



SOELS Steering Committee
 September 18, 2018
 AllCare, 1701 NE 7th Street, Grants Pass
 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Members Present (X):

*	Hannah Ancel Jackson Care Connect		Kerri Hecox, MD Oasis Center of the R.V.	x	Nancy Nordyke S.O. Head Start
*	Scott Beveridge SOESD	x	Mary Hough S.O. Pediatrics		Lisa O'Connor FNC
	Amy Buehler Jackson Co. Mental Health	x	Martha Ibarra Hispanic Comm Rep		Pam Thompson-Arbogast EI/ECSE
x	Susan Fischer AllCare CCO	x	Jennifer Johnstun Primary Health of Jo Co	x	Andrea Wakeland Parent Voice
	Michelle Gallas Imagine That	x	Geoffrey Lowry Oregon Child Dev. Coalition	x	Mary Wolf CCRN
x	**Gena Grizzard DHS Self Sufficiency	x	Karla McCafferty Options of So Oregon		Melissa Wolff DHS Self Sufficiency
x	Michelle Gury Parent Voice	x	Eileen Micke-Johnson RCC	x	Susan Zottola GP SD #7

*Participating via Zoom

**Representing Melissa Wolff

Staff:

x	René Brandon Director	x	Chelsea Reinhart Early Learning Facilitator	x	Karen Johnson Administrative Assistant
x	Teresa Slater Early Learning Facilitator		Molly McLaughlin Early Learning Facilitator		

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME AND GREETINGS

E. Micke-Johnson called meeting to order at 2:10.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 15, 2018 MEETING

Minutes from July 17, 2018 approved. M/M. Gury S/S. Fischer

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Discuss changing name from “Steering Committee” to “Governance Council.” *(Note: Item was tabled from last meeting due to time.)*

CHANGE NAME OF STEERING COMMITTEE

The similarity in names “SOELS Steering Committee” and “SOELS Executive Committee” has felt confusing for some members. It may also not be an accurate representation the Steering Committee’s responsibilities. S. Fischer motioned name change to “SOELS Governance Council.” S. Zottola seconded; motion passed with unanimous consent.

HUB FINANCIAL UPDATE

R. Brandon explained that this was embedded with the following presentation.

HUB STAFF PRESENTATION OF PROGRESS TO DATE FOR BIENNIUM

R. Brandon shared the following data slides:

- Access to Early Learning Opportunities Prior to Kindergarten
 - Fewer than half of all 3 and 4 year olds in Southern Oregon have access to early learning prior to kindergarten; at the average cost of \$10,000 per year, it is cost prohibitive for most families.
 - There are a limited number of state-funded subsidized options.
 - Statewide numbers have remained steady since 2013, while Jackson and Josephine Counties have varied. Possible reasons discussed by members:
 - Was 2013 the year OHP expansion began to take effect?
 - Due to early learning professionals transferring to K-12?
 - Did SPARK have an effect?
 - How can we track the impact of fewer early learning opportunities on K-12 students?
- EI/ECSE Service Level Data from 2012 through 2016
 - Only 28% of children in Early Intervention (0-3) receive the recommended level of service.
 - Only 2.1% of the high needs children in ECSE (3-5) receive the recommended level of service.
 - Discussions by members:
 - Would it be possible to move EI/ECSE to fee for service model, perhaps Medicaid could subsidize?
 - Need to improve alignment within systems to provide services following screening and referral.
 - A significant number of parents refuse assistance from EI/ECSE, perhaps due to stigma, so these children do not receive services early, or perhaps at all.
- Equitable Access to Early Learning Services (Please note: the *Total Served* figures were incorrect on copy provided at meeting. *Corrected version sent with minutes.*)
 - Data shows we have made good progress with reaching the Hispanic/Latin community, but there is still much work to do with other populations.
 - Question from member: Can the HUB provide a chart showing percentages of each ethnic group served?
 - *Sent with minutes*

R. Brandon shared status of Southern Oregon Early Learning Hub's investment priorities:

- The Early Learning Division identified 17,133 children in our region as priority population, based on updated SNAP data. Our hub region is the 4th largest in terms of children eligible for SNAP.
- SOELS Agency advisory Council identified the following subgroups as most critical:
 - Children without early learning opportunities prior to kindergarten
 - Children with special needs
 - Families in Poverty
 - Families experiencing dysfunction in the home (including teen parents, families in recovery, foster parents)
 - Spanish-speaking families
 - Rural communities
- Funding streams reviewed:
 - KPI - \$812,089.60
 - In mid-September 21% of funds had been spent for the biennium ending June 30, 2019. Spending will increase significantly in January of 2019.
 - Priority Areas
 - Professional Development for System Partners
 - \$17,500 - Strengthening Families Protective Factors Training
 - Goal was to educate 21 organizations per year, 42 organizations total this biennium. Rollout has been slower than anticipated; therefore, some of the funds earmarked might be rolled over into a different investment opportunity since trainers will not be invoicing for additional trainings.
 - \$40,000 – PAX Good Behavior Game training for early learning providers
 - Trainings have already occurred, expecting invoice from AllCare
 - P-3 Alignment
 - \$30,000 – Professional Learning Teams
 - Goal is to bring early learning providers and kindergarten teachers together for shared learning experience and create relationships for improved transition to kindergarten.
 - Biggest challenge has been scheduling needs of K-12 and early learning.
 - Excellent progress this year: four school districts and 19 schools are participating.
 - Kindergarten Readiness
 - \$180,000 - Ready! for Kindergarten Parent Training
 - Parents receive up to three sessions with kindergarten teachers covering social/emotional development, early literacy, and early math and receive a box of useful, interactive materials to take home after each session to use with their children.

- School assessments demonstrate this parent training improves performance and increases parent confidence in engaging with their children and in their relationship with school staff.
 - Expensive investment. The bulk of the expense is materials. We may shift to locally created trainings with less expensive materials to share with families.
 - \$143,000 - Kaleidoscope Play and Learn Groups
 - Investment is for facilitator time, supplies/materials, food, and children's books given to families to build their home libraries.
 - Recently trained 15 new facilitators.
 - Fifteen sites are meeting weekly with 8-25 families at each.
 - Has been one of the most cost-effective programs, with greatest return on investment. Hub will continue to expand to more communities.
 - \$44,000 - Summer Jumpstart
 - Focus is on children who have had little to no exposure to early childhood learning prior to kindergarten.
 - Have received very positive feedback from parents and teachers.
 - We will continue to expand this investment.
 - \$201,244 – Emerging priorities to be determined
 - \$10,000 – Kindergarten Launch Materials
 - \$25,000 – RCC Early Learning Cohort
 - Grant for early learning providers to earn one-year certificate
 - \$TBD – Seed money for Phoenix-Talent emersion preschool
 - \$TBD – Early Learning calendars for families
 - Perhaps CCOs could promote developmentally appropriate events to families with direct mailings.
 - \$TBD – Elementary school family engagement opportunities with kinder families
 - \$TBD – Summer memberships to family-friendly organizations
- Focused Childcare Network
 - \$60,987.85 (all pass through CCRN) - Professional Development for EL Workforce
 - On track for spending
- MIECHV (federal funds)
 - \$50,000 – Professional Development of Home Visiting Network Partners
 - Home Visiting Network meets monthly
 - On track for spending
- School Readiness - \$340,614.79

- Priority Areas
 - \$150,000 – Children without early learning opportunities
 - Awarded through RFA process in an effort to find innovative ways to bring early learning into children’s lives. Five programs were awarded funds. All on track for spending.
 - \$20,000 – SMART
 - Children on early learning program waiting lists receive SMART support
 - \$35,000 - Sugarloaf Community Association @ Williams Elementary
 - Able to provide school year of preschool in rural community with braided funding
 - \$50,000 – SOCFC/LISTO
 - Family Literacy Program
 - \$20,000 - CCRN Warm Line
 - Inclusion specialist available to any early learning provider in Jackson and Josephine counties. Offers support to families as well.
 - \$25,000 – Kid Time
 - To expand services to Spanish-speaking children and programs in Spanish
 - \$6,000 - Spanish-speaking families
 - Distribute backpacks to partners who serve Spanish-speaking families whose children do not have access to preschool.
 - Due to slow start, these funds have not been used to order more backpacks. This funding will be redistributed to professional development for early learning workforce, below.
 - LISTO plans to participate this year
 - \$12,000 - Families in Poverty
 - Support DHS SSP partners who serve families whose children do not have access to preschool with backpack distribution.
 - Due to slow start, these funds have not been used to order more backpacks. This funding will be redistributed to professional development for early learning workforce, below.
 - DHS has distributed over 200 backpacks to date and we will present data at November 2018 meeting.
 - \$120,000 - Children with special needs or developmental delays
 - Provide funds for EI/ECSE partners in each county to respond to increased staffing needs
 - \$45,000 – for Josephine County

- \$75,00 – for Jackson County
 - On track for spending
- \$30,000 - Professional Development for Early Learning Workforce
 - Originally \$12,000 - moving \$18,000 from backpacks to this project.
 - Early Childhood Enhancement Project (ECEP): Provide training for early learning workforce to provide care for children with special needs and address social and emotional needs of all children.
 - Three layered approach in which early learning teachers will complete a credited RCC course, receive coaching, and participate in a community of practice.
 - The HUB is currently in the process of enlisting teachers who will receive training to serve as coaches.
- Healthy Stable and Attached Families - \$112,409.18
 - Priority Areas
 - \$1,000 - Family Engagement
 - \$75,000 - Families experiencing dysfunction in home
 - Funds will be used to purchase child care slots for families in recovery
 - Anticipating cost of about \$75,000, but could be less as many of the families might qualify for DHS childcare subsidy.
 - In the process, with partners from the Oasis Center of the Rogue Valley, of identifying childcare providers willing and able to care for children who experience trauma.
 - \$15,000 - Kaleidoscope Play and Learn groups specifically for families in recovery – closed groups with a facilitator who understands addiction.
 - \$15,000 – Support for childcare center for OnTrack’s Mom’s Program
 - Question from member: How can we support the same outreach/programs for dads? Hub will explore opportunities.
- Family Support - \$228,010.90
 - Priority Areas
 - \$215,470.15 - Families experiencing dysfunction in home
 - \$72,000 – Working with partners from Josephine County to learn how to best engage and help at-risk moms post-partum through kindergarten entry.
 - \$13,000 - Started Kaleidoscope Play and Learn groups for new parents in Josephine County.
 - \$50,000 -Teen Parent Workgroup – looking for facilitators
 - \$15,000 (additional funding will be added to existing contract) - The Family Connection – for trainings targeting teen parents
 - \$25,000 - Kaleidoscope Play & Learn groups for EI/ECSE in each county

- \$30,000 - Kaleidoscope Play & Learn groups for recovery groups in each county
- \$10,000 - Support for Foster Parent Association in each county
- Preschool Promise will be discussed at the November 20, 2018 meeting
- HUB Coordination Funds - pay for staffing and Hub operations
 - In conjunction with other Hubs, SOELS will begin using an online Early Learning Reporting System that will allow subcontractors to report more quickly and efficiently.

NEXT MEETING

November 20, 2018

Southern Oregon ESD Health, 101 N Grape St, Medford

2:00-4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 pm

Submitted by K. Johnson

DRAFT