



Southern Oregon
Early Learning Services

SOELS Governance Council

April 21, 2010

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendees (Via Zoom): Katherine Clayton, Susan Fischer-Maki, Mary Wolf, Michelle Gallas, Jeanne Grazioli, Karla McCafferty, Susan Zottola, Eileen Micke-Johnson, Lisa O'Connor, Samantha Watson. Hub Staff: René Brandon, Chelsea Reinhart, Teresa Slater, Molly McLaughlin, Vicki Risner

Agenda Item Point Person _____

Call to Order: Eileen (2:07 pm)

Welcome & Greetings Eileen

**Additions or changes
to the Agenda:** Eileen, Co-Chairs
None

Approval of Minutes January, February, and March 2020 Minutes: Eileen, Co-Chair

January: Susan Fischer-Maki Moved, Mary Wolf 2nd, Approved

February: Susan Zottola moved, Kathy Clayton 2nd, Approved

March: Kathy Clayton asked to be added as having attended. Approved.

Kathy Clayton moved, Mary Wolf 2nd, Approved

Impact of Pandemic on Member Organizations

Jeanne Grazioli: 6,000 chrome books out to students. Adapting. Maintaining food sites and delivery of meals. Helping students and staff adapt. Looking at funding. Working on graduation. Focused on relationships and grace. Making sure that we are connecting. Opportunities to get creative.

Susan Zottola: 4,000 chrome books out to students. Maintain food sites and delivery of meals. Focused on relations and connections. Providing one contact a week in person. Providing 2-way connections.

Mary Wolf: Incredibly busy. Information comes in waves. Directions keep changing. Hard to keep up to inform providers. They don't know what to expect. New requirements. Having to applying again. Readjustments. They operate on a very small margin. A lot of unknowns. Stressful.

Michelle Gallas: Ditto what everyone is saying. It's exhausting. Keeping staff moral going. Reaching out to parents. Families are coming to sites to pick up supplies. Some of her sites are closed and staff is on unemployment. Trying to stay positive and hopeful. Also, very scary time as a business owner and child care provider. Things change day to day. It's like a roller coaster. Staff has their own kids and not knowing how to do that and stay connected to their own students and classrooms.

Katherine Clayton: Focusing on basic needs for families. Food boxes, diapers, wipes. Have contacted 100% of families. Delivered books to every one of their families. Trying to keep it as easy going as possible to reduce stress. Working with Rogue Challenge partners and using family needs screener. Have food drop off sites. Strengthening relationships. Hoping to have a 6-week summer program to get kids ready for kindergarten. Staff is working until the end of June. Trying to be creative.

Karla McCafferty: Still doing what they did before. No one has been laid off. Some working through telehealth. Still running residential treatment facilities. Consolidated services. Most challenges are the numbers of children coming in has been drastically reduced. The kids are not being identified by professionals. A lot of their work is hands on and that's a lot more challenging with telehealth. It doesn't work for everyone.

Susan Fischer-Maki: 70% of staff is working from home. Hearing that there is a lot of innovation taking place. Things that people were talking about before this hit, telehealth, telecommunications. Physicians are reporting that it's helping them. Allcare is mobilizing some resources to provide clinical providers and community-based organizations.

Sam Watson: Seeing an uptake in people qualifying for OHP. Employees are being cross trained to handle the volume. Started with supporting the emergent member needs and now are moving towards the long-term planning. Looking at their pregnant members and those with young children. Working to get supplies out like diapers and wipes, burner phones so they can attend telehealth appointments. Focused on the houseless population. Changes day to day.

Lisa O'Connor: Doing telehealth. Home visits virtually. Focusing on coordinated efforts. The warm line has been great, giving people someone to be in contact with. We need to get our parent education online next.

Eileen Micke-Johnson: Everything is online or via zoom in less than 2 weeks' time. Approaching things with flexibility and grace. It's working well. Have folks who have never turned on a computer before now participating with them. Students and faculty have stepped up. They were told today to plan for summer and fall terms to be online.

Rene' Brandon: We're working from home as well. About \$25,000 was earmarked for protective factors kits and we are repurposing those funds to reach families that are more isolated than ever, we are working with Rogue Challenge partners and other community partners that aren't necessarily working with Rogue Challenge but have high risk families to identify the best ways to provide activity kits for infant/toddlers and preschool-age 8.

Teresa Slater: We partner with a lot of people who provide direct services to families. One of those programs is the Kaleidoscope Play and Learn groups. One of our facilitators, Janet Christian, has continued to provide support to her 5 groups, about 75 families. She has started 2 videos a week, has contact at least once a week for those who have requested. Emails ideas, is a sounding board, keeping in contact. She has worked with me to strategize how to support moms in crisis. Has created a Marc Polo group to allow parents to support one another. Once a week they have stations where families come to pick up books that are being read each week via video. They all want to talk in person with her. They are sending her photos of their kids watching the videos. Kids bring their projects to show her. I'm keeping in contact with my other program facilitators. It's about relationships and communications.

Chelsea Reinhard: Have been working to create family kits. The kits have activities to keep kids engaged and active. The kits have some art supplies, jump rope and ball. Infant/toddler kits have learning toys, books. The vendors will package them together and will ship them directly to our partners who will distribute them.

Have been sending out daily resource emails with resources and information for our partners to share. Families are overwhelmed, there is a lot of information out there. Working to get the information out there in smaller bits so they aren't overwhelmed. Connecting partners that may not have worked together before

Molly McLaughlin: Preschool Promise, 9 sites are closed but providing support for their families. 7 sites that are operating as emergency child care site and also providing support for their families. Sent out surveys to see what supports and needs are and am following up with that. We have been able to secure and deliver supplies to sites that needed them to fill that gap. Most of our providers have asked for support for family engagement ideas, supplies and kit materials.

Local COVID-19 Efforts

Samantha Watson: We were able to reallocate some funding on a local level to support their community-based organizations. Giving out emergency relief funding to places like the Rogue Valley YMCA, Greenway project. Doing more outreach on how to best partner with programs to see how we can have the most impact. We are accepting grants applications. We haven't officially announced it on their website. JCC is meeting on a weekly basis to review requests.

Susan Fischer-Maki – Working to support clinical practices as well as community-based organizations. AllCare leadership specifically eared marked funding for community-based organizations working within the realm of social determinants of health equity. Daily and weekly reviews of resources. Streamlining grant approvals. Lots of supports around food. Food security is huge. Revisiting financially supporting community engagement coordinators for 211, one for each county that AllCare serves. Focusing on those experiencing or at risk of domestic violence, economic fragility, children/youth and their caregivers and food insecurity. Looking at programs who provide support for unique populations.

Mary Wolf: Initially we did an informal survey to see if people were willing to provide emergency care. Information and requirements kept changing. Currently, in Jackson Co 120 emergency childcare programs, in Jo County we now have 31. They are centers and family child care providers. We feel like right now there is adequate places to serve families. Many are open but serving very few children.

Preschool Promise and Equity Fund RFA Updates

Rene: Regarding the Equity Fund, last week there were 50 applications across the state in progress. Only one had been completed. We are encouraging partners to encourage agencies to apply. We have two locally, Listo and Kids Unlimited who indicated that they were going to submit applications.

Mary: Regarding Preschool Promise, at first, we were concerned that not too many would apply. Now I believe that it's going to be competitive in our region due to so many interested in applying. There are 12 Spanish speaking centers applying, large centers applying, certified families. A good mix.

Governance Council Membership, Approval of New Members

Eileen: We are very heartened that multiple people stepped up during this time to be on the Governance Council. Still don't have a private sector business representative, no one applied for that position. Google form will be presented to the Council members to vote on applicants. Easy to complete. Please vote by Thursday night. Results will be made Friday.

Rene': Originally our process was that the Executive Committee and any GC members who wanted to would function as the review committee, but we ended up with a tie in one of the open positions. So now we are asking the full council to participate to move past that tie.

May Meeting, Transition with New Members

Eileen: Our May meeting will be when we bring people on as well as the last meeting for people who have been with us for years. Realistically it will be another meeting like this (Zoom). Looking for the best way to bring people on board given that it will be this kind of format. Originally, we had planned a retreat.

Ideas for onboarding were discussed:

- Meeting to review all materials answer questions
- Minutes for last six months
- Acronym sheet
- Member roster with organization and function
- Link to ELD for statewide picture
- Sheet with our 3 goals and regional priorities

Eileen: A reminder that our next meeting's date has changed to accommodate our facilitator, Heidi McGowan's schedule. We will send out emails to confirm May 19th.

Adjournment

Next Meeting May 19, 2020

Location TBD 2:00-4:00 p.m.