



Policy Council Meeting
Monday, January 31st, 2022 – 5 PM
By Microsoft Teams

Minutes

1. **Call to order**
Call to order by Nancy Family Services & Community Partnership, at 5:06 PM
2. **Roll call**
Fabiola Romero, Administrative assistant, did roll call. 10 members attended; quorum was established.

Policy Council 21-22	PRESENT	VOTING
EHS HOME BASE		
Winnona De la Cruz		
Maria G Tesorero Ojeda		
EHS CENTER BASE		
Ariana Gonzalez		
Ana Cervantes		
Kiz Jackson		
Brenda Macias	x	x
Mayada Abdalla	x	x
Taundra Rose	x	x
HS CENTER BASE CHANDLER-GILBERT		
Destiny Harley		
Victoria Trigo Ocampo		
Mirna Barreras	x	x
Maria Escobedo	x	x
Selma Alvarez		
HS CENTER BASE TEMPE/GUADALUPE/SCOTTSDALE		
Mayra Gutierrez		
Rosa Monge		
Rebecca Alfonzo		
HS CENTER BASE MESA		
Oralia Ramirez	x	x
Orlenys Malaver	x	x
Denisse Minjarez Lagunes		
Marisol Agundez	x	x
Diana Juarez		
Jose Gonzalez		
Yuri Alcala	x	x
Brenda Alvarez		
Natasha Suarez		
Carmen Perez Labrada		
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES		
Sarah Agostinho	x	x
Anita Cota Sota		
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS		
Cristina Arzaga-Williams (Liaison non-voting)	x	x
TOTAL * members for quorum	TOTAL 10	TOTAL 10

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Additional persons present:

	Attendee	Role		Attendee	Role
1.	Doug Alf	Grant Accountant	7.	Herlinda Martineu	Family Support Specialist
2.	Maureen Mason	Consultant Nutritionist	8.	Fabiola Romero	Administrative Assistant
3.	Jacqueline Edwards	Human Services Department Director	9.	Eve Del Real	Director Assistant
4.	Jen Gaulke	Early Education & Operations Manager	10.	Sylvia Peña	Family Support Specialist
5.	Sheri Simmons	Program Analyst	11.	Nancy Kessay	Fam Services & Community Partnership Mgr.
6.	Nickia Newman	Education & Content Supervisor	12.	Arnoldo Hernandez	Family Support Specialist

3. Board of Supervisors Liaison Report, BOS Monthly Report:

Please see the report for updates.

- Ever year the Board of Supervisors, elect a chairman of the Board, for 2022 Supervisor Bill Gates D3 (central and north Phoenix including New River and Anthem) was elected Chairman. Chairman Gates appointed Supervisor Clint Hickman D4 (western portion of the County) to be the Vice Chair.
- The Board is starting its budget process for all County offices and Departments for the next fiscal year (FY23). The Board will approve and adopt the budget in June.
- The County continues to allocate the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to various nonprofits; small businesses, and residents needing utility and rent/mortgage payments that have been impacted by the covid 19 pandemic.
- The County also is using federal ARPA funds to assist of Public Health, Emergency Management and Human Services department as they respond to the pandemic.
- One of the ways the Public Health is using funds is to purchase masks and home test kits to distribute to residents. The County has been using the County public libraries to distribute the home test kits.
- We continue with various community vaccination clinics throughout the County as well.
- Last Weds at the Board's formal meeting they extended the Tele work policy another 6 months for employees whose dependent children test positive and are under quarantine order or whose school or daycare facilities are closed due to a CV19 to telework.
- The board also approved an estimated \$15 million in ARPA funds for over an 18-month period (until June 30, 2013) the County will provide funding for existing program to maintain service delivery to County residents.
- The Board appointed Thomas Galvin to the Board of Supervisors; D2 (Mesa, Chandler, and East Valley) to replace Steve Chucru who resigned his seat in November.

4. Head Start Director's Report, Eve Del Real Director Assistant

- NHSA- The program attended the National Head Start Association Winter leadership institute.
- The institute host informative sessions and invaluable networking events, and it provides the opportunity to meet with members of Congress and their staff to build strong, impactful relationships.
- This year 2 Site Supervisors Yolanda Dickerson (Longfellow) and Betty Rodriguez-Lipsky (Lindberg) provided testimony of the ongoing hardship the pandemic. Both did an amazing job of advocating for the program and requested \$12.1 Billion dollars for Fiscal year 2022 to sustain the workforce, provide mental health, and extend program hours.
- On November 29,2021 the Office of Head Start provided program with notice that require vaccination against COVID-19 for all staff, contractors working directly with children, and volunteers. The HSPPS require these individuals to be vaccinated by January 31, 2022. However, Arizona joined 24 other states in a lawsuit that are seeking to put a halt to enforcement of the mandate, claiming that it exceeds the administration's authority.
- Our program has suspended its efforts to meet the vaccine mandate however it continues to highly recommend staff get vaccinated.
- Our program is hiring for multiple teaching positions, if interested in joining our team or know of someone that has a sincere passion for young children – please refer them to us.
 - Hiring bonus of \$2,000
 - Comprehensive benefits package

5. Human Services Department Director's Report- Jacqueline Edwards

New Human Services Department Director assisted Policy Council meeting and introduce herself to Maricopa County Head Start. Discussed the purposes of the services provided and the engagement with families and individuals from the community. Maricopa County Human Services Department Mission, Vision, Values, Leadership Principles, and HSD Goals and Strategies were specifically presented during the introduction of speech.

6. Program Services Report *Please see attachment for detail information*

a. Education and Child Development, Nickia Newman

- The program continues to implement a robust mitigation strategy to ensure the health and safety of children –however, - due to the holiday we experienced an increase in families reporting positive cases during the month of January, which led to 20 closures.
- If in need of testing kits, please call our office.
- Our program is committed to prioritizing staff needs including staff wellness. As staff continue to navigate through the extended pandemic, they have overcome continuous barriers and worked through multiple stressors.
- Our teachers will receive wellness kits on Friday Feb 4th to continue supporting staff mental health and wellness during these unprecedented times.

b. Family and Community Engagement, Nancy Kessay

Program integrates parent and family engagement strategies into all systems and program services to support family well-being and promote children's learning and development.

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- c. **ERSEA**
Enrollment and Program Services information have up to date reports and is encouraging people to complete walk-in, online or partial applications via telephone. Recent reports demonstrate there are a total of 622 children enrolled in the program.
- d. **Health, Nutrition & Safety**
A program must provide high-quality health, oral health, mental health, and nutrition services.

7. Approvals

- a. **HS and EHS Waiver Non-Federal Share for FY 2021-2022**
Please see attachment for detail information
This waiver request and accompanying budget revision document as approved by governing bodies ad reflected.
Approval Mirna Barrera did motion to approved. Yuri Alcala did second motion, no opposes.
- b. **Financial Statements**
Please see attachment for detail information
Doug Alf (Grant Account) reviewed the financial statements for December 2021
Approval. Yuri Alcala did motion to approved. Brenda Marcias did second motion Approved by all members present, no opposes.
- c. **Policy Council Meeting Minutes** *Please see attachment for detail information*
Pending approval for next meeting

8. Policy Council Members Reports

There are no reports from the members.

9. Call to the public

Parent Brenda Macias had questions concerning the consolidation of centers- Jenifer Gaulke answer question.
Parent Tandra Rose, had question regarding transition of children from Early Head Start to Head Start

10. Adjournment

Nancy Kessay did motion to adjourned meeting., Motion approved by all members. Meeting concluded at 5:55 PM

Next meeting:
Monday, February 28, 2022, at 5:00 PM by *Microsoft Teams*
All parents are invited to attend all Policy Council meetings.