



Southern Oregon Early Learning Services  
**Agency Advisory Council/SOELS Stewardship Committee**

[Recording Link](#)

**Date:** 10/11/2019

**Time:** 10:00- 12:00

**Location:** AllCare Health

1701 NE 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Grants Pass

**Members in Attendance:** Adriana Arizaga (Parent Representative), Peter Buckley (Southern Oregon Success), Katherine Clayton (Southern Oregon Head Start), Susan Davis (Josephine County Library), \*Cecilia Giron (LISTO), Terah Wheeler-Henrich (SOCFC), Shelly Inman (Jefferson Elementary), Geoffrey Lowry (OCDL), Jessica Machen (DHS), Katrina McGrath (CCRN), Eileen Micke-Johnson (RCC), Sunny Spicer (Kid Time) Brystan Strong (Jackson County Library Services), Cara Taylor (CPSD #6), Mary Wolf (CCRN & Family Support and Connections), Susan Zottola (GPSD #7)

\*Via Zoom

**SOELS Staff Members Present:** René Brandon, Teresa Slater, Molly McLaughlin and Karen Johnson

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

René called meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and introductions were made.

### RAISE UP OREGON & STUDENT SUCCESS ACT - OVERVIEW

At the last several meetings, this group has been exploring how our region is supporting (or not) the Early Learning Council's RAISE UP OREGON strategic plan. So far, we have discussed System Goal 1 (*Children Arrive Ready for Kindergarten*) and 2 (*Children Are Raised in Healthy, Stable, and Attached Families*) and Objectives 10-13 of System Goal 3 (*The Early Learning System is Aligned, Coordinated, and Family Centered*). We will complete Goal 3 in the near future and then will use our work to create the Hub's strategic plan for Southern Oregon.

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE CHARGE & NEXT STEPS

With the additional funds the Student Success Act will bring into early education, ELD has asked the Hub to report on the types of care within our region, and compare it with family demographics to identify gaps and better meet the needs of families. The first of three phases in the ECE Sector Planning is convening a Regional Stewardship Committee. This meeting is the first time the Committee has convened; we will meet several more times through November and early December.

René shared Children's Institute Student Success Act overview slides. (Presentation sent with minutes.)

Phase 1 has a very tight timeline:

- September/October – Regional Group formed and charged; Tool kit sent to hubs
- October/November – Data analysis & stakeholder management
- December 13, 2019 – Phase 1 deliverables submitted to ELD

Phase 2 will begin in January when RFPs for early learning programs are opened.

René presented Early Learning Division's Education Sector Expansion Planning for Phase 1, outlining the purpose and responsibilities of the Stewardship Committee, including identifying four priority populations for early learning expansion. (Presentation sent with minutes.) René asked those interested in participating in the Stewardship Committee include their name on our membership roster.

Schedule for future Stewardship Committee meetings:

- October 29, 10-12 at HHS (140 S. Holly Street, Medford)
- November 8, 2019, 10-12 at SOESD (101 N Grape Street, Medford)
- November 15, 2019, 10-12 at SOESD (101 N Grape Street, Medford)
- November 21, 2019, 10-12 at SOESD Phoenix Office (5465 S. Pacific Hwy, Phoenix)
- December 3, 2019, 1-3, at HHS (140 S. Holly Street, Medford)

In 2017, our Agency Advisory Council worked to identify current priority populations:

- Children without early learning opportunities prior to kindergarten
- Children experiencing a delay or disability
- Rural communities
- Spanish-speaking families
- Families needing more support:
  - Teen Parents
  - Foster Families
  - Families in recovery from substance use disorder (SUD)

The group discussed the following that require additional support:

- ECE / Children with special needs
- Families experiencing trauma
- Supports for single parents
- Support for homeless families
- Mental and behavioral health support and distinguishing between the two
- Gap funding for families who do not qualify for HS/DHS
- 5-year olds requiring Early Childhood Education
- 0-3 Early Childhood Education
- Culturally specific supports
- Compensation for Early Childhood Education (Power to the Profession)
- Workforce trained to work with families in recovery from SUD and those adversely affected by it

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- Review and analyze data on child population demographics, child care/early learning provider availability, and child enrollment numbers.
- Send surveys to providers and families to gather additional information for the ELD.
- Please note, we are not submitting a request for funds with this work, but data report to The Early Learning Division on what the Southern Oregon profile looks like. ELD will make funding award decisions based upon how well RFP proposals address the identified needs of families in our region.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted by K. Johnson