



Arizona Head Start Association

Family & Community Partnerships Committee

Meeting

AmeriTech
5501 N. 19th
Phoenix, AZ 85282

Thursday, February 19, 2009
2:00pm – 4:00pm

Minutes

Attendees: Mary Jo Schwartz, Claudia Avila, Nina Williams, Lizette Ortiz, Ruth Cuen, Delia Dozal, Anthony Felix, Katrina Relph-Mueller, Sonya Montoya, Debbie Wiseman

AHSA

- Sonya Montoya reviewed the HSSCO Mtg held on 02/18/09. She presented the specific ideas that relate to coordinating with agencies who work with the homeless population. Ideas for AHSA include: a monthly email to agencies that work with the homeless, hosting a Homeless Forum, Coordinating with school liaisons, participating in the state Homeless Conference. Sonya suggested that these projects be supported by the FCP Committee. The committee is in agreement and will work to identify contact people in the state-wide agencies to improve communication about Head Start and how we will be responding to the McKinney-Vento Act as mandated in the Head Start Act.
- Brenda Aguirre from Children's Action Alliance provided a brief overview of the advocacy training that she offers to Head Start parents and staff. This training includes: Who is my legislator? What is my district? What do I say? How do I write a letter to my representative? How can I impact legislation? The training for parents runs about an hour. The training for Head Start staff is 1-2 hours. The training is free. She or her staff will travel throughout the state to provide the training in English or Spanish. She can be contacted at: baguirre@azchildren.org.
- The committee discussed the latest information on state budget cuts and how it will affect our families' receipt of services.



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Minutes p.2

Some ideas are: to work more closely with community partners and churches, make use of mobile medical/dental services, network with service clubs such as Lions and Kiwanis for services and funds. The committee members will continue to look for alternate resources and bring new information to each meeting.

The link to DES for updated information on budget cuts is:
<https://egov.azdes.gov/cmsinternet/uploadedFiles/Office of Communications>

- The committee discussed timeframes for selection of children for program enrollment and recruitment plans. The committee likes the joint recruitment fliers.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm

AHSA