



**Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention  
Meeting Minutes**

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**November 14, 2018  
10:00 AM**

**Arizona State Capitol  
1700 W. Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Executive Tower, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**A general meeting of the Arizona Parent's Commission on Drug Education and Prevention convened on November 14, 2018. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the Parent's Commission.**

**Members Present**

Bryan Cox, Chair	Bryan Harris	David Reede
Raynee Schneider	Kristine FireThurnder	Beatriz "Betty" Hurtado
Laura Cisomani (via phone)	Denise Beagley (via phone)	

**Members Absent**

Eric Meaux

**Staff and Guest Present**

Malcolm Hightower, Governor's Office	Lori Deutsch, MATFORCE
Leona Morales, Governor's Office	Courtney Kom, PAACE
Kaitlynn Galden, Governor's Office	Randy Hartless, PAACE
Travis Price, Governor's Office	Priscilla Canez, Touchstone Health Services
Kalyleigh Larkins, Governor's Office	Jacobed Hernandez, Terros Health
Natalia Chimbo-Andrade, Community Bridges, Inc.	Tasha Mendoza, ASU
Betty Caratachea, CPLC Parenting AZ	

- A. Call to Order**  
**Commissioner Bryan Cox, Chair**, called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.
- B. Welcome/Introductions**  
**Commissioner Cox**, welcomed everyone and asked all members to introduce themselves.
- C. Approval of Minutes**  
**Commissioner Cox, Chair**, requested a review of the September 12, 2018, meeting minutes. **Commissioner FireThunder** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Schneider** and approved by all.
- D. Discussion and Approval of New RFGA**  
**Malcolm Hightower** summarized how the rollout of the Parents Commission Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) will proceed during the first half of 2019. The goal of the Parents Commission is to have the new RFGA released in February 2019, to have new subgrantees selected in May 2019, and to have all new sugrantees officially approved by July 2019. Mr. Hightower also stated that he

hopes to use this meeting to finalize specific priorities and to review the current draft of the new RFGA.

**Leona Morales** gave a summary of specific facets of the new RFGA. For one, she detailed changes that are being made to RFGA evaluation criteria. The criteria will now ask that all subgrantees utilize evidence-based or evidence-informed programs. Programming must also be focused on prevention and risks associated with Opioids, Fentanyl, vaping, alcohol and marijuana. Additionally, all programs should be trauma-informed. Lastly, efforts should be made to better engage tribal nations, and programming should support kinship and foster care efforts.

**Commissioner Cisomani** asked if any subgrantees are working on neonatal abstinence syndrome prevention. **Leona Morales** responded that she would research which programs do and would report back to her by the next meeting.

**Leona Morales** continued by saying that the scoring system utilized in the evaluation process has been revamped. Specifically, bonus points will not be utilized this cycle, applications will be scored against a total of 1000 points, and a new online portal will be used for all applications. Further, there will be different teams for each type of application submitted – one team for urban applications, one team for rural applications, and one team for tribal applications. Each team will consist of three members.

**Commissioner Harris** asked how funding is broken down between urban, rural and tribal applicants. **Mr. Hightower** responded that 45% of total funding is allocated urban applicants, 40% to rural applicants, and 15% to tribal applicant. Commissioner Harris asked how these percentages were determined. **Travis Price** stated that these divisions are based on the methodology used by the Department of Justice in a separate grant received by the state.

**Commissioner Cisomani** asked if any marketing is being done to attract potential applicants in underserved communities. **Travis Price** stated that the Governor's Office encourages the Parents Commission to explore marketing opportunities for underserved communities, but specified that all marketing activities must occur before the grant solicitation is released, after which the Parents Commission is barred from reaching out to specific applicants. **Commissioner Cox** asked what specific initiatives are being undertaken to market the RFGA. **Mr. Hightower** stated that the GOYFF is utilizing constant contact, social media, and direct 1:1 electronic and personal communication to reach out to a wide variety of applicants.

**Commissioner FireThunder** encouraged the GOYFF to continue to make connections with tribal partners, and stated that Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019, provides a potential opportunity to connect directly to tribes.

**Ms. Morales** stated that she will come to the next Parents Commission meeting with a new version of the RFGA ready for review.

**Commissioner Cox** made a motion to approve the draft of the RFGA evaluation criteria as written and authorize Ms. Morales to update the remaining parts of the RFGA for review at the next meeting in January. Motion was seconded by **Commissioner Reede** and approved by all.

#### **E. Review & Discussion of PC Sugraantee Survey**

**Ms. Morales** provided an overview of an online survey that was conducted to measure subgrantee experiences. The 10-question survey was sent to all 23 Parents Commission subgrantees. 18 subgrantees provided responses. Of those responses, 77% reported an overall experience rate of a 4 or a 5 (out of 5). 88.9% rated the web portal as a 4 or a 5. 77% also reported that they would be open to sharing knowledge or resources with other subgrantees. Within the open response section, some common responses among subgrantees were: 1) subgrantees preferred to utilize an online application as opposed to a physical application, 2) subgrantees wished that the web portal would be more flexible, and 3) subgrantees hoped for more training opportunities through the grant in the future, along with better communication.

**Commissioner Schneider** asked if subgrantees are all trained in the same location at the same orientation once the grant is awarded. **Ms. Morales** responded that it is required that all subgrantees come to the Governor's Office to be trained at the beginning of the grant cycle. **Mr. Hightower** stated that the GOYFF typically attempts to do any required trainings during this time. **Ms. Morales**

stated that the GOYFF is also looking into opportunities to expand collegiate recovery programs to rural and tribal community colleges.

**F. Presentation – ASU Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy**

**Commissioner Cox, Chair** introduced the speakers from the ASU Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy. **Dr. Natasha Mendoza** is the Interim Director of the Center, while **Kevin Bushaw** is the Conferences and Events Manager.

**Mr. Bushaw** gave a summary of the 2018 ASU Summer Institute, held in Flagstaff, Arizona from July 17-20, 2018. The theme of the conference was communication, coordination and collaboration – multi-sector strategies to achieve a culture of health. The Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy views Summer Institute as a chance to bring together a diverse array of professionals who together can work towards solutions to the most pressing behavioral health problems facing people today. Nearly 400 behavioral health specialists were present at the event. The official objective of the conference was to provide education and networking opportunities to Arizona’s behavioral health professionals. 10 different workshops focusing on substance abuse prevention were offered as a part of Summer Institute. In addition, 65 scholarships were awarded through the GOYFF, of which 63 people attended. Positive feedback for the conference included reports of new useful knowledge and skills to use at work, increased knowledge about changes in behavioral healthcare delivery, and high satisfaction with the new conference facility. One area of improvement identified was a general preference for focus on fewer sessions given the size of the conference facility. The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Institute will be held from July 16-19, 2019, in the same conference center in Flagstaff. The focus of the conference will be the rapidly changing landscape of behavioral health.

**Commissioner FireThunder**, an attendee, stated that she was very satisfied with the conference. **Commissioner Schneider** expressed the same sentiment, and also stated that she hoped there would be additional programming on prevention as it relates to children and families at the next conference. **Mr. Bushaw** stated that the call for presenters will open in January 2019 and close in April of that year. A central goal in the recruitment of presenters will be a focus on identifying specific programming that individuals can enroll in (e.g. a prevention track).

**G. Presentation – Amistades, Inc.**

**Commissioner Cox, Chair** introduced Melissa Gomez, Project Coordinator for the Familia Adelante program.

**Ms. Gomez** began by giving an overview of the work done by Amistades, Inc. Amistades is a Latino non-profit community development organization committed to providing culturally responsive services, advocacy for social justice, and community empowerment. Amistades is a Latino-led, Latino-serving organization established in 2006 to address the unmet needs (social, educational, and health) of Latino youth and families - in southern Arizona and its border communities. All of its efforts are grounded in grassroots outreach, strategic partnerships, and the use of evidence-based practices and programs. Amistades envisions empowered communities that inspire cultural preservation, social equality, and self-sufficiency. The Familia Adelante program is a Latino-focused promising best practice targeting 10-14 year olds and parents at Apollo Middle School (SUSD). The program introduces culturally relevant strategies for coping with stress and risk factors faced by Latino youth. The program seeks to address acculturation stress faced by Latino youth and parents. In terms of goals, the program seeks to reduce overall levels of family stress, reduce youth’s behavioral problems enhance psychosocial coping and life skills in both youth and adults, enhance the academic achievement, and decrease the risk for substance abuse, HIV risk and emotional problems. Programming includes 12 in-school sessions attended by parents and students, regular home visits, and quarterly prevention events. So far, Amistades has served 257 parents and 250 youth directly over the last two years. In the next year, the program will be expanded to Toltecalli High School, Elvira Elementary School & Galleo Intermediate School. In general, school administrators have reported improved performance and fewer behavioral problems among students in the program. Ms. Gomez concluded by thanking the Parents Commission for their support of the program.

**Commissioner Cox, Chair** asked how Amistades measures the success of the program. Ms. Gomez stated that program administrators meet regularly with school administrators to receive individualized updates on the all students in the program.

**H. Announcements**

**Commissioner Cox, Chair** opened up the floor for announcements.

**Commissioner FireThunder** encouraged all commissioners to attend Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Due to the date of this event, she asked the Parents Commission if they would be open to moving the date of the next meeting (originally scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup>) to a different date.

**Commissioner Cox, Chair** stated that he would prefer to have the meeting moved to January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019, in order to provide ample time for the GOYFF to prepare for the RFGA release.

**Commissioner Harris** made a motion to approve the meeting date change. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Beagley** and approved by all.

**Commissioner Beagley** encouraged all members to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Phoenix Area Indian Health Service Integrated Behavioral Health Conference, which will be held from February 5th- 7th, 2019, at the ASU Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy.

**I. Future Meeting Agenda**

**Commissioner Cox, Chair** asked for suggestions on future agenda items for the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Mr. Hightower** asked if commissioners would be open to traveling to a different location for one of the Parents Commission meetings in 2019. All commissioners expressed flexibility for traveling as long as they are given advance notice.

**J. Call to the Public**

No public members wished to address the Parents Commission.

**K. Adjourn**

A motion was made to adjourn by **Commissioner Reede** at 11:14 AM and seconded by **Commissioner FireThunder** and approved by all.