

November 16, 2022 | 10:00 AM – Noon

Attendance

Heather Robinson
Jessica McAuliffe
Melinda Gomez
Heather Freilinger
Sanora Hoggarth
Rhonda Janecke
Connie Rosas

Maurita Johnson
Crystal Lemus
Jessie DuBose
Dena Haudenschild
Bethany Osborn
Athena Wikstrom
Bethany Holmes

Denise Swingle
Kathleen Walker-Henderson
Sylvia Cox
Melissa Dorsey
Kay Ortega

Please note: The Klamath Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held virtually due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns.

Welcome and Introduction

The PAC reviewed and approved the October minutes. Kathleen Walker-Henderson made a motion to approve the minutes with two revisions: next meeting date updated from January 25, 2022 to November 16, 2022 and a spelling correction from councilor to counselor. Melinda Gomez seconded the motion. No further discussion.

Community Resources and Partner Updates

The Klamath PAC discussed the importance of having a current Resource Guide including the challenges with keeping Resource Guides up-to-date. The South-Central Early Learning Hub is in the process of finalizing their Resource Guide and will be sending the updated information out soon.

Cascade Health Alliance (CHA) -- Members can schedule rides to non-emergency medical appointments via Translink by calling (541) 842-2060 or toll free at 1 (800) 518-8160. More information about Translink can be found online at <https://rvtd.org/accessible-transportation/translink/>.

CHA members can also schedule Flex Rides to non-medical services/locations not supported by Translink, for such places as a grocery store or laundromat. Flex Rides allow members in Klamath County two one-way rides per week within the county (Only Zip Codes 97601, 97602, 97603, 97604, 97621, 97621, 97622, 97623, 97624, 97625, 97626, 97627, 97632, 97633, 97634 and 97639). For more information and to sign up for a Flex Ride, visit <https://www.cascadehealthalliance.com/for-members/schedule-a-ride/>.

Basin Transit Services (BTS) -- is now offering Sunday On-Demand Service, a door-to-door services for seniors and individuals with disabilities and the general public when seating space is available. BTS has also added some expanded services for rural Klamath County. For more information on routes and services, visit <https://www.basintransit.com/>.

Integral Youth Services (IYS)

- Exodus House, a youth shelter for runaways or homeless youth ages 10 to 17.
- Transitional Living Program (18-month program) for youth ages 18 to 22 to help with life skills.
- Culinary Club, where students will learn how to work in a kitchen and learn special culinary techniques needed to work in a restaurant setting.
- Conservation Club, an introductory program that shadows the IYS Work2Learn crews.
- Work2Learn – A youth employment program where students earn a paycheck and earn school credit for career exploration.
- IYS Mobile Hub – with a goal of taking resources to families living in the rural towns of Klamath County.

If you have any questions about IYS programs, reach out to Bethany Osborn at bethanyosborn@iyskfalls.org. Additional information on IYS services can be found online at <https://integralyouthservices.org/>.

Oregon Child Development Coalition --There will be an indoor Resource Fair/Vaccine Event this Saturday, November 19th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Klamath Community College (KCC) in Building. 4. There are openings available for agencies that would like host a booth. If you are interested in participating, contact Kay Ortega at kay.ortega@ocdc.net.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) – The WIOA grant moved from Klamath Community College (KCC) to Klamath Works. Once the transition is complete, Klamath Works will begin accepting new WIOA clients. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market.

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) – ODHS is in the planning phase for the next Symposium to be held in August 2023. The current plan is to host Dr. Donna Beegle for an all-day session on day one, and on day two, have breakout sessions about community support and response to poverty.

Jessie Dubose shared that Southern Oregon ESD (SOESD) has the ability to create professional development events for educators and offer Professional Development Units (PDUs - continuing education credits) to educators who attend. If there is interest in setting the ODHS Symposium up as a PDU event, contact Jessie.

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) – There is a free Southern Oregon University (SOU) workshop this Saturday, November 19th from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm about Native American Culture Awareness in Early Childhood Education at Klamath Community College. For more information or to register, visit <https://conta.cc/3ffKmkv>.

CCR&R has partnered with SOU and Lakeshore to provide additional training opportunities for early childhood educators. More information will be coming out soon.

CCRR is conducting a market rate study about child care providers who charge fees for child care in Klamath Falls. The state uses this data to determine rate increases for ODHS subsidized care.

Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) – KPI hosted the regional Early Learning Gathering last night with about 20 participants. The meeting focused on alignment throughout early learning. There are about \$4000 worth of incentives for participants. If you would like to participate in the Early Learning Gatherings, contact Sanora Hoggarth at Sanora.Hoggarth@douglasesd.k12.or.us.

KPI is looking for a group to offer a Conscious Discipline training series to families. If you are interested in providing this opportunity, contact Sanora Hoggarth at the email address listed above.

Southern Oregon ESD (SOESD) – In partnership with Sound Discipline (<https://www.sounddiscipline.org/>), SOESD is working with three schools in the Klamath County School District (Bonanza, Chiloquin, and Henley), to use Positive Discipline curriculum. Positive Discipline strives to create a space for children where they feel safe, significant, and have a sense of belonging. SOESD will be offering Positive Discipline to parents.

Denise Swingle has requested information about the similarities and differences between Positive Discipline and Conscious Discipline and will share this information once it is received.

SOESD holds a monthly curriculum director meeting the first Thursday of every month. If you would like any information, to request topic additions to the agenda, or if you would like to share information with the elementary curriculum directors, contact Nancy Hayes at Nancy_hayes@soesd.k12.or.us.

Register for free ACES presentations for your organization at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XgTL22WMg4HKJ5OUTkKRV49A2GwaSm0h/view?usp=share_link.

Klamath Promise – The Klamath Basin Career Connection Initiative, funded by East Cascade Works, is building a database of student work opportunities to make it easier for local businesses to find student employees. The database will outline student internships, paid student work, summer jobs, and job shadowing.

Klamath Promise is hiring a temporary, part-time employee to help with Klamath Promise support. The job description can be written to match the right person for the job.

The November Klamath Promise Steering Committee is this Thursday, November 17, 7:35am-8:50am, VIRTUAL ONLY!, <https://soesd.zoom.us/j/93177047585>. Partner updates wanted!

Community UPLIFT – Community UPLIFT is still accepting referrals connecting families to resources while Danielle is out. Community UPLIFT connects expectant families, families with children zero to five-years-old, or up to 21 with special needs, to resources in the community. Online referrals can be completed at <http://www.community-uplift.com/>, or via smartphone by texting the keyword “uplift2” to 484848. For more information about Community UPLIFT, contact Danielle Walker at Danielle Walker at Danielle.walker@douglasesd.k12.or.us or by phone at (541) 880-4655.

Please note: at the time of the November Klamath Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting, Danielle Walker was out on leave and Connie Rosas was covering for Community UPLIFT. Danielle is back from leave and is the contact for Community UPLIFT in Klamath County.

Preschool Promise – Preschool Promise openings are currently available at Klamath Early Childhood Development Center, Nic Nacs Quality Childcare, and The YMCA of Klamath Falls.

The South-Central Early Learning Hub is accepting Preschool Promise applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Eligible students turned three or four by September 1, 2022, are residents of Oregon, and have a family income of up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Apply at <http://www.southcentralhubenrollment.com/> or contact the South-Central Early Learning Hub by phone at (541) 957-4809. Families who believe they are over income are still encouraged to apply as they may still fall into the income guidelines. Applications will be accepted all year and a wait pool will be maintained for fully enrolled Preschool Promise locations.

Klamath Family Head Start (KFHS) – Education Manager, Stephanie Potter, hosted the Head Start Education Meeting last week that had participants from both school districts, Klamath County School District and Klamath Falls City School District. KFHS hopes to have more school district participation at future meetings.

A Family Gathering Place Relief Nursery – The Family Gathering Place preschool class opened the beginning of October and currently has four students enrolled. The toddler class recently opened and has three students enrolled. The infant class is on hold until a teacher is found for the classroom.

A family can be referred to A Family Gathering Place therapeutic classroom or the outreach program, by either calling Lutheran Community Services (LCS) at (541) 883-3471 or submit a referral through Community UPLIFT (see above).

If you are interested in touring the new facility, call or email Melinda Collier at (541) 275-9685 or mcollier@lcsnw.org.

Equity Lens

The Klamath County Professional Advisory Committee discussed Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ).

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) shared that they have been working closely with The Klamath Tribes. Tribal members toured the new facility and provided feedback about providing a more welcoming environment. One suggestion included the addition of Klamath language signs in important areas of the building. Signs are being made and will be incorporated throughout the building. Additionally, ODHS is installing another flag pole to fly the Klamath Tribal flag.

Employees of The Klamath Tribes Social Services Department are now sharing space in the new ODHS building. Tribal families living in Klamath Falls who receive social services through The Klamath Tribes no longer need to travel to Chiloquin with questions about their benefits.

Next Meeting:

January 25, 2023 from 10 am to noon.