

# FIRST THINGS FIRST

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Marilee Dal Pra

October 1, 2019

Honorable Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor  
1700 West Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Ducey:

Pursuant to A.R.S. 41-2041C, the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board (First Things First) respectfully submits the agency's annual Tribal Consultation Policy Report.

First Things First recognizes the sovereignty of Arizona Indian Tribes and Nations and the importance of honoring that sovereignty through government-to-government relationships. FTF recognizes the need for tribal governments to have a strong voice in developing effective early childhood systems. In that spirit, I am pleased to inform you of our efforts to dialogue and partner with Arizona's Tribes and Nations during State Fiscal Year 2019.

If you would like to learn more about those efforts, or if there are questions about our report, please contact FTF Senior Director for Tribal Affairs Candida Hunter at (602) 510-3240.

Sincerely,



Marilee Dal Pra  
Chief Executive Officer

Attachment

**TRIBAL CONSULTATION ANNUAL REPORT**  
**July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

**Agency Overview**

The Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board, also known as First Things First (FTF), is a public state agency that exists to increase the quality of, and access to, the early childhood development and health system that ensures children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Governed by a state board, FTF is a decentralized organization that engages diverse constituencies to accomplish its mission to serve as one of the critical partners in creating a family-centered, collaborative and high-quality early childhood system that supports the development, health and early education of all Arizona's children birth through 5. The vision of FTF is that all Arizona's children are ready to succeed in school and in life. Since inception, FTF has partnered with tribes throughout the state. Tribes may elect to have their lands treated as a separate region by the statewide FTF Board (currently, 10 tribes); or, tribes may elect to participate in the designated geographical region(s) in which their tribal lands are located (currently, nine tribes).

**Tribal Consultation Activities**

FTF's tribal consultation activities work to: strengthen tribal-state relations, promote tribal considerations in early childhood development, build awareness in tribal sectors of the importance of early childhood; and enhance coordination and collaboration.

Each year since 2009, FTF has met in formal consultation session with Arizona tribes. In FY2019, the consultation included the following topic: Supporting the Healthy Development of Young Children. *A detailed summary of themes that arose at that consultation - and the actions taken by First Things First as a result – are included in Attachment A.*

- In previous consultations, FTF received feedback from tribal leaders that it would be beneficial for more tribal elected officials to have a better understanding of the importance of early childhood and more information about the impact FTF's early childhood investments are having in their respective communities. In FY19, regional consultations occurred with tribes in the following FTF Regions: Colorado River Indian Tribes (August 15, 2018), Pinal Region with the Ak-Chin Indian Community (March 25, 2019), Gila Region with the Tonto Apache Tribe (April 25, 2019), Yavapai Region with the Yavapai-Apache Nation (May 1, 2019), and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe (June 17, 2019). The purpose of these regional consultations was to achieve a better understanding of each tribe's priorities and to identify opportunities to further coordinate and collaborate to ensure the best possible outcomes for young children and families.

The table below outlines additional activities conducted by FTF Tribal Affairs in this reporting period by goal area. This information does not include all engagement with tribal leaders at the local level by the FTF regional directors or councils.

Goal	Objective	Activity and Performance Measure
Strengthen Tribal-State relations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide an overview about First Things First and the work of the region such as: funding plans; needs and assets assessment reports; Quality First programs; and research projects.</li> <li>2. Seek guidance and direction on the tribe's approval process.</li> <li>3. Seek tribal approvals in reference to data collection activities for regional assessment reports,</li> </ol>	<p><b>Tribal Consultation: 6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Tribal Consultation</li> <li>• Statewide Tribal Consultation- 16 Tribes participated</li> <li>• Pinal Regional Tribal Consultation, Ak-Chin Indian Community</li> <li>• Gila Regional Tribal Consultation, Tonto Apache Tribe</li> <li>• Yavapai Regional Tribal Consultation, Yavapai-Apache Nation</li> <li>• Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Tribal Consultation</li> </ul> <p><b>Presentations to Tribal Councils and Committees: 9</b></p>

	<p>programmatic and outcome data and research and evaluation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inter Tribal Association of Arizona, Hualapai Tribal Council, Havasupai Tribal Council (2X), Tonto Apache Tribal Council, Hopi Health and Education Committee (2X), Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council and Colorado River Indian Tribes Tribal Council</li> </ul> <p><b>Meetings with Tribal Leaders and Staff: 14</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ak-Chin Indian Community Legal Counsel, Pascua Yaqui Head Start Director, Pascua Yaqui Social Services Director and Child Care Program Manager, Hopi Chairman's Executive Advisor, Yavapai-Apache Nation Chairwoman, Gila River Lt. Governor, White Mountain Apache Tribe Vice Chairman, Gila River Health Care Corporation Chief Behavioral Health Officer and Prevention Administrator, Havasupai Tribe Head Start Director, Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President (2X), Hualapai Tribe Assistant Director of Health, Education and Wellness Department, White Mountain Apache Tribe Health Director.</li> </ul>
Promote tribal considerations in early childhood development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Share information about FTF's government-to-government relationships and working effectively with Arizona's tribes.</li> <li>2. Learn about other early learning and health care systems/programs/committees and their efforts.</li> <li>3. Discuss and prioritize public health issues in tribal communities.</li> <li>4. Ensure tribal perspective is considered by other regional/state/federal entities.</li> <li>5. Provide insight on FTF's experience working with tribes on early childhood initiatives.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Meetings and events with Tribal and Non-tribal Stakeholder Organizations: 27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Center for Excellence Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC), Association for Supportive Child Care Meeting, FTF Early Childhood Summit (including conference session and Tribal Connections event), BUILD Equity Leaders in Action Network (4X), 2018 Arizona Indian Education Stakeholders Summit, Achieve 60 Native American Postsecondary Attainment Roundtable, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Families Tribal Consultation, 2018 Arizona Health Equity Conference, Doing Research in Indigenous Communities Summit, National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, 2018 State of Native Youth Report, ASU Indigenous Data Sovereignty Event, AZ State Representative Arlando Teller (LD7), AZ State Representative Myron Tsosie (LD7), U.S. State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program, Global Leaders for Young Children Conference: World Forum on Early Care, 8th Annual Symposium on Infant and Toddler Mental Health, ITCA Tribal Early Childhood Workgroup, Maternal Mortality Goal Council meeting, Administration of Children and Families Region IX Administrators' meeting, Tribal Dental Therapy Workgroup meeting, AI/AN Quality Initiatives: Infant Toddler Community of Practice and BUILD QRIS conference.</li> </ul>
Build public awareness in tribal sectors on the importance of early childhood	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduce FTF Staff to tribal/non-tribal entities.</li> <li>2. Share an overview of FTF, provide updates on activities/events specific to tribal, geographical regions, and/or in Tribal Affairs.</li> <li>3. Enhance understanding of tribal issues that may impact the provision of early childhood</li> </ol>	<p><b>Meetings with Tribal Stakeholder Organizations: 12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Choice Integrated Health Care Summit, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona Epidemiology Working Group, San Carlos Apache Early Childhood Developmental and Health Collaborative, Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care (3X) and Children's Action Alliance</li> </ul>

	<p>programs and services in tribal communities.</p> <p>4. Share information on available grant opportunities.</p>	
Enhance coordination and collaboration among partnering FTF entities, state/federal/tribal organizations and tribes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Seek guidance in appropriately accessing data from state and federal entities.</li> <li>2. Discuss FTF's tribal consultation process.</li> <li>3. Share information relevant to working groups, opportunities for collaboration and future work sessions.</li> <li>4. Participate and support planning for site tours.</li> <li>5. Provide an overview of FTF and funded programs in tribal communities.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Meetings With Tribal and Non-tribal Stakeholder organizations: 32</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gila River Health Care Corporation, Tribal Liaison Roundtable (4X), Inter Tribal Council of Arizona Epidemiology Working Group, Department of Child Safety (2X), Ak-Chin Indian Community Child Development, Partnerships with Native Americans, Indian Tribes and Nations Legislative Day, Tuba City Child Development Site tour with Congressman Tom O'Halleran, Bipartisan Policy Center, Tribal Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Collaborative, National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Navajo Nation Little Miss Muffet Child Care Center Quality First Site Tour, Collaboration with Arizona Department of Child Safety, Department of Economic Security, Department of Health Services, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Tribal-Specific Community Presentation and Heard Museum</li> </ul>

#### **Recommendations from Tribal Representatives:**

FTF will continue to build organizational capacity of regional directors, regional council members, and other tribal and non-tribal stakeholders to: 1) gain a better understanding of FTF's Tribal Consultation Policy and Tribal Data Policy, 2) better understand data collection procedures of specific data sets including methodology, source, and significance of data contained within the regional needs and asset (RNA) reports; and 3) better understand specific and unique tribal data approval and collection procedures for tribal communities within their region. This increased organizational capacity will help ensure that FTF staff and partners have the skills and knowledge needed to confidently and accurately address tribal entities and stakeholders with regard to FTF data collection, dissemination, strategic priorities, and services provided.

#### **Revisions to First Things First Tribal Government Consultation Policy:**

In accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-2051, a Tribal Consultation Policy was developed and adopted by the statewide FTF Board in 2009, and was amended December 2017. A copy of current FTF Tribal Consultation Policy can be found at: <http://www.azftf.gov/tribalconsultation/Documents/Tribal%20Consultation%20Policy-Bd%20Approved%2012-11-12.pdf>

#### **Challenges Faced**

FTF staff and grantees have encountered two primary challenges in delivering and providing services to children and families in Arizona's tribal communities. First, there are not very many evidence-based models for early education programs specific to tribal communities. This can result in concerns over whether the program will be culturally responsive to the communities' needs. In addition, it can be difficult to find staff in early childhood programs with the cultural background and/or professional training/experience required to work with families. Secondly, the geographic vastness of some tribal communities makes it difficult to reach many families or for families to access services. FTF has taken proactive steps to address with these challenges and remains committed to on-going dialogue with tribal communities and continuous quality improvement of its programs to address the unique needs of young children living on tribal lands. While we had great success scheduling Regional Tribal Consultations, it is important to recognize that it can be difficult finding the right time to schedule consultations because of competing tribal priorities. For questions or more information, please contact: Candida L. Hunter, Senior Director of Tribal Affairs, (602) 510-3240, [cahunter@firstthingsfirst.org](mailto:cahunter@firstthingsfirst.org).

**Tribal Consultation Summary Report**  
**September 11, 2018**  
**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 Tuesday, September 11, 2018. The purpose of the consultation was to receive feedback on supporting young children's healthy development.

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**

***Tribal Leaders and Tribal Representatives:***

Gabriel Lopez, Vice Chairman, Ak-Chin Indian Community

Deal Begay Jr., Vice Chairman, Cocopah Tribe

Keith Moses, Vice Chairman, Colorado River Indian Tribes

Dr. Bill Myhr, Education Director, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

Shan Lewis, Vice Chairman, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe

Muriel Coochwyetewa, Chairwoman, Havasupai Tribe

Carletta Tilousi, Councilwoman, Havasupai Tribe

Tim Uqualla, Councilman, Havasupai Tribe

Malinda Andrews, Executive Advisor for Chairman, Hopi Tribe

Dr. Damon Clarke, Chairman, Hualapai Tribe

Carmen Bradley, Vice Chairwoman, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians

Nathaniel Brown, Council Delegate, Navajo Nation

Dr. James Davis, Executive Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation

Yvonne Kee-Billison, Executive Assistant, Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation

Mario Molina, Education Director, Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Martin Harvier, Vice President, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

David Reede, Health Director, San Carlos Apache Tribe

Frances Benevidez, Education Liaison, Tohono O'odham Nation

Edward Manuel, Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation

Calvin Johnson, Vice Chairman, Tonto Apache Tribe

Verlon Jose, Vice Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation

Jane Russell-Winiecki, Chairwoman, Yavapai-Apache Nation

Winifred Begay, Director of Education, Tohono O'odham Nation

Ophelia Tewawina, Child Care Manager, Yavapai-Apache Nation

### ***First Things First:***

Nadine Mathis Basha, First Things First Board Member

Michelle Katona, First Things First Chief Program Officer

Amelia Flores, First Things First Board Member, Colorado River Indian Tribes

Kim VanPelt, First Things First Chief Regional Officer

Marilee Dal Pra, First Things First CEO

Candida Hunter, First Things First Senior Director of Tribal Affairs

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

### **Summary**

First Things First and state agency partners are working together to ensure timely, quality developmental screening is available for young children, and that risk-appropriate referrals are being provided in cases where concerns may exist and further evaluation or assessment is needed, including information with which families can actively support their child in reaching developmental milestones. This includes a focus on ensuring that all of this work is done with profound respect and understanding for tribal values, cultures and practices. Tribal leaders and representatives were asked for their insight on a variety of questions related to supporting the healthy development of young children in tribal communities. Tribal leaders and representatives stated that they celebrate a child's development through ceremonies and that caring for a child begins before birth. They also provided information about programs and coordination of programs to support the development of young children. Tribal leaders expressed their concerns regarding the challenges parents experience in learning about their child's development and accessing services. Tribal leaders also stressed the importance of teaching youth about child development and the responsibilities of parenting. In addition, tribal leaders suggested nontribal partners learn more about tribal communities by attending trainings offered in tribal communities, and/or being introduced to and shadowing community members or employees in tribal communities.

## **Comments/Questions/Concerns/Recommendations on Supporting Young Children's Healthy Development**

### **Tribal leaders and designees shared how their communities view typical development of young children.**

- Yavapai-Apache Nation Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki expressed that healthy development is different across tribes, it may look different amongst tribal and non-tribal communities. She was interested in knowing what types of tools are being used to assess development.
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice President Martin Harvier shared that many children live with extended family members. The tribe has early childhood programs to support healthy development and they are working to improve their schools through different efforts.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel stated that children learn from their culture, traditions and from seeing and listening. The school system, including Head Start, supports development by identifying health needs. He also shared there is a special needs school on the nation. The family and community must support the well-being of a child. Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated education begins before birth and that it's important for the community to start caring for a child at conception.
- Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison suggested connecting early childhood with adolescents because they will become parents as adults. Traditionally, ceremonies such as puberty ceremonies taught adolescents about what to do before having a child. In addition, Executive Assistant Dr. Jim Davis shared how the nation is working to better connect youth with elders so traditional knowledge is taught to younger generations to help them be successful in life.
- San Carlos Apache Tribe Health Director David Reede shared a story about his upbringing and expressed that tribes are always in a category of being less than or not given the fair opportunity. He stated the tribe is looking at their current system, what's in place and coordinating more among programs. He also shared how it's important to celebrate successes.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community Vice Chairman Gabriel Lopez shared how it's important to teach younger generations traditions so they'll carry them on and that it's important to acknowledge, teach and practice protocols that need to take place before and after a baby is conceived. He also shared the tribal government has a medicine man provide a ceremony for babies.

### **Many tribal leaders and designees shared how development is monitored and celebrated for children birth to 5 years old in their communities.**

- Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison stated this can be done culturally and tribally as well as through assessments and analysis. She stated that by understanding the culture, you can better connect children and families to appropriate programs. She also shared that milestones are celebrated through ceremonies and that children receive assessments in health care facilities from birth to 3 years old and early learning program on the nation once enrolled.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel shared the tribe has a field nurse to support pregnant women, a nutrition program for children and families and programs for elders. The tribe is having discussions now to determine how they connect elders and the Head Start program to provide ceremonies to young children. Additionally, Vice Chairman Verlon Jose also shared that

health screenings and outreach are provided to parents and children and Head Start provides daily checks and communicates concerns with the families.

- Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay, Jr. shared that the Early Steps program monitors children, and there are monthly gatherings with families to discuss child development.
- Hopi Tribe's Chairman Executive Advisor Malinda Andrews shared that the tribe has many different programs to support young children and families.
- Navajo Nation Council Delegate Nathaniel Brown shared that many early childhood programs provide screenings and coordinate with other departments. He also stated that traditional ceremonies parallel to brain development research and more needs to be done to bridge traditions and research and to share that information with families. He also suggested a presentation be shared by Dr. Tammy Decoteau about brain development.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose shared that in the region, they are working towards having certified teachers. There is a Head Start at the Baboquivari Unified School and the district is monitoring students beyond high school. He stressed that education systems may need to be different in tribal communities. He also expressed concerns about the San Lucy district not being funded.

**Tribal leaders and representatives shared about how often the development of young children is screened.**

- Fort Mojave Indian Tribe Vice Chairman Shan Lewis expressed that screenings are provided in the child care center, health clinic and through home visitation.
- Hualapai Tribe Chairman Dr. Damon Clarke stated screenings are provided by the home visitation program, Head Start, and child care center.
- Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison suggested FTF and Head Start set up a booth so parents can bring their children to be assessed or that programs assess the child because there are many children who are not being assessed. She also stated parental responsibility is an ongoing issue and that there needs to be emphasis on communicating better with parents.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Education Director Winifred Begay shared there are several screening options at Head Start centers and through Child Find. In addition, Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated Child Find screenings are conducted monthly in different communities. He also shared younger children are being diagnosed with diabetes and because this occurs beyond pre-K, screenings need to be continued.
- San Carlos Apache Tribe Health Director David Reede stated that Head Start works with the Maternal Child Health and Health Care Corporation to increase the ability to screen children. He also shared that the Apache cycle of life talks about the seasons and growth that happens in children. Additionally, their school district is looking into becoming trauma informed and the community is better coordinating efforts.
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice President Martin Harvier expressed that screenings are conducted by Child Find and at health fairs.



- Yavapai-Apache Nation Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki shared screenings are conducted by the Child Care Program, Head Start and the Montessori School.

**Tribal leaders and representatives shared about the status of young children's healthy development among young children in their communities.**

- Cocopah Tribe Vice Chairman Deal Begay Jr. stated the community has seen an increase in the number of children receiving honor roll, perfect attendance and more school involvement since 2008/2009. The tribe is working on helping children become more active to address diabetes and healthy eating, and there are efforts to expose elementary children to college.
- Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison stated the Navajo Nation implemented a healthy Dine' Nation tax and the tribe is determining whether the taxes used to implement wellness activities are impacting Type 2 diabetes and chronic diseases. Additionally, some chapters have focused on supporting women who were diagnosed with gestational diabetes and there maybe opportunities for FTF to partner with them to expand services.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel expressed the schools from early learning to high school are coordinating to better support students transitioning from schools so they will attend college. He also shared all the schools are working to hire certified teachers.
- Navajo Nation Council Delegate Nathaniel Brown expressed that in the Navajo culture, there are things you don't talk about because they are seen as taboo and that there isn't language to express issues such as suicide and sex trafficking. He also stated it would be helpful to have tribes come together and share about their best practices.
- Yavapai-Apache Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki expressed the importance of having parenting classes for expectant mothers and classes for middle school students to learn about parenting and the effects of drugs. She also shared that WIC provides services to 61% of the 0-4 year olds enrolled in the Nation and is interested in learning how FTF partners with WIC.
- Hopi Tribe's Chairman Executive Advisor Malinda Andrews shared that when she was at WIC, she began working with single fathers who were committed to raising their children. She stressed the need for programs to support fathers.
- Havasupai Councilwoman Carletta Tilousi stated her tribe has Head Start, Child Find, WIC and home visitation. She also expressed the need for culturally sensitive agreements to provide services and identify the service requirements because of the negative experiences tribes have encountered. Not knowing how data is used is a reason families do not participate in programs.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated it's important for children to not be misdiagnosed or diagnosed at an early age and that training be provided to screeners. He agreed that there is a need to support fathers.

**Tribal leaders and representatives shared about the successes and challenges of identifying children who may need developmental support and working with families.**

- San Carlos Apache Tribe Health Director David Reede shared that tribal departments and other entities are coordinating to support one another in the region and that the biggest frustration is funding to implement programs and initiatives.

- Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison shared there is more focus on the mental health of the birth to 5 population and that collaboration between schools and IHS in some locations is helpful for families. She also stated a study was done on the nation about expectant mothers and their traumatic experiences. The challenge is having accessible resources for parents and children in need of services to address these issues because there is a lack of professionals to provide the services. She also stated telemedicine may help to address access to services.
- Navajo Nation Council Delegate Nathaniel Brown expressed that in the nation there are many screening tools utilized and there should only be one screening tool utilized by all programs. He added that there is a need for speech pathologists. In addition, the nation is working to providing internships for high school students to learn more about the health field; they are growing their own.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Education Director Winifred Begay expressed that speech delay is common and encouraging families to receive additional support can be challenging. She also stated teachers should talk with parents when they see a concern before a referral is sent. Additionally, she suggested hosting small community events where screenings and education about development are provided to support parents, as well as transportation and providing screenings at a time convenient for families.
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice President Martin Harvier stated that the process to seek support for a child with special needs is challenging, especially when families do not understand the process to access services.

**Tribal leaders and representatives shared information about supports offered in their communities to assist with children's healthy development.**

- Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Education Director Dr. Bill Myhr shared that community clubs like Kiwanis and Rotary support children, including non-tribal children.
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice President Martin Harvier shared that many times children with special needs receive services off the reservation. He also expressed concern for substance-exposed newborns, their access to services and prenatal check-ups.
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Director Mario Molina stated a challenge is education about development and special needs. The tribe has hired special education advocates to work with the community, and they are trying to identify how to better serve their communities to educate about childhood development and parents' rights.
- Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President Executive Assistant Yvonne Kee-Billison stated it would be helpful to have a website or an electronic resource providing information on nonprofits or consultants trained in behavioral health.
- Tohono O'odham Vice Chairman Verlon Jose stated the Health Service Advisory Committee meets bimonthly and advises on new treatments and techniques to support the healthy development of children and that trainings are provided to teachers and families from Quality First coaches and community practice coordinators.

**Tribal leaders and representatives provided insight and advice about what non-tribal providers can do to help families feel open and comfortable having conversations about their children's development.**

- Tohono O'odham Vice Chairman Verlon Jose suggested connecting with tribal staff, developing culturally enriched brochures to share with families and attend cultural awareness training. He also suggested non-tribal providers be introduced [by community members or staff] to families including grandparents.
- Tonto Apache Vice Chairman Calvin Johnson stated nonnatives attend a cultural class about tribes and that new employees will shadow an existing employee to begin meeting and working in the community.
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice President Martin Harvier stated the community offers a sensitivity class.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community Vice Chairman Gabriel Lopez shared the community provides cultural sensitivity training during employee orientation and to students and teachers in the Maricopa public schools. He also expressed that because of trauma experienced by communities, some do not want to share information with nonnatives working with the community.
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Director Mario Molina stated the tribe provides training to staff and vendors and follows up with them to ask how they are becoming part of the community.

**Additional insight and perspectives shared by tribal leaders and representatives.**

- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Director Mario Molina stated more work needs to be done to understand the development of young Native children, because information and statistics are limited.
- Colorado River Indian Tribes Vice Chairman Keith Moses stated it is important to have an active regional director, know who serves on the regional council and for tribal leadership to interact with them to discuss how goals can be reached. He also shared that everything cannot be funded by FTF and there should be discussion to better coordinate efforts.
- Yavapai-Apache Nation Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki stated she is interested in working with the National Kidney Foundation to address diabetes in early childhood and would like to know if other tribes are interested because of the high rates of diabetes in tribal communities.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose shared challenges tribes have in their education systems and the need to work with others and hold them accountable. He also shared information about programs the nation is developing to support the education of their people and suggested following a cohort of young students to measure outcomes, including graduation rates.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Edward Manuel suggested a meeting between the nation and regional council to discuss education and policies.
- Tohono O'odham Nation Vice Chairman Verlon Jose requested the region reconsider assisting the San Lucy center and that budget amendments be reviewed in a timely manner when FTF staff are out of office.

### 2018 Tribal Consultation Follow-Up Action Plan

#### **CONSULTATION TOPIC: Supporting Young Children's Healthy Development**

**Emerging Theme from Tribes in Attendance:** Tribal leaders and representatives were asked for their insight on a variety of questions related to supporting the healthy development of young children in tribal communities. Tribal leaders and representatives stated that they celebrate a child's development through ceremonies and that caring for a child begins before birth. They also provided information about programs and coordination of programs to support the development of young children. Tribal leaders expressed their concerns of challenges parents experience in learning about their child's development and accessing services. Tribal leaders also suggested the importance of teaching youth about child development and the responsibilities of parenting to support the development of young children. In addition, tribal leaders suggested nontribal partners learn more about tribal communities by attending trainings offered in tribal communities, be introduced and shadow community members or employees in tribal communities.

Tribal Leader Feedback	FTF Action Items Resulting from Tribal Consultation	Status
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Tribal leaders and designees shared how their communities view typical development of young children.</li> <li>2) Many tribal leaders and designees shared how development is monitored and celebrated for children birth to five years old in their communities.</li> <li>3) Tribal leaders and representatives shared about how often the development of young children is screened.</li> <li>4) Tribal leaders and representatives shared about the status of young children's healthy development amongst young children in their communities.</li> <li>5) Tribal leaders and representatives shared about the success and challenges of identifying children who may need developmental support and working with families.</li> <li>6) Tribal leaders and representatives shared information about supports offered in their communities to assist with children's healthy development.</li> <li>7) Tribal leaders and representatives provided insight and advice about what non-tribal providers can do to help</li> </ol>	<p>Meet with state system partners to discuss opportunities to enhance coordination and opportunities to train staff providing screenings in tribal communities.</p> <p>Provide information to system partners about trainings provided to programs providers working in tribal communities.</p> <p>Meet with tribal leadership to address concerns specific to their regions.</p>	<p>The Arizona Comprehensive Systems Initiative consists of state agencies and local community partners working together to address early screening and interventions to meet the developmental needs of young children. This group meets on a regular basis. Within the group there are four work groups addressing professional development, coordinated screenings, system navigation and services and interventions. There are tribal representatives invited to all work group meetings, however, there is not consistent attendance of those representatives at the monthly meetings. FTF will work with the</p>

<p>families feel open and comfortable having conversations about their children's development.</p> <p>8) Tribal leaders and designees provided additional information on how to continue developing the relationship between the tribe and regional council to support positive outcomes of young children.</p>		<p>tribal representative to identify challenges in monthly attendance and to obtain their insight on how more tribal voices maybe included in the monthly meeting.</p> <p>FTF continues to provide technical assistance, upon request, to grant partners providing screenings and interventions.</p> <p>FTF reviewed requirements for developmental and sensory screening programs funded to address coordination of services between home visitation and Head Start programs.</p> <p>Regional tribal consultations were convened last year to learn from tribes about their priorities and how to enhance our partnership to better support young children and families.</p>
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