions/Concerns/Recommendations on Enhancing the Government-to-Government Relationships- Regional Tribal Consultations

Summaries of the regional tribal consultations held are included in Addendum A.

To help inform the conversation for the tribal consultation, tribal leaders from Tohono O'odham Nation, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and Navajo Nation shared their experiences participating in the regional tribal consultations. Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose shared his perspective at the consultation. Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Councilman Paul Russell and Navajo Nation Council Delegate Jonathan Hale shared their experience by providing written comments, which were shared by the FTF Senior Director of Tribal Affairs during the consultation.

- Vice Chairman Verlon Jose, Councilman Paul Russell and Council Delegate Hale stated the regional tribal consultation in their region were productive and beneficial and should be continued.
- Vice Chairman Verlon Jose shared their experience in preparing for the regional tribal consultation. Furthermore, the document they developed outlining the nation's priorities was approved by the Tohono O'odham Nation Legislative Council, Resolution 17331, and submitted as written comments to First Things First.
- Vice Chairman Verlon Jose, Councilman Paul Russell and Council Delegate Jonathan Hale shared that scheduling of consultation needs to occur with the tribe on a date which works for a majority of the different branches of government.
- Council Delegate Hale and Councilman Paul Russell shared that sometimes there's a challenge in sharing information at statewide and federal consultation because there are many tribes at the table and time restrictions. They also thought it was helpful to only have one tribe and one agency at the table to talk about priorities and to learn from the tribe.
- Delegate Hale shared it was important for FTF regional councils to learn and understand more about tribal processes to further enhance collaboration between the regional council and the nation.
- Councilman Paul Russell stated he appreciated FTF leadership in attendance but to be mindful that too many staff in the room may cause discomfort amongst tribal leaders.
- Council Delegate Hale shared that consultation usually takes place during working hours so we would have to consider how that affects tribal employees who also serve on the regional council.

Many tribal leaders and designees expressed their support for regional tribal consultations, shared their perspective on tribal consultation and shared how it is conducted in their respective communities.

- Colorado River Indian Tribes Vice Chairman Keith Moses would like to have a regional tribal consultation in the Colorado River Indian Tribes Region and shared they have their own tribal consultation policy.
- Tohono O'odham Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated it can be time consuming facilitating regional tribal consultations in each region and to consider alternating between the tribes to determine when each consultation is facilitated.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel stated it's important to have meaningful consultations. He also shared that having three members of their tribal council is considered true consultation.
- Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay Jr. stated consultation can be difficult for smaller tribes

who don't have assistants to help with scheduling and that government-to-government consultations should occur between an entity's leaders and the tribal council. He also stated that one person can be directed to represent the tribe.

- San Carlos Apache Tribe Health Director David Reede agreed it can be difficult to get their point across at a statewide consultation. He added that the San Carlos Apache Tribe is supportive of the regional tribal consultation and indicated that perhaps consultation should occur with the full tribal council; consultation with one member of the council may not constitute true consultation for a given tribe.
- Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye emphasized true consultation leads to action; it happens because it's not just a requirement and that feedback is considered into the planning and work of the program. He also stated the regional consultation was beneficial because discussion was specific to the nation.
- Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Chairman Roland Maldonado expressed consultation inherently suggests respect for tribal sovereignty.

Tribal leaders expressed that the tribe should provide input on who is appointed to the regional council.

- Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez stated FTF does not have a process where the nation can provide a recommendation for regional councilmembers as other state and federal agencies do for their various boards/committees and suggested the nation would like to have that ability. This person could also serve as a liaison. He also added that because the Head Start program is under the executive branch, it could strengthen collaboration.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose also stated he agreed that the nation should have input on who is appointed to the regional council and/or state board. He also recognized that on the state and federal level there are sometimes challenges in finding someone to fill positions on boards and committees for various reasons.

Tribal leaders stressed the importance of communication and shared how partnerships have been developed and can be strengthened in their regions.

- Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay Jr. stated that the regional council is open with the tribal council and they have built a good relationship. He also shared that the Cocopah regional director is part-time but it's a full-time job and that can cause turnover and they are trying to keep the director there.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel stated the key to building relationships in Indian country is by communicating, keeping it simple and being in the community so others get to know you. It's important to not just work for the community but to be a part of the community.
- Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez stated First Things First can support the nation by supporting the baby contest held on the nation. He also stated that FTF needs to keep all branches of government informed.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated that communication is first and foremost. He also shared he knows the regional director and the regional councilmembers.
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Councilman Francisco Munoz shared that experience between the regional director and tribal council or administration is important. He also stated they have built a strong relationship with the regional director.

- Hopi Tribe Vice Chairman Alfred Lomahquahu Jr. stated it's important to know the regional director and communicating challenges to provide better services for young children.

Tribal leaders and designees gave suggestions of approaches to convening regional tribal consultation and suggested issues and topics.

- San Carlos Apache Tribe Health Director David Reede stated schedules can be a challenge and suggested coordinating with staff to help determine a time that best works for everyone's schedule.
- Navajo Nation Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison shared there needs to be discussion with parents and caregivers about suicide and domestic violence so they can be trained and have a better understanding of the situations.
- Vice Chairman Verlon Jose suggested a listening session the morning before a consultation for FTF and tribal leaders to listen to teachers, parents, grandparents and the community so they can contribute to the topics discussed. He also suggested working with the regional councils to determine what is culturally appropriate for each region.
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Director Mario Molina shared that directors provide research and information to their tribal councilmembers and that it's helpful to work with their office so the department can better support their Chairman and councilmembers. He also stated that there are some things you only talk to amongst men, women and/or within cultural societies.
- Hopi Tribe Vice Chairman Alfred Lomahquahu Jr. stated we need to find ways to talk about challenging topics in order to make progress. He also shared it might be helpful to hear the perspective of individuals working with FTF and the tribes because they may have suggestions or unanswered questions; communication is key.
- Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye had several suggestions which included: work force development, especially for tribal members because of their acceptance by families. Tribal members understand the language and culturally sensitive issues; data sharing so programs can share information about best practices; discussing the needs of parents (grandparents raising grandchildren and single parents) and accessibility to families because of transportation and getting into their homes; develop agendas with people running programs to determine what should be discussed at consultation and how FTF is partnering with other entities. He also asked if it's possible to have a higher degree of control over First Things First programs on the nation and shared that for years BIA controlled everything and the nation is now operating many programs. Furthermore, he indicated that tribes should be consulted as assessments are developed, including understanding what families are saying about programs.

Several tribal leaders shared the status of young children's needs, challenges and successes occurring in their regions.

- Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay Jr. stated it's the parents and community that teach and care for children and see their needs, they need encouragement and support. He also stated there is a challenge in reaching families and getting them involved with their child's education.
- Tohono O'odham Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated that education begins at conception and there are grandparents who are caring for their grandchildren.

- Hopi Tribe Vice Chairman Alfred Lomahquahu Jr. stated there are many young parents who don't know how to parent and there are grandparents caring for their grandchildren and they need support.
- Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye shared that the Navajo Nation just partnered with a university in New Mexico for thirty-five Special Ed teachers at bachelors and master's level. He asked how FTF can support this effort and work with institutions, specifically this institution, because the nation consults with the university to provide guidance on what is taught in the curriculum.
- Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez stated he appreciates FTF is focused on young children and enhancing culture, tradition and language and that there also needs to be a focus on bridging the gap between the elder and youth generations. He also shared how the nation supported healthier choices during the Shiprock fair. Children were given basketballs, fidget spinners, volleyballs, etc. in exchange for candy.

Comments/Questions/Concerns/Recommendations on Measuring the Impact of Early Childhood Investments

Tribal leaders shared their experience of tracking outcomes of their children.

- Havasupai Tribe Head Start Director Carlos Powell Sr. shared they have challenges tracking children because of the different educational institutions their children are in. He also suggested FTF funds evidence based programs to support tribes in measuring outcomes.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated they provide technical assistance and training to ensure students are monitored and they are working to improve technology in the nation. He shared they are collaborating with Quality First and Tohono O'odham Community College towards improving capacity and suggested state agencies continue to work as true partners with the nation.
- Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay Jr. stated the regional needs and assets report has supported the tribe in tracking the outcomes of their children as well as the education department.
- Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye stated there are challenges of determining what data to track and the interpretation of the data and that consultation is necessary to determine this. Furthermore, the accuracy of data gathered and communication infrastructure are other challenges.
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Director Mario Molina stated knowing what to collect is a challenge, but the tribe has identified indicators of what's important to the tribe, including children with special needs. They also work with their Lead Education Agency (LEA) to request data.

Tribal leaders shared their experience in developing MOUs that cover several years of data collection and/or access to existing data.

- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose shared there are several levels of approval needed to establish an MOU with the nation.
- Havasupai Tribe Vice Chairman Tilousi stated there is mistrust of outsiders who are seeking MOUs because of past experiences. He also shared an MOU defines the type of data, how it will

be collected and used. Head Start Director Carlos Powell Sr. also shared there must be trust prior to establishing an MOU.

- Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye stated the nation has to negotiate waivers and that dispute resolution must honor the nation's statutory laws. He also shared there is inconsistency in the state level; the Governor will say one thing and the program another. One program will state you don't have to waive sovereign immunity and another will say you do have to waive limited sovereignty. He also asked how to work with the state so there are consistent interpretations of federal and state laws in implementing programs so funding and implementation of programs are not affected. He also expressed that MOUs must identify data ownership, distribution and access of data and how it benefits the nation.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel stated MOUs must state what data is being collected by whom and ownership is imperative.
- Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Chairman Roland Maldonado emphasized sovereignty and dispute resolution should be included in MOUs and that each tribe has their own systems.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose, Colorado River Indian Tribes Vice Chairman Keith Moses and Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay Jr. stated there should be no "blanket approval" because the tribe/nation needs to ensure protection of data, context and approval of data.

Several tribal leaders provided their insight on approval needed in order to collect data from tribal and non-tribal grantees providing services.

- Tohono O'odham Vice Chairman Verlon Jose and Colorado River Indian Tribes Vice Chairman Keith Moses expressed approval must be received to establish who is accessing the data, how the data will be used and protected and how it benefits their people. Vice Chairman Moses also stressed that context is critical to ensure the data represents the community.
- Tohono O'odham Vice Chairman Verlon Jose also shared that approval looks different for each tribe and if the information is not personally identifiable information, the nature of the information [type of data] requested may determine what type of agreement, if any, is needed for the nation.
- Kaibab Band of Paiute Indian Tribe Chairman Roland Maldonado stated there must be some type of agreement in place to know information is being collected and how it benefits the people.
- San Carlos Apache Tribe Health Director David Reede expressed data ownership must be established and discussion must take place with their tribal council. He also stated each tribe is unique and discussion needs to happen with their tribal leadership.
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Director Mario Molina stated his department is responsible for establishing MOUs, data collection methodologies, knowing what data is being collected, monitoring and reporting to the tribal council. He also shared that because of history of historical trauma trust must be established and never broken.
- Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye stated aggregate data is collected in order to justify services provided and agreements are approved with entities before programs are provided. He also emphasized an agreement is necessary in order for tribal or non-tribal grantees to collect data to monitor their own program.

Tribal leaders and designees provided insight on information they are interested in to inform their work and decisions on behalf of young children.

- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated the nation is interested in learning more about educational attainment of parents to determine what wrap around services are needed and the benefits of their young children attending early childhood program to help inform work and decisions on behalf of young children.
- Navajo Nation Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison shared tradition, culture and language retention are protective factors and suggested they be incorporated into programs provided by grantees.



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ADDENDUM A

Regional Tribal Consultation Summaries



Tohono O'odham Regional Tribal Consultation Summary Report

June 18, 2017

Sells, Arizona

The FTF Tribal Government Consultation Policy describes the consultative approach to be taken to promote and enhance the government-to-government relationship between FTF and Arizona Tribes. Since inception, First Things First has convened seven statewide consultations. One-on-one consultations are also conducted with tribes on issues specific to their communities as needed. The insight FTF has gained from past consultations has led to policy, practice and process improvements that ensure the best possible outcomes for young children in our communities.

In previous statewide consultations, FTF has received feedback from tribal leaders that it would be beneficial for more tribal elected officials to have an understanding of the importance of early childhood and more information about the impact that FTF's early childhood investments are having in their respective communities. In addition, in order to continue to build local early childhood systems that meet the unique needs of each region, FTF believes it would be beneficial for its statewide leadership and regional partnership councils to be familiar with the priorities of individual tribes and efforts that are occurring to improve outcomes for young children. Therefore, FTF piloted local tribal consultations in several regions.

The following summary reflects comments and questions raised by Tohono O'odham tribal leaders and their authorized representatives. Additionally, the Nation submitted a Resolution of the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council Resolution No. 17-331 and Tohono O'odham Nation's First Things First Tribal Consultation Analysis and Summary (*attachment*).

Participants

Tribal Leaders and Tribal Representatives:

Edward Manuel, Chairman

Verlon Jose, Vice Chairman

Lucinda Allen, Councilmember

Louis Lopez, Councilmember

Dr. Albert Siqueiros EDD., Executive Director, Education Department

Winifred Begay, Director, Education Department

First Things First

Nadine Mathis Basha, First Things First Board Chair

Kymberlii Tenario, Regional Partnership Council Chair

Louis Johnson, Regional Partnership Council Vice Chair

Cheryl Conde, Regional Partnership Council Member

Joseph Mease, Regional Partnership Council Member

Jesse Navarro, Regional Partnership Council Member

Elsa Bonilla, Regional Partnership Council Member

Dr. Albert Adler M.D., Regional Partnership Council Member

Jesse Navarro, Regional Partnership Council Member

Michelle Katona, First Things First Chief Program Officer

Candida Hunter, First Things First Sr. Director of Tribal Affairs

Travis LeDuc, Regional Director

In addition, several First Things first staff members and representatives from tribal departments were in attendance to observe the regional tribal consultation.

General Summary

On June 18, 2017 the First Things First Tohono O'odham Nation Regional Tribal Consultation was convened. Tribal leaders in attendance provided feedback on the Tohono O'odham Nation's priorities, successes and challenges in supporting the young needs of children in the region. Leaders shared that learning begins at conception and Himdag (culture, language, identify and it's connection to the land) contributes to a strong foundation. Tribal leaders shared the need to understand tribal priorities as a best practice and to consider recommendations of the Tohono O'odham Nation when determining programs to be funded in the Tohono O'odham Nation. Representatives shared there are opportunities to enhance coordination between tribal and non-tribal partners supporting young children by convening monthly or quarterly meetings amongst partners. Tribal leaders and representatives touched on O'odham negative experiences with data collection. There is a need to develop trust amongst the people and increase understanding of the collection, use and protection of data.

Comments/Questions/Concerns/Recommendations

Priorities and challenges of the Tohono O'odham Nation

Vice Chairman Jose shared that education of a child begins at conception and that it's not just parents that educate a child; it's also siblings, grandparents and the entire community. Like culture, tradition, and the well-being of a person, education is a value that contributes to a strong foundation.

Tribal leaders and representatives shared that education starts at conception and it is important that families receive services immediately upon their child's birth.

Ms. Begay shared the process the Education Department, other tribal departments and community members went through at a planning session to prepare for the regional tribal consultation. She stated services for children should be inclusive of families as well and how Himdag (culture, language, identify and it's connection to the land) is crucial for services on the Tohono O'odham Nation. The group identified ten priorities (Attachment A), including resilient community, data and reports, direct family services, collaboration, Himdag, child development and health, funding, literacy, quality service and transportation.

Mr. Johnson shared he grew up with Himdag and it is recognizing who we are, what we're becoming and how we perceive ourselves.

Ms. Begay stated a cultural education/workshop is needed for service providers and educators to support their understanding of the people.

Ms. Begay shared that the Tohono O'odham Nation is large and it can take hours to get from one place to another. This can be a challenge.

Louis Johnson was a part of the planning session and stated data is important for funding purposes and that the 2010 US Census is not accurate.

Vice Chairman Jose recognized there are strengths and challenges on the Tohono O'odham Nation and a need to continue collaborating with outside entities and identifying other entities for future partnerships to support the Tohono O'odham Nation's efforts. Priorities of the Tohono O'odham Nation include Himdag, child development and health, and direct services to families.

Vice Chairman Jose stated young children identified with special needs could cause more challenges for a child as they grow up if they do not receive support needed as a young child.

Dr. Adler stated the Family Spirit program is implemented by the Special Needs Program and Healthy O'odham Promotion Program (HOPP) through a five year IHS Indian Health Services (IHS) Diabetes Prevention grant and there is a need to identify other funding opportunities. She also shared that Family Support Coordination funding from FTF is also decreasing.

Strengthening and enhancing the partnership between the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Regional Partnership Council

Dr. Siqueiros shared there is a need to coordinate services beyond the education division with other wraparound services on the Tohono O'odham Nation. There is also great work occurring across the Tohono O'odham Nation but there is an opportunity to enhance coordination to leverage resources.

Dr. Adler mentioned there was an early childhood collaborative group that used to meet, but there were challenges in maintaining attendees because of state agencies not participating and staff turnover in tribal departments.

Dr. Siqueiros stated a consortium of tribal and non-tribal partners meet on a monthly basis to address professional development that is provided through Quality First and it provides an opportunity for the Tohono O'odham Nation to support the development of members to provide services to their people.

Ms. Lopez and Ms. Homer shared their experience of implementing the Family Spirit visitation model and how it supports the well-being of the child and family.

Dr. Siqueiros suggested conducting collaborative meetings on a quarterly or monthly basis to address needs of young children in the region.

Chairman Manuel stated consultation occurs to discuss policy changes and the Tohono O'odham Nation has a group that is appointed by council. He also suggested reviewing the information shared today and recommend what programs can be funded to meet the needs of young children.

Vice Chairman Jose said listening and learning from tribes about their priorities is a best practice.

Vice Chairman Manuel stressed the importance of providing wrap around services and funding programs to support the wellness of the family.

Vice Chairman expressed his concern that there needs to be a great focus on funding education to support the education continuum beyond age 5.

Dr. Siqueiros shared there is a need to expand services at San Lucy and suggested working with FTF to identify grant opportunities and discuss assistance with grant writing.

Ms. Conde stated they are working to add San Lucy in the Head Start application and they are trying to identify creative ways to fund a summer program.

Dr. Siqueiros spoke about the need to institutionalize some of the current efforts with the Tohono O'odham Community College to support the development of growing their own teachers and FTF can be supportive in that effort.

Chairman Manuel shared that the Tohono O'odham Nation is making an effort to only apply for grants that align with the Tohono O'odham Nation's priorities.

Dr. Siqueiros asked if unallotted funding identified in the background materials could be utilized for San Lucy.

Ms. Begay shared that there may be challenges with requesting data because of the tribe's negative experiences with the US Census and other efforts that the tribe does not feel are truly representative of the people.

The importance of data, the need to educate about data and opportunities to develop an MOU between the Nation and FTF.

Chairman Manuel stated there is a need to educate O'odham about the importance of data and there may be an opportunity for the Tohono O'odham Nation to work with the US Census because there may be more trust amongst O'odham.

Dr. Adler shared there is a challenge of having data that is representative of the Tohono O'odham Nation but there's also an opportunity to sit down and figure out how the data should be accessed and shared between the Tohono O'odham Nation and FTF.

Vice Chairman Jose stated there is an opportunity to enter into a MOU/A between FTF and the Tohono O'odham Nation. He also mentioned that people may be afraid to report who lives in their homes out of fear of being evicted if there are more residents than there should be. He shared there is a need to educate about what data is, how it's used, stored and protected. He also stated it takes time to earn trust of the people because outside entities have used data for their own benefits and not the benefit of the people.

Dr. Adler stated the US Census is skewed and there is a need to look at local tribal sources like enrollment to justify funding.



**East Maricopa Regional Tribal Consultation Summary Report
June 20, 2017
Fort McDowell, Arizona**

The FTF Tribal Government Consultation Policy describes the consultative approach to be taken to promote and protect the government-to-government relationship between FTF and Arizona tribes. Since inception, First Things First has convened seven statewide consultations. One-on-one consultations are also conducted with tribes on issues specific to their communities as needed. The insight FTF has gained from past consultations has led to policy, practice and process improvements that ensure the best possible outcomes for young children in our communities.

In previous statewide consultations, FTF has received feedback from tribal leaders that it would be beneficial for more tribal elected officials to have an understanding of the importance of early childhood and more information about the impact that FTF's early childhood investments are having in their respective communities. In addition, in order to continue to build local early childhood systems that meet the unique needs of each region, FTF believes it would be beneficial for its statewide leadership and regional partnership councils to be familiar with the priorities of individual tribes and efforts that are occurring to improve outcomes for young children. Therefore, FTF is piloting local tribal consultations in several regions.

The following summary reflects comments and questions raised by Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation tribal leaders and their authorized representatives.

Participants

Tribal Leaders and Tribal Representatives

Bernadine Burnette, President

Pansy Thomas, Vice President

Paul Russell, Council Member

Michael Brown, Lead Teacher

First Things First

Dr. Pamela Powell, First Things First Board Vice-Chair

Marie Raymond, East Maricopa
Regional Partnership Council Chair

Wendy Sabatini, FTF Senior Regional Director

Casey Cullings, FTF General Counsel

Liz Barker-Alvarez, FTF Chief Policy Advisor of Tribal Affairs

Kim Van Pelt, FTF Chief Regional Officer

Conrad Lindo, Regional Director

Candida Hunter, FTF Sr. Director of
Tribal Affairs

In addition, First Things First staff members were in attendance to observe the regional tribal consultation and answer questions if called upon by tribal leaders or the FTF Board representative.

Summary

On June 20, 2017, the First Things First East Maricopa Regional Tribal Consultation was convened. Tribal leaders in attendance provided feedback on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation's priorities, successes and challenges in supporting the needs of young children in the region. Leaders shared the need for outcome data to evaluate early education efforts and a need for a data interface between early education, K-12 and beyond. The nation shared their experience with truancy and the importance of parent education regarding the value of early education, health and development. Tribal leaders extended an invitation to FTF to work with tribal programs on outreach opportunities. The nation is interested in applying for early education grants and is willing to partner with FTF on grant opportunities. Tribal leaders shared their concerns about the Quality First assessment and believe their program is penalized for cultural aspects of their early education program. Tribal leaders expressed the importance of cultural sensitivity with regard to grantees and invited FTF grantees to attend the Nation's new employee cultural sensitivity training. Tribal leaders described the educational successes they have seen with attendance, high school graduation and how their young children now transition into kindergarten in surrounding communities without fear, "...ready to go."

Comments/Questions/Concerns/Recommendations

Priorities and challenges of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

President Burnette was interested in learning more about how home visitation liaisons deal with social issues they observe in the home.

Lead Teacher Brown shared the Quality First assessment does not accurately take into account school cultural activities and events in the school practices.

Mr. Brown expressed the challenge of high turnover among Quality First coaches. Mr. Brown suggested that it would be helpful and potentially more productive for center directors to meet with Quality First assessors to share information about the nation and how the program incorporates culture into its activities before an assessment and after to discuss the assessment results [different things].

Vice President Thomas emphasized the importance of grant partners having training that addresses historical trauma.

President Burnette emphasized that education has been a long-time priority of the nation. She also shared their success in improving educational outcomes.

Vice President Thomas shared that parenting is a priority and described outreach efforts to get more parents involved, motivated, and informed about the importance of child development. Mr. Brown added the priority of providing home visitation and getting children into comprehensive programs that are aligned.

Councilman Russell shared that when a truancy ordinance was adopted, graduation rates improved.

President Burnette shared there is also an incentive program for educational achievements and the nation is working with surrounding school districts their children attend.

Vice President Thomas invited FTF staff to attend quarterly awards ceremonies; she acknowledged that FTF should be given credit for some of their success.

Council Member Russell expressed a concern about how secure FTF's funding was and asked for information about steps taken to protect funding.

Strengthening and enhancing the partnership between the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and the Regional Partnership Council

Mr. Brown shared the community is small and there is a need to ensure FTF grant partners are aware of the community's culture. President Burnette also shared the nation has a new employee cultural training and extended the invitation for FTF grant partners to attend.

President Burnette suggested FTF coordinate with different programs, like the education department, and attend events to share information about the importance of early childhood.

President Burnette stated that it can be difficult for the community to be awarded grants because of the misperception that gaming tribes have ample resources. She said the community would like to receive information about grant opportunities and would be willing to partner with FTF on grant applications. President Burnette shared the nation is willing to support FTF by talking to their state legislators and sharing stories of success.

The importance of data, the need to educate about data

President Burnette asked about school readiness data to show before/after effects of FTF initiatives and programs.

Council Member Russell was interested in learning more about data security.

Vice-President Thomas expressed a desire to examine child data more closely to see how children are developing and the progress being made.

Mr. Russell described the progress that has been made with the nation's partnership with FTF, expressing that in the past sending their children to kindergarten in other communities has been a challenge. But the Nation has seen a change and now "we're getting our kids ready to go to kindergarten and they're actually able to compete. They're not intimidated. They're ready to go." He also shared the nation is tracking their children through high school.

Vice President Thomas shared the importance of tracking child outcomes from birth to college and that although there is data, there are challenges with collecting and compiling it and using it to identify gaps.

Vice President Thomas thought it was important to ask parents about their challenges to understand how to better support them in overcoming challenges.



**Navajo Nation Regional Tribal Consultation Summary Report
July 27, 2017
Window Rock, Arizona**

The FTF Tribal Government Consultation Policy describes the consultative approach to be taken to promote and protect the government-to-government relationship between FTF and Arizona tribes. Since inception, First Things First has convened seven statewide consultations. One-on-one consultations are also conducted with tribes on issues specific to their communities as needed. The insight FTF has gained from past consultations has led to policy, practice and process improvements that ensure the best possible outcomes for young children in our communities.

In previous statewide consultations, FTF has received feedback from tribal leaders that it would be beneficial for more tribal elected officials to have an understanding of the importance of early childhood and more information about the impact that FTF's early childhood investments are having in their respective communities. In addition, in order to continue to build local early childhood systems that meet the unique needs of each region, FTF believes it would be beneficial for its statewide leadership and regional partnership councils to be familiar with the priorities of individual tribes and efforts that are occurring to improve outcomes for young children. Therefore, FTF is piloted local tribal consultations in several regions.

The following summary reflects comments and questions raised by Navajo Nation Council Delegates.

Participants

Tribal Leaders and Tribal Representatives:

Jonathan Hale, Council Delegate

Amber Kanazbah Crotty, Council Delegate

First Things First

Gerald Szostak, First Things First Board Member

Michelle Katona, FTF Chief Program Officer

Memarie Tsosie, FTF Navajo Nation Regional Director

Candida Hunter, FTF Senior Director of Tribal Affairs

Dawn Yazzie, FTF Navajo Nation Regional

Rhonda Etsitty, FTF Navajo Nation Regional

Partnership Council Chair

Partnership Council Vice Chair

In addition, First Things First staff members and representatives from tribal departments were in attendance to observe the regional tribal consultation.

Summary

On July 27, 2017, the First Things First Navajo Nation Regional Tribal Consultation was convened. Tribal leaders in attendance provided feedback on the Navajo Nation's priorities, successes and challenges in supporting the needs of young children in the region. Delegates expressed they are committed to meeting the needs of their elders and children. The delegates described the Navajo Wellness Model as the "framework for who we are as Navajo" and expressed a desire for FTF programs to interconnect with the model. Delegates suggested that FTF spend more time with tribal leaders at future consultations, as this would allow FTF to better understand Navajo government processes and gain more appreciation for who the Navajo are. Delegates suggested for future consultations that FTF provide them with more extensive materials prior to the consultation.

Comments/Questions/Concerns/Recommendations

Priorities and challenges of the Navajo Nation

Delegate Crotty made a suggestion that could improve the understanding of the Navajo Nation. The Nation has a sacred commitment to children and elders. She also shared that according to Navajo law, "every child and every elder [will] be respected, honored and protected." Delegate Crotty emphasized the importance of FTF embracing and incorporating that commitment. Delegate Hale reinforced these statements, emphasizing the importance of FTF recognizing the Navajo Nation as an indigenous nation with natural customary laws.

Delegate Crotty mentioned the Navajo Wellness Model and her desire for FTF programs to interconnect with the model. Delegate Hale reinforced her comments and stated that the Navajo Wellness Model was the basic framework of "who we are as Navajo."

Delegate Crotty acknowledged communication challenges and how information being shared can be communicated to the Office of President and Vice President, Navajo Nation Council, legislative oversight committees and departments.

Delegate Hale spoke about challenges dealing with multiple jurisdictions including Navajo Nation, states and federal. Another challenge was the need to re-educate Council members after each election to learn more about the partnership between the nation and FTF.

Strengthening and enhancing the partnership between the Navajo Nation and the Regional Partnership Council

Delegate Crotty suggested developing a relationship with Chapter Houses and providing information to the behavioral health department. She also suggested building or enhancing relationships with health care facilities.

Delegate Crotty suggested other tactics to reach tribal leadership, including distributing one-page info graphics with the meeting packet to share with each Delegate and chapter houses. Delegate Hale reinforced the idea of paper messages since people like to feel paper. Delegate Crotty mentioned that the Navajo newspaper is booming and a great place to share information.

Delegate Hale stated there are opportunities to develop MOA's with chapters, St. Michaels Association for Special Education, Indian Health Services and other entities. He also suggested sharing back information.

Delegate Hale expressed that the Legislative leadership doesn't apply for grants, but they encourage the use of grants and receive reports with information regarding cost-sharing mechanisms and reporting requirements. Delegate Crotty commented that she has been involved in the native language preservation and the Esther Martinez grant, the CTAS grant through the Department of Justice and that a few include youth council activities and prevention work. She is also familiar with the Administration of Native Americans grant for language retention; Notah Begay grants for health and obesity, meth and suicide prevention initiatives; and Kellogg Foundation grants addressing food insecurity.

Delegate Crotty shared it can be challenging applying for grants because the process to seek approval through the Navajo Nation government is a long process. She suggested that if FTF has a streamlined process and could be the fiscal agent that could benefit the Nation.

The importance of data, the need to educate about data

Delegate Crotty commented about the importance of data to paint a picture of what's occurring. She provided the example of an epidemiology center that was holding monthly data meetings. She spoke about the challenge of accessing data and that the Navajo Nation would like to be a data partner with FTF, including gaining an understanding of FTF's data needs. She continued that the Navajo Nation wanted to understand how data is collected, how it is kept confidential and how it will be used.

Delegate Crotty mentioned that private or philanthropic funders, like the Casey Family Foundation, are interested in expanding opportunities on the Nation. She said the Nation has an MOU with the Casey Foundation to provide services in the community and suggested FTF partner with the organization or others organizations to support the Nation. She also suggested further dialogue to determine how we can create partnerships to engage and to apply and have the endorsement of the Navajo Nation.

Delegate Hale mentioned several data stakeholders that FTF might be able to partner with including: IWCA, Office of Diné Youth, the Youth and Elderly Summit, and 638 healthcare centers. Delegate Hale expressed the importance of keeping the Navajo Nation leadership informed of any data projects so that the Nation knows who is involved, expectations and knowledge of initiatives that both FTF and Navajo leadership are working on.

Additional recommendations

Delegate Crotty asked for an explanation of Quality First. She mentioned that language revitalization is missing in the program and asked how FTF supports the development of language immersion in FTF programs.

Delegate Crotty commented that FTF is in a unique position to help young children be aware of sexual assault and how to report it and that early dental care has been a success.

Delegate Crotty recommended FTF submit presentations ahead of consultation and Delegate Hale recommended that FTF provide more in-depth information prior to consultation.

Delegate Hale asked if Diné College was involved with FTF efforts and why more Navajo programs weren't involved.

Delegate Hale commented that he appreciated the legislative updates received from FTF.