

**South-Central Early Learning Hub
Lake County Community Governance Council
Minutes – October 24, 2023**

Attendees: Michael Benson (v), Lane Stratton (s), Jake Greer, Shalom Rorabaugh, Machel Ramirez, Gail Buermann, Gillian Wesenberg, Heather Freilinger, Athena Wikstrom, Danielle Walker

Lake County Education Service District – Lane Stratton – School districts are getting ready for the Legislative short session in February. The short session is only 30 days, but one of the focuses will be on Early Care and Education.

Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) – Mike Benson – EI/ECSE has not yet received a contract from the state, and the state delayed requests for EI/ECSE quarterly reports. EI/ECSE is conducting business as normal and reporting expenditures.

Lake County has eight qualified EI/ECSE students, six in Lakeview and two in North Lake. Referrals for EI/ECSE evaluations are being received. There are four children in the evaluation stages with two families signing the consent for evaluation this week and two families signing the consent for evaluation next week. All four children will likely qualify to receive EI/ECSE services.

Mike has a professional goal to reconnect with Home Visiting programs in Lake County. He met with the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) to revise the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) interagency agreement and brainstormed the referral process from ODHS to EI/ECSE. He will be reaching out to Lake County Public Health to see if they have any Home Visiting programs running.

Mike visited the Honker Preschool site and met with staff to discuss the EI/ECSE program and referral process. Mike connected with North Lake and Paisley schools about their students to determine if any needed referrals to EI/ECSE for evaluation.

South-Central Early Learning Hub – Gillian Wesenberg – The Early Learning Division (ELD) transitioned into the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC). The Early Learning Council (ELC) updated Raise Up Oregon, to create Raise Up Oregon 2.0, which can be found online at <https://www.oregon.gov/delc/about-us/pages/raise-up-oregon.aspx>. The Hub is waiting for DELIC to release information about the upcoming Strategic Plan. Once information about the Strategic Plan is received, the Hub will be asking community partners for their input.

For the first time, Preschool Promise grantees received a two-year grant. Having a two-year grant will allow the Hub to begin enrollment for Preschool Promise in the spring. Enrollment will more closely align with other publicly funded programs like Head Start. Honker Preschool Promise currently has one opening.

Klamath Family Head Start, Lakeview Site – Shalom Rorabaugh – Klamath Family Head Start (KFHS) in Lakeview has two openings in the Preschool Promise program and one opening in the Head Start Duration program. KFHS is spreading the word about program availability through a variety of advertising in the local newspaper and on the radio. Klamath Family Head Start and

South-Central Early Learning Hub briefly discussed collaborating to expand marketing for Head Start and Preschool Promise in Lake County.

Health screening and social service home visit requirements for children and families are due by October 25. The Lakeview site is hosting a Fire Safety event with Smokey the Bear on October 27. The Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) completed program observations at the site, and Head Start received positive feedback.

Juvenile Department - Jake Greer - Kelly Hall, Juvenile Department mentor, currently has 30 cases across Lake County, which will likely be the maximum number of cases she can take.

UCAN Healthy Families – Healthy Families is in the interview process for hiring a new staff member. There are four Family Support Specialists in Klamath County and one in Lake County. Vicky, the Lake County Family Support Specialist has six families in Christmas Valley, one in Silver Lake, and a few in Lakeview. Healthy Families would like to see an increase of families participating in Lakeview.

Next Meeting: November 28, 2023 at 1:00 pm.