

The Learning Cornerstone  
Community Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 10, 2007

Attending:

Lana Ahn – Assistant to the Secretary of Developmental Services, Winslow  
Elena Antonio – WMAT – Education Dept Adult Ed Program  
Sonja Banyacya – NAU – Education Opportunity Center  
Marlene Begay – NDWD – Greasewood Navajo Dept of Workforce Development  
June Curtis – NDWD – Navajo Dept. of Workforce Development  
Roxanne Dean – AAIC – WIA Program  
Heidi Fulcher – Dean – Developmental Services NPC Winslow  
Angela Gettler – NN Program for Self Reliance, Ft. Defiance Agency  
Yolanda Joseph – NDWD – Greasewood Office  
Ruth Key – Resident Service Coordinator – White Mountain Apache Housing Authority  
Claudeen Loulwood – NDWD – Ft. Defiance Agency  
Michelle Perry – WMAHA – Resident Services  
Leesa Roundy – Holbrook Head Start  
Ina Sommers – Student - Northland Pioneer College Winslow  
Ronald D Squire – Carl Perkins Manager

Correction of Minutes from February 14, 2007:

Ina Sommers – There will be no deferred payment plans available for students.

NPC Report:

Heidi Fulcher – Dean, Division of Developmental Services, Winslow:

Amendment to the Budget – moved unused money out of the tuition budget to the supplies budget for the current fiscal year. If we knock down our tuition budget by \$50,000, we can still exceed it by \$10,000 (20%). TABE material (online version) is about \$660/100 sets. Supplies budget will be used to purchase TABE assessments materials for the following year.

Summer '07 Schedule – Moved allocations from locations that didn't use the funds to those that needed the funds. Added an ESL Class at Springerville. Will possibly have to cut classes at Jeddito for the summer due to not being able to find a replacement instructor; students can go to the Hopi site for classes.

Topic of possible transportation available for commuting students in remote areas brought up. TANF does provide transportation for their customers but currently lost their volunteer driver; trying to get her back on a permanent or temporary position. TANF looking to get bus passes for their customers. WMC has discounted student passes for bus transportation for students living in the Honda area towards Show Low. Whiteriver uses TANF for their transportation.

Department of Education has a problem with NPC serving a large scale of locations and only a few students. They want less class sites and better quality. Jeddito and Shonto have been taken off the proposal due to lack of students (ex: 6 or 7 students). Kayenta is about 45 minutes away from Shonto; it's almost impossible for students to get there. Buildings are also a problem – it has to meet the building requirements. If we can find a resolution with transportation, it would help out greatly.

Special sites (Ft. Defiance, Chinle, Ganado, Dilkon, and Jeddito) will start in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May for 6-week sessions. Classes on campuses and centers will stick with the regular NPC schedule with the exception of Whiteriver, which will start in June for a 6-week session. 6-week sessions are one of the best instructional models because students are in class for a few hours a day. Chinle TANF is currently teaching 5 hours a day, twice a week. Students get drained taking classes for that long. 6-week sessions are looking at having classes 3 days a week for 3 hours and 20 minutes.

PDLA – Professional Development Leadership Academy. PDLA works mostly with K-12 schools and the Department of Education and consists of series of workshops, presentations, and trainings that teach what professional development is. Professional Development should be something that is used right away and something that is imbedded. Shannon Newman, TLC Instructor, was invited to be a representative of adult education and has been on the State Team for the last three years. Recommended that NPC send their own team to the training. NPC has 6 team members who get trained at PDLA meetings and then conduct their own in-house training for the faculty of TLC. Trainings are held 4 times a year. Recommended goal: For instructors to spend about 25% of their workday on professional development. NPC is proposing to move closer toward the goal/model to imbed professional development in the teachers.

Spring schedules due in 3 weeks – TLC is proposing that classes meet for 3 hours and 20 minutes, 3 times a week. NPC instructors will be 'banking' 40 minutes (for every class taught) and have more contact time with students, and more frequent meetings with their mentors. Full-time staff (mentors) will meet with the part-time instructors frequently so that instructors won't feel isolated. There were mandatory training/workshops that staff had to attend to keep the staff on the same page. Other improvements include 'coaching' from full-time instructors. Will justify the time used for coaching by using 'Carnegie hours' and take off 10 minutes of each hour.

No allocations for Summer II because the budget is a part of the next fiscal year. Budget is currently in progress. Department of Education has disallowed tuition from funding; will have college scholarship funding but can pay teachers from now on.

### Special Projects

ASE (Adult Secondary Education) Reframing – Kick-off for the program will be on Thursday, April 12, 2007. It will be required that in order for students to sign up they must prepare at an instructional site before they take the GED. Preparation (pilot) sites include: NPC, Coconino, and Pima County. There will also be two transition specialists that will strengthen the webbing of the department as they visit the classrooms once a

month. They will meet with students at different sites and set realistic goals with them concerning education and life after the GED.

AECAP (Adult Education Coordination and Planning) – Started the need for professional development. AECAP is a combination federal and state grant that led to the conclusion for more staff development, and improvement in intake process for the TLC department. NPC has contributed to the project and will receive national recognition for their contribution.

Allied Health – Program through the Department of Education and adult education. Structured for students that want to go into nurse assistance training or for those that are not ready for a 4-year university, or etc. NPC is receiving grant money to serve 16 (60??) students over a period of 15 months. WIA will pay their tuition; grant will buy their supplies (scrubs, books, watch, and etc.) and the Department of Education will pay the instructors. NPC is currently working with the Dean of Nursing to set up training locations. Currently looking at locations in Winslow, Springerville, and Chinle. Looked at Show Low but no space available for the program. Chinle currently has a program to work with nurses' aides. TLC will work with students, using their NAT textbook, on basic skills needed for the job. Enrollment: groups of 20.

#### Member Reports

##### Elena Antonio – WMAT – Education Dept Adult Ed Program:

Operates with 638 funds. Has a MOA with NPC TLC program to operate GED classes in Cibecue but the major problem is a lack of classroom sites. Currently trying to solve the mystery of the Blue Building in Cibecue – trying to find out who holds the title to the building. WIA will join in the MOA to provide classes; classes needed at Cibecue because transportation to Whiteriver is an issue (50 miles away). Instead of using funds, BIA will pay for test fees, texts, supplies, and etc. and will continue collaboration with NPC. Cibecue has high unemployment and drop out rate. The high school in Whiteriver has a drop out rate of 22%. Tribal Education Department will hold a banquet for those with a 4.0 GPA for at least 2 semesters and for all GED graduates to celebrate their commitment and motivation. Will hold another banquet in May. There will be a new pilot project starting in September and will go until December. Students will work in the classroom for 4 hours a day and then for an additional 4 hours on the job training (paid).

##### Sonja Banyacya – NAU Ed. Opportunity Center Holbrook:

No new changes to the program. Going to the same sites but looking at visiting the Show Low, Cibecue, Leupp, and Jeddito areas. Looking for students that really want to go to school and continue their education. Program will pay \$60 (of the \$75 GED fee) for testing; students will have to find the \$15 when ready.

##### Marlene Begay – NDWD – Greasewood Navajo Dept of Workforce Development:

Has 9 students at Ganado who were scheduled to take the GED on Feb. 22 but no one showed up. Made contact with Ken Sanford (GED examiner) to come out to Greasewood

and conduct the test on the weekend. Said he was willing if he has Internet access. Will get in contact with him.

June Curtis – NDWD – Navajo Dept. of Workforce Development Ganado:

Still recruiting. Youth year started April 1, recruiting a lot of youth for the program. Will be working with a lot of adults starting July 1. But need a lot of recruitment.

Roxanne Dean – AAIC – WIA Program:

Funds available for support services and for utilities assistance. WIA needs and is looking for clients.

Angela Gettler – NN Program for Self Reliance, Ft Defiance Agency St Michaels:

Fair got postponed to summer; don't know when and who is taking it over. Reasons: agency thought they would have higher turnout in the summer but Angela doesn't think so due to families being gone for summer vacation. Agency can provide transportation for clients if they contact Angela in advance. Distance is not an issue. New incentive programs for those that complete the GED and receive associate bachelors. Incentive program: \$100, perfect attendance for students, \$25 to elementary and high school students; if all of the customer's children are enrolled full-time in school the family receives \$100/per child to spend on clothes at JC Penny. New incentive programs for employment as well – if employees complete their 60-90 day probation period and come back with a letter, they can receive a \$25-\$100 gift certificate of their choice. The program is pushing higher education, staying in school, and employment in the community.

Yolanda Joseph – NDWD – Greasewood Office:

Covers the Jeddito and Indian Wells area. Motivation is hard – students come in and out but their level remains the same. Still recruiting but location is remote. Transportation is needed.

Ruth Key – Resident Service Coordinator – White Mountain Apache Housing Authority:

Nearing last year of grant ending in October, can renew for another 6 months; grant for resident services. Several programs include: GED scholarship program (classes at NPC), job-training programs, nursing programs, funds for Associate programs – available for residents. Currently have 16 students in the GED program and monitors those students through attendance and accountability. Since 2005, 11 tribal members have received their GED. There are three more testing next month. Will be monitoring, sending mid-term progress reports, and revising applications. Brought a 2-day computer skill workshop from the Show Low campus to the Whiteriver campus. NPC gave the Whiteriver campus two additional dates a month to hold the program due to the high demand. New small business development classes/program started in January which help their students save toward post-secondary education, small business start-up or expansion, or putting a down payment on their first home. The new grant program (Individual Development Account Program) will match their residents 3:1 with the grant funds. 13 tribes are currently working on the 3:1 match program. Residents can save \$50, \$75, or \$100. If they save \$100, the program will match and program members will

receive \$300. The savings will go toward post-secondary education, small business, and home ownership. Classes are held every Monday night. Program can help up to 20 people. Great programs but hard to get people motivated and enrolled.

Claudeen Loulwood – NDWD – Ft. Defiance Agency:

Looking for clients, recruiting youth and adults. Luptin and Houck area is very difficult. There is a new supervisor in the office but needs to learn more of the situation on the reservation. NPC building is very bad; up for demolition. Mentioned in staff meeting that NPC would bring out a building to that location but NPC backed out.

Michelle Perry – WMAHA – Resident Services:

First Annual Housing Fair – held at the Activity Center on May 19, 2007 from 9am – 3pm. Workshops will be provided for all of the tenants on the reservation in the housing authority. There will also be vendors from all over the reservation, free food, entertainment, raffle drawings, and guest speakers. The grand prize includes 8x12 storage shed, and BBQ grill; small prizes include household and cleaning supplies. Workshop topics include: preventive maintenance, preventive home repairs, personal financial management, home ownership opportunities, home insurance, landscaping, gardening tips, etc. There will be morning and afternoon sessions. Keynote speaker in the afternoon will be Jim Paxon regarding wild fires. NPC is invited to set up a table and share about the GED programs.

Leesa Roundy – Holbrook Head Start:

Two parents from Head Start received their degrees in nursing and computers. Head Start continues to encourage and push the parents to get their GED. Some have taken the first step and taken the placement tests. Looking for ways to encourage the parents. Head Start will host a Spring Fair for social services. If interested, please contact Leesa. Date: TBA.

Ina Sommers – Student - Northland Pioneer College, Winslow:

NPC will not have a deferred payment plan for students but has contracted with a company from Texas, FACTS Management, which can help students put their tuition on a payment plan. If a student enrolls early enough there will be no down payment and the company will put the student on a 5-month payment plan. Students will need a checking account, savings account, or a major credit card. There is a \$25 processing fee. If students plan ahead and enroll in classes early, they can sign up on the payment plan and can attend school.

Ronald D Squire – Carl Perkins Manager, Heber:

NPC gets about \$300,000/year in Perkins money. New grants have to be submitted by the end of May if we want to start spending the money in July, or submitted by the end of June to be considered for funding at all. State Department in total chaos right now due to data voids and lack of employees. There will be an increase in funding based upon PELL and BIA grants (\$294,00). Most of the money will go into the nursing program and some into construction program; next year is still up in the air but there is an increase in available funds. Currently researching to see if Perkins can lease or rent space but Perkins

cannot build buildings. Perkins is for 'program improvement', which include professional development, supplies, equipment, technology, and etc.

Next Meeting Date and Location

~~August 7, 2007~~      August 14, 2007

11:30-1:00

CEC Holbrook