

KLAMATH PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

February 24, 2021 | 10:00 AM – Noon

Attendance

Jill O'Donnell	Heidi McGowan	Rhonda Nyseth
Amy Quayle	Jeanne LaHaie	Rhonda Janecke
Athena Wikstrom	Johanna Schoeler	Heather Freilinger
Cynthia Hurkes	Kathleen Walker-Henderson	Vanessa Pingleton
Dena Haudenschild	Jessie DuBose	Danielle Walker

Please note: the Klamath Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held virtually due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns and guidance on public meetings from the Governor.

Welcome and Introduction

The Klamath Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) reviewed the minutes. Kathleen Walker-Henderson made a motion to approve minutes as submitted and Dena Haudenschild seconded the motion. There was no further discussion.

Upcoming Early Learning Division (ELD) Requirements and Legislative Update

Gillian was unable to attend the PAC meeting due to a scheduling conflict with the ELD. Danielle shared information about the upcoming Theory of Change and Scope of Work documents. Hubs will be required to update their Strategic Plan, create a new Work Plan, and complete Phase II of the Early Care and Education (ECE) Sector Plan. Requirements for each of these plans have not been released.

Parents will play an expanded role in the 2021-2023 biennium, and Early Learning Hubs will be required to have a Parent Leadership Council as part of the Regional Governance Council. The Tri-Chairs requested PAC members contemplate parents who might be interested in participating on this council. There was a suggestion to generate an informational sheet for partners to use when recruiting parents. Heidi McGowan shared that the Early Learning Council (ELC) Chairperson, Sue Miller, ELC member Anne Kubisch with The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF), and Hub Manager Denise Swanson will be joining the March Regional Governance Council (RGC) meeting. After this meeting, the Hub will be able to share more information with the PAC and Governance Councils about upcoming ELD requirements.

The Hub hired a New Family Resource Facilitator for Douglas County to replace the previous Facilitator. Ceresse Harris will start on March 17.

Teach My Kit Distribution

Amy Quayle provided an update on the Teach My Kit distribution. Over 1,123 kits have been distributed to partners in Klamath County. There are 153 kits remaining. During the second round of distribution, informational sheets will be provided to rural medical partners, (Bonanza Clinic for example, directing families to their local library branches where kits are still available.

In partnership with KPI and Take Root Parenting Education, Kathleen Walker-Henderson is developing four training videos for parents on how to use materials in the Teach My Kits. The group discussed the possibility of having the videos translated into Spanish or include Spanish captioning.

Equity Lens

The group discussed the Equity Lens and the importance of our continuing work around equity. It was requested that group members be willing to share stories, bring questions to the group, or discuss how people are utilizing the equity lens in their organizations.

Rhonda Janecke advised that she shared the Equity Lens with members from Cascade Health Alliance (CHA) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) when they met to discuss equity in services provided to members.

Dena Haudenschild advised that staff at Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) have been focusing on the first of the Equity Lens diagram, and having conversations about assumptions and mindsets.

The Early Childhood Equity Summit, presented by Portland State University (PSU), brought up additional ways to ensure equitable classrooms. A couple of examples included having diverse books available, and also playing diverse or culturally specific lullabies at naptime.

Partner Updates

Preschool Promise – Preschool Promise slots are available at all Klamath County locations, including Klamath Falls City School District, YMCA of Klamath Falls, Gilchrist Elementary, Lil Hands Daycare, and Nic Nacs Quality Care. To be eligible for Preschool Promise, a child must be 3 or 4-years-old by Sept. 1, 2020; be a resident of Oregon; and have a family income of up to 200% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Preschool Promise applications can be submitted at <http://www.southcentralhubenrollment.com/>.

Jill O'Donnell, with Klamath County School District (KCS D), shared that attendance for Preschool Promise at Gilchrist Elementary is high, and staff is appreciative of the high-quality materials they were able to purchase with Preschool Promise funding. Parents are happy that their younger students have the opportunity to ride the bus to school with older siblings.

The Early Learning Hub gave a special thank you to Dena at EI/ECSE and one of their staff members, Beatriz, who recorded a Preschool Promise radio advertisement in Spanish to be aired in Klamath County.

The PAC shared ideas for additional marketing options for Preschool Promise:

- Having flyers at pediatric clinics
- Sharing with KCC programs including ASKCC and the STEPS program
- Sharing with families utilizing Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) program
- Sharing through existing Community UPLIFT contacts

Community UPLIFT - Vanessa Pingleton shared Community UPLIFT has received a total of 644 regional referrals to date, of which, 207 have been from Klamath County.

Community UPLIFT is working on expanding the data portal. This expansion would include communication between programs working on shared families. Also, family care plans will be added to the data portal.

Community UPLIFT started working with Lake Health District Hospital's Prevention Department and Take Root Parenting Education on an opportunity to offer additional professional development trainings with Dr. Amy Stoeber on ACES and Resilience.

Surveys on the Community UPLIFT process and materials have gone out to families and are in the process of being returned. Vanessa hopes to have a report on the survey data available at the March meeting.

For a presentation, contact Vanessa Pingleton at Vanessa.pingleton@douglasesd.k12.or.us or by phone at (541) 530-4368.

KPI – Amy Quayle shared that KPI will be holding an Early Learning Gathering on February 25 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, focusing on Social-Emotional Learning aligned with the Kindergarten Assessment. Registration will be open until Thursday. Two additional Early Learning Gatherings are scheduled for March and April.

KPI will be hosting Design Thinking for School Leaders in April, May, and June.

Take Root – There are two remaining parenting workshops this quarter, Teens & Feelings, and Raising Kids Who Love Reading. Spring term will have a Ready for Kindergarten! series for parents of two and three-year-olds, Make Parenting a Pleasure, Wonderful Ones, Discipline is not a Dirty Word. Take Root will also offer a workshop with Shauna Signorini, Pinwheels Pinball Patterns--Supporting Your Child as You Support Yourself.

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) – Heather Freiling advised that Care Connections and Education (CCRR) is sharing information about COVID-19 vaccinations with child care providers.

Multiple professional development training opportunities have been available to providers at little to no cost. In May, the CCRR will host their annual Spring Fling training. This year's keynote speaker will be Heidi McGowan.

CCRR will offer two drive-through, pick-up events, where CCRR staff will distribute cleaning supplies, books and materials to providers. One pick-up event will be on March 18, and another will be in April (date TBD).

Klamath Falls City School District (KFCS) -- Dena Haudenschild shared that the majority of the City School's early childhood programming, including EI/ECSE, classrooms and staff; Preschool Promise; and District Sponsored Preschool, etc., will be moving into the old Altamont Elementary School building. After the end of the school year, Dena will no longer be supervising the Day Treatment curriculum and education for students at Klamath Basin Behavioral Health (KBBH).

Klamath County School District (KCSD) – Jill O'Donnell shared that KCSD will be continuing Play2Learn by offering two drive-through events for families at all of their elementary school locations. The dates are to be determined, and what they do know is that one will be in March and the other will coincide with Kindergarten Round-Up events. KCSD will be adding more videos to their website about the Boston Basics. There will be a pilot for Boston Basics with text messaging to 90 parents of children birth to three-years-old. KCSD will be requesting feedback from those families to see if the text messaging program is beneficial.

Klamath Chapter of the Oregon Association of the Education of Young Children (ORAEYC) – Jill O'Donnell advised that the Children's Early Learning Fair in April will likely be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

ORAEYC is still hosting the Early Learning Fall Conference in November and hope to have it in-person at Klamath Community College (KCC). The keynote speaker for the conference is Lindsay Keeley and she will speak on Social-Emotional Development. This presentation will be offered in English and Spanish.

Cascade Health Alliance (CHA) – Rhonda Janecke advised that CHA received a grant to help youth or families connect to tele-health services, case management or counseling, by providing cell phone minutes or devices such as phones or tablets. The client application/referral form is currently in development.

CHA will also be providing a Doula training for traditional health care workers. Once these health care workers receive training, they will attend three births, and get a national provider identification number (NPI) to be able to bill for services. They will be able to attend with women who want to have a Doula at the hospital or be in-home for families who want to birth at home.

KCC – Kathleen Walker-Henderson advised that Spring registration is open and Early Care and Education classes are available.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) through KCC is recruiting 12 students to earn a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential for employment in early childhood.

Next Meeting:

Klamath PAC: March 17, 2021 from 10:00 am – Noon. Hosted virtually.