



December 4, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Catholic Charities Community Services
4747 North 7th Avenue, Phoenix, 85013

Engaging and mobilizing faith communities to improve the quality of life for vulnerable and impoverished people through a statewide collaboration of faith-based, community and governmental organizations.

Minutes

I. Welcome, Invocation & Introductions

Dr. Gary Kinnaman, Chair, welcomed attendees and Dr. Paul Eppinger, Arizona Interfaith Movement, opened the meeting with a prayer. Everyone briefly introduced themselves.

Attendee listing and all meeting archives are here: <http://acfbci.org/meeting-archives/>

II. Foster Care Review Board

Steve Lazere
State Director, Foster Care Review Board

Steve Lazere, State Director of the Arizona Supreme Court's Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) program, spoke to attendees about his work.

The FCRB advises the juvenile court on progress toward achieving a permanent home for a child or children involved in a dependency action and in an out-of-home placement. The well-being of these children is the highest concern to board members.

There is at least one FCRB in each Arizona county with several boards in the more populated counties. There are five volunteer members on each board. They are appointed by the court and have a sincere interest and concern for children. These volunteers represent the various racial, ethnic, social and economic groups of the county in which they serve.

Steve spoke of the need for more citizen volunteers to support the current caseload, and his organization is equipped to speak to community organizations, groups or networks about the program.

The presentation given by Steve may be viewed and downloaded at this link: <http://acfbci.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/FCRB-Presentation.pdf>

More information may be found on their website www.azfcrb.org.

III. Updates

a. Arizona Council on Faith and Community Partnerships

Chuck Fitzgerald spoke about the new Governor's Office of Faith and Community Partnerships and the new Arizona Council on Faith and Community Partnerships. He referred attendees to Executive Order 2014-06 which details the purpose and composition of the Council. This Executive Order in effect moves the Office of Faith and Community from DES into the Governor's Office, and ends the Governor's previous faith initiative called ArizonaSERVES.



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The Executive Order can be viewed or download here:
http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/EO_082914_2014-06.pdf.

b. Souper Bowl

Dr. Paul Eppinger, Arizona Interfaith Movement, spoke about the upcoming Souper Bowl of Caring (www.souperbowl.org/Arizona). The purpose of the Souper Bowl is to use the energy of the Super Bowl to mobilize youth in a united national effort to care for people in their local communities who are hungry and those in need.

Paul spoke specifically about the January 14, 2015 Souper Bowl Kickoff Luncheon in Phoenix. Here is the luncheon flier: www.souperbowl.org/resources/view/296 and a Souper Bowl factsheet: www.souperbowl.org/resources/view/293

c. Arizona Diaper Registry

Dennae Pierre, Foster Care Initiatives, spoke to attendees about the Diaper Registry of Arizona (www.fostercareinitiatives.org/diaperregistry). The purpose of this new registry is to assist kinship families (foster children living with relatives) with free diapers for the first three months of the child's placement. This will be a great financial relief to many kinship families.

Putting this registry in place has been a significant collaborative effort involving Foster Care Initiatives, the Department of Child Safety, and the Governor's Office of Faith and Community Partnerships.

As Berisha Black says, "this is a project we can all get behind!"

d. Other Member Updates

Joyce Lopez Powell, Valley of the Sun United Way, spoke about the upcoming Project Connect at Monte Vista Nazarene Church at 3313 N. 40th St., Phoenix, AZ 85018 on December 16th. There will also be lots of toys available for families at this particular event. More information about Project Connect at <http://vsuw.org/you-can-help/volunteer/project-connect/>

IV. Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Chair Gary asked Berisha Black to close in a word of prayer. He then wished all a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 22, 2015.

Submitted by:
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