**South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub**

**Douglas County**

**Community Governance Council**

***November 12, 2019***

***4:30-6:30***

***Minutes***

**Council Members:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Barbara Johnson, *Business (Chair)* |  | Heather Murphy, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Diane Dunas, *Private School Representative* |
|  | Steve Schenewerk, *Faith Representative (Vice Chair)* |  | Marta Queant, *Language Specialist* |  | Bob Dannenhoffer, *Medical Representative* |
|  | Dave Gianotti, *School Superintendent* |  | Jan Zurate, *School Superintendent* |  | Betty Wagner, *Social Worker, Therapist* |
|  | Tammie Hunt, *Cow Creek Representative* |  | Christine Seals, *CCO Representative* |  | Bryan Trenkle, *Non-Profit Director* |
|  | Tim Freeman, *Business* |  | Maureen Short, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Debra Thatcher, *UCC President* |
|  | Michael Lasher, *ESD Superintendent* |  | Charlene Stutes, *Non-Profit Director* |  | Desta Welsh, *DHS Representative* |
|  | Shawn Lybarger, *Professional Advisory Chair* |  | Sherri Vogt, *Parent Representative* |  |  |

**Staff Present:**

Gillian Wesenberg, Cory Ortega, Vanessa Pingleton, Julie Hurley, Sondra Williams, Trish Orr, Athena Wikstrom

**Others Present:**

Heather Freilinger, Heidi McGowan, Mandy Rigsby

| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Decisions/Action/Next Steps** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome/Introductions** | Barb Johnson opened; introductions followed. |  |
| **Approve October minutes** | Minutes from October were adopted. | **Motion:** Shawn Lybarger  **Second:** Mandy Rigsby |
| Director’s Report | Gillian discussed the Hub’s current focus on Early Care and Education (ECE) sector expansion plan. The steps taken were outlined including family engagement, Yoncalla Parent Group, Head Start Parent Council, and surveys. Gillian thanked all partners who have helped with the surveys. The plan is due December 13th 2019. |  |
| **Discussion topics** | Reviewed Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE) report and the snap shot three-pager. The following questions were asked and discussed in small groups regarding the PRE report:  **Called out catchment areas – does this match with what you know about Douglas County?**  Myrtle Creek Elementary serves a lot of children with developmental delays – last year served five elementary age children who were deaf/hard of hearing, one preschooler this year who is deaf/hard of hearing. There was surprise it’s not on both lists.  Days Creek, Tiller, Glendale very isolated geographically.  Fir Grove has a high number of children receiving care for disabilities. There are two different types of special needs classes at Fir Grove. Also, serving children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing.  Surprised that Winchester is not on Free/Reduced Lunch list.  ELD would like us to layer, a catchment area may have multiple priority population groups within it (i.e. Poverty, developmental delays / disabilities, geographically isolated.)  Reviewed survey data at the Stewardship meeting and got parent feedback on preferences and needs. Trustworthy childcare staff was the most indicated need that parents requested. Other preferences were cost, flexibility of hours, transportation / location, culturally responsive, childcare & full day preschool, universality and mixed delivery, parent education opportunities within program, universal early head start, collaboratively work with parents. Culturally similar may be included in trustworthy. Trustworthy was defined as experienced, reliable, children like the provider, your child will be safe where they are, may not be the highest quality.  **What stands out from what you know of your families?**  Transportation / location, trustworthy, cost, culturally responsive, flexibility of hours, cost are indicators that families have expressed to partner groups.  It’s difficult to find childcare, when children have special needs it is even more difficult, especially for infant / toddler care.  Parents are using social media and Craigslist to find care and are going to places sight unseen.  Businesses have voiced flexibility of hours is a difficulty for their employees.  Childcare is a low-paid profession, what we are doing to support the field to help providers access training / education, etc.  **Expansion – Especially focusing on catchment areas, what are organizations that may be interested in expanding and/or starting up that has space?**   * Head Start has room to expand infant / toddlers by 16 students in Early Head Start in Winchester area, if parents can transport, can take from anywhere in the community. * Family Development Center would like to have a Preschool Promise classroom added. * Five-star program in Myrtle Creek would like Baby Promise. * Mercy has been doing a lot of research about doing something. * Geneva Academy is opening a Day Care and would like to have additional services. * Cobb Street is looking to expand in the infant side. * Days Creek has stated they are interested. * North Douglas and Yoncalla would like to expand to two classrooms. * Riddle would like a preschool classroom. * Glendale would like to add Preschool Promise. * Should explore 24-hour care in Canyonville through the Tribe. * Should also explore church organizations.   Family Providers requested Preschool Promise last RFA and were not able to get it last time due to the area they are located. There are some who may be still interested. December 6th the Early Learning Division (ELD) will have a listening session, and will ask who is still interested.  There may be a barrier with insurance for providers, though some community service organizations may assist in paying for the insurance.  SCELH should explore shared services models – this would include contracting marketing, bookkeeping, insurance, etc.  There was a request that the groups mentioned for expansion be contacted to ensure they are interested and to provide additional information on what is available.  We want to include everyone who is going to apply for Preschool Promise and Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (OPK) in the plan, because if they are not included, it may be harder for them to submit a Request for Application (RFA).  Moving slots from part day to full day in Head Start will not be considered expansion. |  |
| **Community/Program announcements** | **EI/ECSE –** a lot of growth in the last few years. Student Success Act (SSA) mandate is to increase service levels to adequate, as they have not been previously. Plans are not required. The difficulty is finding qualified staff. They are opening a second ECSE classroom at Green Elementary.  A classroom for social-emotional needs children (up to five children) and typical peers (up to eight children) at Eastwood Elementary is opening in January. The children need to be in the Roseburg School District to be eligible for the Eastwood Elementary classroom. This is a pilot year and will open at the first of the year; children can apply on the Roseburg School District website.  **TakeRoot –** In January, TakeRoot is partnering with Yoncalla for Making Parenting a Pleasure for adolescents. The children will come as well and will learn topics in another room from parents then meet as a large group at the end. It will focus on middle school age range. Nurturing Parenting for Fathers is taking place in Sutherlin. Partnering with Perinatal Taskforce to do two parent groups for families of newborns to one-year-olds using Incredible Infants curriculum to meet every three to four weeks.  **CASA –** Work with kids with trauma and their families.  **Mandy –** Just hired new Behavioral Health Director at Umpqua Health Alliance, Rob McAdam. Mandy covers pregnant females through New Day. New Day and Healthy Start are part of a clinical trial through National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) through University of Oregon to focus on moms in recovery with children for an online trial and parent classes; the grant is a four-year term. Mandy going to Aviva to educate on resources.  **Heather –** Early Education Conference will include classes on self-care and trauma. The PreK Network through The Ford Family Foundation took 18 teachers and assistants to Opal School in Portland. Many left the Opal School feeling invigorated. Literacy and Language training is occurring this weekend.  **Shawn –** Head Start is trying to find staff for expansion. The only Preschool Expansion that there is room for is moving one class from part day to full day.  **Bob -** Public Health is looking to implement the Governor’s vision for Universal Home Visiting. Need to build staff and overcome barrier of parents being hesitant to have Home Visiting. The alignment with the Hub Region is still underway as Home Health Regions are very different; Douglas, Coos, and Curry are aligned in Public Health.  **Trish –** Deaf / Hard of Hearing services are growing and still not able to serve everyone. Do not have educational audiologist in Douglas County currently, EI / ECSE is pulling in an audiologist quarterly and is allowing school age children to be tested. The educational audiologist is doing cochlear implant mapping and it is allowing families to not have to travel for services. The Federal Government has Hands and Voices which dictates when children should be getting tested and receiving services.  **UHA-** is having a presentation and Q & A at the Tribal office tomorrow at 3 on CCO 2.0.  **Barb –** USDA has loans available for very low and moderate income. Have to provide loans to families who are not going to be set up for failure. 100% financing is available through the direct program. |  |
| **Wrap-up** | Barb thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting. |  |
| **Next meeting** | February 18th 2020 |  |