

## Attendance

## REGIONAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

Steve Schenewerk  
Michael Carter  
Dena Haudenschild  
Rhonda Janecke

Jack Thompson  
Analicia Nicholson  
Gillian Wesenberg  
Cynthia Hurkes

Athena Wikstrom  
Danielle Walker  
Heidi McGowan

Please note: The Regional Governance Council (RGC) was held virtually due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns.

## Welcome and Introductions

Chair, Steve Schenewerk welcomed members of the Regional Governance Council (RGC) and individuals introduced themselves.

The Regional Governance Council meeting agenda was adjusted to accommodate the schedule of members needing to attend other meetings.

## Child Care Update

Michael Carter shared that Lake County School District was able to partner with Lake County Commissioners and Lake District Hospital for the creation of a new child care facility. The facility will be a double-classroom modular which will be delivered the second week of August. Classrooms will open the second week of September. Construction will either be at an A.D. Hay location or Freemont location, depending on electric and sewer permits at each potential site. Lake District Hospital will pay two-thousand dollars per month to hold two child care positions open for hospital staff in need of child care. The school district has not yet determined if there will be infant and toddler slots available or if the facility will be dedicated only to preschool.

Danielle shared that Klamath County Economic Development Association (KCEDA) developed an employer/employee survey to determine the effect of child care needs on the workforce. Kendra Santiago with KCEDA reported at the May Klamath Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting that 289 surveys responses have been received thus far. The survey was set to be distributed to Jeld-Wen, one of Klamath County's largest employers, later that day.

Gillian advised that Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) and the Early Learning Hub are discussing a survey with Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE) to be distributed to child care (exiting, entering, or potential) professionals to determine why they entered or plan on entering the profession, or left the profession, as well as any barriers or needs they may have.

Cynthia reported Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) will also be partnering with CCRR to sponsor a Conscious Discipline Spanish cohort. The cohort will be open to 50 participants across the region.

## Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) Investment Funds

Cynthia reviewed the KPI Regional Governance Council KPI Investment Funds document, which includes KPI Requirements, and the Raise Up Oregon System Goal, Objective, and Strategy that was selected by the Regional Governance Council. Each County determined the proposed local priorities at the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings. Cynthia recommended that, instead of choosing one

priority for each county, there be a simple RFA process for each county to apply for funding in any of the county’s listed priority areas.

June 1, 2022 – Regional Governance Council KPI Investment Funds – \$50,000 – expended and reported by June 15, 2023		
<b>KPI Requirements:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Families and children ages 0 through 5</li> <li>Flexibility to implement innovative approaches and enhancements; cannot be used to supplant funds</li> <li>Does not pay staffing costs (can cover trainer or extra duty hours of staff to implement activities)</li> </ul>	<b>KPI Requirements:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State prefers the approaches to be researched or evidenced-based</li> <li><b>Portland State University outcome evaluation measures via a survey are a required tool for implementation at the end of activities</b></li> <li>Focused on SCELH priority populations</li> </ul>	
<b>Raise Up Oregon System Goal – can include kindergarten transition and readiness, i.e., social-emotional approaches, mental health, etc.</b> <b>Goal 2 –Children are raised in healthy, stable, and attached families</b> <b>OBJECTIVE 7:</b> Parents and caregivers have equitable access to support for their physical and social-emotional health <b>Strategy 7.2:</b> Improve access to culturally and linguistically responsive, multi-generational approaches to material and social-emotional health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand accessible and culturally responsive systems that support family unity while addressing parent co-occurring health, mental health, addiction, and or parenting strategies</li> </ul>		
<b>Douglas Priorities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parent Cafés – implement cafes to honor parent requests, and make parents feel heard by moving to action</li> <li>Conscious Discipline funds are available for additional activities, added to current funding</li> <li>Engaging homeless families in education through outreach:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating a McKinney Vento cohort throughout the county to create an outreach and referral process; not everyone supports the wholistic family and provides referrals</li> <li>Providing transportation support</li> <li>Working with Samaritan Inn</li> <li>Offering stipends to encourage participation in events</li> <li>Referring 0-3-year-olds to Early Head Start and 3-5-year-olds in Head Start, Preschool Promise, and other publicly funded programs</li> <li>Tracking referral data for measurable outcomes</li> </ul> </li> <li>Language inclusive activities</li> <li>Ready for Kindergarten</li> </ul>	<b>Klamath Priorities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Parent Cafes -- to gather information and serve as a continuous feedback loop</li> <li>Play2Learn with Klamath Basics, the Klamath Tribes, or offer other Play2Learn activities to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>supplement Klamath Basics using an essential texting system/other enhancement</li> <li>Klamath Basics Play2Learn – provided to the tribe</li> </ul> </li> <li>Providing resources to children/families on waitlists</li> <li>Offer bilingual opportunities</li> <li>Offer community-wide opportunities – (ex., shared learning experiences for families offered across multiple programs, not siloed by programs)</li> </ul>	<b>Lake Priority:</b> Kindergarten Camp

Analia noted that KPI typically provides funding to innovative projects in which groups build their own sustainability, while funding is reduced over time. Some items in the prioritized areas may be re-funding projects that have been funded in the past.

Q: If an RFA is used, who will determine which programs receive funds, and how are funds dispersed?

A: When past RFAs have been used, not all funds have been requested. This makes deciding which programs receive funding an easy process. If excess funds are requested, a scoring guide would be developed and the decision would be brought to the RGC.

Cynthia proposed the utilization of a funding formula with a floor of five thousand dollars to ensure each county receives a fair allotment of funding.

SCELH Early Learning Sector Plan Final Phase 1 Corrected - Priority Populations - Funding Formula									
County	Geo Isolated 0-5	%	Allocation	Hispanic /Latinx 0-5	%	Allocation	NA/Tribal 0-5	%	Allocation
Douglas	4401	58%	\$25,300	718	37%	\$17,950	111	34%	\$16,900
Klamath	2739	36%	\$17,600	1154	59%	\$25,650	203	62%	\$26,700
Lake	493	6%	\$7,100	84	4%	\$6,400	13	4%	\$6,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,633</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

County	DD,D, MH, Trauma 0-5	%	Allocation	Infants and Children 0-2	%	Allocation	Floor
Douglas	806	55%	\$24,250	3546	57%	\$24,950	\$5,000
Klamath	604	41%	\$19,350	2404	39%	\$18,650	\$5,000
Lake	63	4%	\$6,400	221	4%	\$6,400	\$5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,473</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>6171</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>

Combined Priority Populations			
Douglas	9582	55%	\$24,250
Klamath	7104	40%	\$19,000
Lake	874	5%	\$6,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>17560</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

RGC members agreed the KPI funds should be flexible. If one county does not request all available funds, remaining funds should be distributed to another county. They also requested a short, one-page application as well as the inclusion of a six thousand seven-hundred-fifty-dollar maximum request so no single entity receives more funding than another.

Cynthia will develop an application with a supporting document that includes the region’s priority populations. Once all RFAs have been received, a summary will be sent to RGC members via email for their approval. Cynthia reminded RGC members that funds need to be awarded in September 2022 so they can be expended by June 2023.

The Kindergarten Camp in Lake County is scheduled for the first two weeks of August. Lake County will include a social-emotional aspect, making them different than previously funded Kinder Camps. The RFA for Lake County will be available as soon as possible so funds can go out in August, with the remainder of requests receiving funding in September.

The RGC voted and approved the KPI Investment Plan as discussed.

### Early Learning Hub Updates

Gillian shared she received an email from the Early Learning Division (ELD) advising Preschool Promise Request for Applications (RFA) will be released in the coming weeks. The RFA is currently being finalized with the Department of Justice (DOJ). Once approved, it will be translated into Spanish before distribution to providers interested in the expansion of Preschool Promise. Once released, RFAs will only be open for 30 days. The ELD acknowledged the difficulties of the timing for the release of this RFA. The email also shared Preschool Promise funding per child and for transportation will be increased, and, effective July 1, insurance requirements will be updated for all grantees.

Michael Carter will be on vacation during the RFA time, but has hired an Early Learning Director for Lakeview School District, who will assist with the PSP Request for Application and site setup.

The South-Central Early Learning Hub (SCELH) received the new 2021-23 ELD contract which requires Hubs to complete new and updated deliverables. The Early Childhood Services Analysis, formerly known as the Early Care and Education (ECE) Sector Plan, now includes an equity deliverable and is due in December. Data from the past ECE Sector plan is being updated, and the Hub is gathering additional data from community partners. The compilation of data is due to the ELD in early August. If you have any relevant data, please share it with the SCELH team.

Hubs are working with national consultant, Erin Watson, to complete a Regional Assessment. Early Learning Hubs are the facilitators of the Regional Assessment, while cross-sector partners will be

completing the work. The Regional Assessment is intended to be a snap-shot of the needs, goals, gaps, and barriers the region faces. This year, the Regional Assessment is focusing on Raise Up Oregon Objective Two, and is due in April 2023. There is a template that Hubs fill out to determine the intensity of the assessment, and questions that should be asked regionally.

Gillian shared an overview of Regional Assessment expectations and the Power Point from Erin's Regional System Assessment training for Head Start (see attached).

#### **Group Discussion:**

Early Learning Hubs and Head Start programs have a shared belief that all children should receive high-quality care. The difficulty is, there may be differing processes as to how to determine which program a child is qualified for. Ultimately, after qualifying, the decision is for the family to decide.

Heidi appreciates flexibility in the Regional Assessment process and will help community leaders understand what regional needs are.

Steve posed the questions: What is the next step? Is there specific data that would be helpful? Is there a need to bring other programs together into the Regional Assessment process? Gillian responded that Hubs have been meeting with different programs, and many of them have been invited by the ELD to participate in one of Erin's Regional Assessment trainings.

Heidi advised that asking for shared goals in the region is a good place to start. Shared goals can be unifying and provide an understanding of differing goals.

The SCLEH will evaluate partners, determine who is not at the table and invite those who are needed to be participating in the Regional Assessment process.

Steve would like to see a document that outlines commonalities with partners and then use the document to focus on those common goals, especially among the Hubs, Head Start, and Child Care Resource & Referral (CCRR). He would like to see the Hub, as the shepherd of the work, articulate with the partners the commonalities and the common goals.

#### **Home Visiting Systems Coordination / Community UPLiFT**

Danielle reported on Home Visiting Systems Coordination (HVSC)/Community UPLiFT as Vanessa was unable to attend today. HVSC continues to have monthly advisory/workgroup meetings and quarterly leadership meetings. HVSC is exploring opportunities for expanding internal communication through the data portal. By adding this to the data portal, the needs of children and families can be better met through the communication between agencies around shared families.

Two Community UPLiFT and Partner Lunch and Learns were hosted in April, one in Klamath/Lake and one in Douglas. The Lunch and Learns were held using a hybrid model (in-person and virtual). Virtual participants also received lunch if they chose to pick it up. The purpose of the Lunch and Learn was to engage community members in learning about Community UPLiFT and services our community partners offer. There were 28 participants in Klamath County, including a County Commissioner. In Douglas County there were 23 participants, also with a County Commissioner. The County Commissioner in Klamath County shared Community UPLiFT and our contact information with a Doula. The Doula reached out to learn more about Community UPLiFT and the process. Advisory groups felt the events went well, and are planning to host additional Community UPLiFT and Partner Lunch and Learn opportunities in October 2022, with hopes of increased attendance at the Lunch and Learn events.

Family Resource Facilitators are currently doing outreach with new community partners in each county, sharing Community UPLiFT, and learning about partner services. Our goal is not only to learn about more services to offer families, but to get more services into the data portal to refer to. Family Resource Facilitators also educate providers about what else could be available via the Resource Directory.

HVSC is currently working on providing shared learning opportunities to the region by blending and braiding resources with Take Root, KPI (REN application), UCAN Healthy Families, and other community partners.

Below is a list of professional development topics our region is looking into:

- Developing Relationships with families to increase their retention and engagement in programs through cultural and linguistic responsiveness
- Working with adults and children who have developmental disabilities.
- Employee self-care and retention. Working with the Hub, KPI, and CC&R on a REN grant to provide.
- Mental Health First Aide and QPR
- ACE/Self-Regulation and Resilience

Regionally, Community UPLiFT received 58 referrals last quarter, an increase of 8 referrals from the previous quarter. In Douglas County, there were 33 referrals and in Klamath County there were 25.

In April, Community UPLiFT received 18 referrals, and as of May 16, nine referrals have been received.

### Partner Updates

**Klamath Community Baby Shower** – Klamath County is beginning the planning process for the October (date to be determined) Community Baby Shower with the first planning meeting on June 16 from 3:00-4:00 pm. Klamath Basin Oral Health Coalition is interested in hosting two Free Dental Days in conjunction with the Community Baby Shower and will be present at the event to offer free dental care to those in need. The second day of the Free Dental Days location is to be determined by the Oral Health Coalition. The Community Baby Shower will be held at the Klamath Early Childhood Development Center.

**Preschool Promise** – Preschool Promise sites are almost full throughout the region. While the Hub is still awaiting the Request for Application for the Preschool Promise expansion to find out where all the sites will be located, the Hub is currently accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year so the family's qualifying information can be processed. Families can contact the South-Central Early Learning Hub staff with any questions or if they need support completing applications.

### Next Meeting Dates

September 14, 2022 – from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

December 7, 2022 – from 11:00am – 3:00 pm