

**South-Central Early Learning Hub
Lake County Governance Council
Minutes – Nov. 15, 2022**

Attendees: Lane Stratton (s), Michael Carter (s), Michael Benson (v), Colleen May, Athena Wikstrom, Connie Rosas, Vanessa Pingleton

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

Members of the Lake County Community Governance Council introduced themselves. A quorum was not present, the meeting was used for partner updates.

South-Central Early Learning Hub

Honker’s Preschool through Lake County School District #7 has its Preschool Promise classroom up and running. There are still vacancies for qualifying families. To qualify for Preschool Promise, families must be Oregon residents, the child must be three or four by September 1, and families need to meet income guidelines. This year, we can qualify families who may be over income in Lake County. This is specific to the Lakeview area and not guaranteed to carry through to next year. Honker’s Preschool is advertising in English and Spanish.

The Regional Service Assessment is continuing. Athena and Erin Watson, the contractor with the Early Learning Division, have been pulling out questions and synthesizing the feedback from the Professional Advisory Committees and Governance Councils. Additional questions for partners and families will be coming out between now and the due date in April.

Kindergarten Partnership Readiness and Innovation (KPI) – Tonight is the first early learning gathering for this school year. After reviewing at least 70 feedback surveys, Cynthia saw a recurring request to focus on alignment. This evening the early learning gathering participants will look at alignment from an empathy perspective. The participants will be asked “What does alignment feel, look, and sound like?” allowing participant educators to express what it means to them in their educational environments. There are 40 early learning educators registered, ranging from home visitors to kindergarten teachers and administrators.

The KPI team has been meeting with Lake County partners to discuss the Conscious Discipline approach and the possibility of offering Conscious Discipline activities to families throughout the county. Bailey has scheduled another meeting for December 8 at 3:00 pm to discuss Conscious Discipline further. The sessions are virtual. KPI has registered at least ten educators and community partners on the Conscious Discipline site to view the ten self-driven participants’ videos on Building Resilient Schools and Homes. Please contact Bailey if interested in a Conscious Discipline video subscription or attending the meetings.

Community UPLiFT – Vanessa shared the provider feedback survey report for Community UPLiFT. Family Resource Facilitators sent surveys to families after completing the basic determinants of health questions for service referrals. If families provided their information when completing the survey, Healthy Families sent them a \$10 gift card.

As of yesterday, Community UPLiFT has received 1016 referrals. Lane recommended Community UPLiFT being promoted at k12s across the county.

Connie shared Community UPLiFT is a coordinated information and referral exchange platform serving expecting families and families with children 0 to 5 or up to the age of 21 with special needs. To submit a referral, text uplift3 to 484848, go to www.community-uplift.com, email Connie.Rosas@douglased.k12.or.us, or call 541-957-4809.

Partner Updates

Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) – EI/ECSE is serving 14 children county wide in the program. Five children being served with IFSPs are in North Lake. There are five children currently in the referral evaluation process that are trying to get wrapped up before the holiday so they can begin services in January. Michael's assistant is on maternity leave and is not planning to return. EI/ECSE is working to hire a new assistant before the holidays so they can be in the Head Start classes.

The Federal December 1 count is underway. Michael is working on the compliance review of files. Most everything has been reviewed and submitted already.

Lake County School District #7 – The Tree of Joy is currently available. All major businesses get information on needs for families.

Share the Warmth Program is run by the Optimist groups and is housed at the High School building. Share the Warmth provides new and used clothing and some money for heating costs as it ties into health and welfare services. The jail is getting word for families who need it for warmth.

The work coordinator also conducts the backpack program which is currently serving 180 children twice a week. All supplies for the holidays have to go out tomorrow. This will be the first time Lake County is taking a full Thanksgiving break.

Healthy Families – Colleen shared Healthy Families is serving eight families in Lake County. Vicky travels to Christmas Valley and Silver Lake for four families. The remaining four are in Lakeview. There are openings coming up. Please refer pregnant moms and newborns to Vicky Taylor with Healthy Families.

Vicky is planning a Community Baby Shower in Lakeview in the Spring and may hold one in Christmas Valley as well.

Take Root Parenting Connection – Vanessa shared Healthy Families, the Library, and Take Root are working together on the baby shower. It will look similar to Community Baby Showers held in the past. The group is considering holding one in Paisley as well.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2023 at 1:00 pm.