

**South-Central Early Learning Hub
Lake County Community Governance Council
Minutes – May 24, 2022**

Attendees: Jack Thompson (s), Michael Carter (s), Michael Benson (v), Commissioner James Williams, Heidi Martinez, Gail Buermann, Miranda Philbert, Susan Warner, Machel Ramirez, Tina Aguilar, Gillian Wesenberg, Cynthia Hurkes, Athena Wikstrom, Danielle Walker, Charlene Shaw, Bailey Guido, Vanessa Pingleton

Please note: The Lake County Community Governance Council meeting was held virtually due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns.

Approval of April Minutes

Jack Thompson made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes as submitted, Gail Buermann seconded the motion. No further discussion.

Lake County Update

Commissioner James Williams joined the Lake Community Governance Council and shared an update. Lake County has been working on a project to develop a new child care facility in Lakeview. Commissioners have engaged in multiple planning meetings, collaborating with Lake County Health District and Lakeview School District, for the new facility. The potential renovations of the Sunshine Center proved too costly. Instead of renovating the existing building, a new facility will be built, and is expected to cost two hundred fifty thousand dollars. Construction will either be at an AD Hay location or Fremont location, depending on electric and sewer permits at each potential site. Commissioner Williams would like work with the school district in North Lake to develop another child care center when the community is ready.

The Commissioners are working on another project to bring in additional housing for the community. The Lake County Housing Committee is working on the project plans, mimicking a workforce housing project similar to that of Klamath County, which has successfully built six houses, with additional houses to be built soon.

The county is also working on a water extension project to connect Lakeview's two town water systems; one serving the Warner Creek Correctional Facility at the north end of town and the other serving homes and businesses at the south end of town. The project will cost approximately one million dollars.

Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) Update

Michael Benson shared the Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) County Plan through the Lake County email list serve, and advised the only changes from the prior year include a yearly calendar update and a review of procedures.

Section one is in regards to children being referred to EI/ECSE. Referrals are submitted by calling Michael Benson. The plan also includes the referral of students within the black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) population. While Lake County does not have a large BIPOC population, two referrals for children in BIPOC population have been received this year.

Early Intervention, a year-round program, had 208 potential days of service last year, and will have 211 potential days of service this year. ECSE, which mirrors the K-12 calendar, included 178 potential days of service last year, and will have 177 days of service this year.

The Local Interagency Agreement with the Lakeview Klamath Family Head Start site, will expire at the end of June. Agreements with Head Start are typically renewed in the fall, and Michael expects to continue this schedule.

Kadi Hall, Principal Executive Manager with Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), reviewed the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) agreement per the yearly requirement. County CAPTA agreements are required for screening and referring children involved in substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect, including children identified as affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure.

The Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) roster is currently incomplete and needs to be updated. Members of the Lake Community Governance Council are members of the LICC. Please email Michael Benson your name, organization and title, to complete the roster.

Michael is a voting, participating member of the Hub. If disagreements arise in solving problems, the resolution process is included in the plan.

The EI/ECSE County Plan shared today will be submitted to Oregon Department of Education (ODE). The plan will first be submitted to regional representatives on June 1, 2022 so a larger report can be compiled for the region.

Gail motioned to approve the EI/ECSE Count Plan as presented. Jack second motion. No discussion.

South-Central Early Learning Hub Update

Gillian Wesenberg shared an update for the South-Central Early Learning Hub (SCELH). The Hub is currently working on one of the new Early Learning Division (ELD) required deliverables, the Regional Assessment. The ELD consultant, Erin Watson, will be working with the SCELH and other Early Learning Hubs for the next year and has provided a system that will help the region determine barriers and opportunities. The Regional Assessment will focus on Raise Up Oregon (RUO), Objective 2: Families have access to high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable early care and education that meets their needs. The SCELH will determine the bandwidth of staff in facilitating the process for the Regional Assessment.

The Hub will continue Coordinated Enrollment, the qualification and enrollment of students into Preschool Promise programs, for the majority of Preschool Promise grantees across the region. A Request for Application (RFA) for Preschool Promise expansion is still expected to be released this spring. Current grantees who are meeting state requirements and are interested in continuing Preschool Promise, will receive a contract extension for their current service levels.

Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) Activities Discussion

Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation will present Lake County's priority for a Kindergarten Camp at the Regional Governance Council (RGC) meeting on June 1. Kindergarten Camp is the only Lake County priority. If the RGC supports the priority, a RFA will be developed to make the funds available to Lake County for Kindergarten Camps in August 2022.

School District Updates

Lake County ESD – Jack shared that this will be his final meeting with the Hub as he is retiring at the end of June. Students in Adel and Plush went on week-long spring trips, and all went well. The end of the school year for both Adel and Plush is this Friday, May 27.

North Lake School District – North Lake is getting ready for the end of the school year with more work to complete than there is time to accomplish it. Kindergarten round-up, kindergarten graduation, field trips, a field day, senior brunch and graduation are all upcoming. One North Lake student finished the

state track and field competition as the female high-jump champion. The district is also in the planning process for next school year.

Lakeview School District #7 – Susan is excited for summer programs and anticipates there will be 175 elementary students served through summer engagement and enrichment activities. Next year has the largest kindergarten projection rate the district has seen in a while. Schools are finishing up testing and gearing up for senior graduation.

Michael shared there are multiple temporary staff positions available for summer programming.

Early Learning Program Updates

Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) – Bailey Guido advised the Conscious Discipline series, which just ended, had representation from all three counties across the region. In the fall, Conscious Discipline for families will be implemented, Early Learning Gatherings will pick back up, and a plan for distributing TeachMy Kits will be developed. If you are interested in partnering in Conscious Discipline for Families or distributing TeachMy Kits, contact Bailey.

Take Root –There are two parenting events left for spring term, including Play Rocks, and a new workshop, Baby's First Foods. Take Root is also partnering with Lake County Food Share, ODHS Self-Sufficiency, and the OHSU Extension Office to present Cooking Matters, an in-person event specific to Lake County.

Take Root purchased gifts for all Adel and Plush Elementary and preschool students. Students received either a rock painting kit, a wind chime kit, or a foam kit. All kits were distributed with Community UPLiFT brochures.

Bailey will be out on summer vacation beginning June 30, but Susan, Julie, and a newly-hired staff member in Klamath County will all work year-round.

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) – CCRR hosted a successful Spring Fling child care provider appreciation event, which took place either in-person in Douglas and Klamath Counties or virtually across the region. Charlene Shaw will be visiting Lake County next Wednesday, June 1.

Home Visiting Systems Coordination & Community UPLiFT –Vanessa will be sending information about upcoming virtual professional development trainings for home visitors.

Community UPLiFT received 58 referrals last quarter, an increase of 8 referrals from the previous quarter. Family Resource Facilitators are reaching out to partners across the region to share about Community UPLiFT.

Health District Report

Lake District Wellness and Recovery Center – Heidi Martinez reported the Children's Department is moving out of the Marius Building into the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) building. A portion of the ODHS building will be remodeled to meet their needs.

Heidi is meeting with a potential intern from OIT, who is working on marriage and family certifications.

A fundraiser event for Lake District Wellness will be on July 2. They hope to recruit teachers and school administrators to participate in their dunk tank.

Lake District Wellness was awarded about 25% of the Behavioral Health Resource Network (BHRN) Grant funding that was requested. The funding will be used to increase service levels and to open a drop-in center. This center will help members of the community and parents who are struggling with substance abuse.

Next Meeting: September 20, 2022 at 1:00 pm. There will be no Lake County Community Governance Council meeting the months of June – August.