**South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub**

**Lake County Community Governance Council**

**Date: October 22, 2019**

**Time: 1:30 PM**

***Minutes***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Steering Committee: | Vicky Taylor | Jack Thompson | Charley Tracy | Jill Harlan |
|  | Amy Hutchinson |  |  |  |
| Voting Members: | Mike Benson | Gail Buermann | Will Cahill | Reejen Cooper |
|  | Jake Greer | Kadi Estes | Arvinder Singh | Niki Taylor |
| Community Partners: | Arianna Azamar | Chandra Cahill | Judy Clarke | Melinda Collier |
|  | Heather Freilinger | Kendra Holderman | Kimberly Ishida | Ken Kestner |
|  | ☒Heidi Martinez | Colleen May | Rhonda Neighorn | Judy Springer |
|  | Michelle Totten | Susan Warner | James Williams | Francie Winters |
| DESD Staff: | Daphne Greer | Gillian Wesenberg | Vanessa Pingleton | Cynthia Hurkes |
|  | Julie Hurley | Danielle Walker | Athena Wikstrom |  |
| Guests: | None. |  |  |  |

| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Decisions/Action/Next Steps** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome/Introductions** | Introductions were performed. |  |
| **Approve September Minutes** | Minutes from September 24, 2019, were approved as presented. |  |
| **Data Discussion for Early Care and Education Sector Plan Phase I** | Vicky reported the Regional Council will be meeting November 5, 2019, to do planning for the Early Learning Division (ELD) required Early Care and Education Sector Plan. She asked members present to give feedback on the following topics in reference to data about the South-Central Hub region.  **Does any geographic area stick out in data and way?**   * North Lake and LCSD #7 are correctly identified as the highest density poverty areas in the county. LCSD #7 free and reduced lunch rate is usually around 60% and North Lake School hovers between 70% and 75%. * The Hispanic population at LCSD #7 is growing significantly, where North Lake School does not have many students of color.   **Is there anything that you know should be considered that isn’t reflected in the data?**   * The challenge of our geography – very spread out population. This is especially true for North Lake School where transportation is a significant barrier. * Increasing numbers of Hispanic population in Lakeview. * Lack of appropriate physical facilities throughout the county for preschool/childcare. * Significant to extreme shortage of adequate housing. * In North Lake, lack of mailing address/infrastructure. There is a high percentage of people who are off the grid and don’t want to be found. * Unknown changes to the workforce/population on the horizon with renewable energy projects county-wide.   **How does demographic data compare to data on who is currently being served or not served?**   * There is a potential for unserved flying under the radar – transient ranch hands and those ‘off the grid’ – not showing in the data or in known unserved.   **Do you know of a program or school that is willing and able to consider expansion or starting up a preschool or child care in the region?**   * North Lake School currently has about 16 in the preschool session one day per week for 2.5 hours, and nine in the mommy and me session one day per week. With the recently passed bond, the facility will be replaced, and the program could expand to either serve more families on other days or have more contact hours with existing families. A key barrier is transportation as the district does not have funds for bussing and families likely cannot afford transportation multiple days per week. * Vicky reported that the hospital may have interest in on-site childcare for their employees as loss of childcare is a major reason for absences. * Amy suggested that someone reach out to Red Rock Biofuels. * Adel/Plush preschool serves all students in that area, so no need to expand. * There may be willingness for expansion, but both physical and organizational infrastructure is a significant barrier.   The group discussed dates for a parent engagement night, and chose November 19, 2019 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at the school. Dinner will be served. No childcare will be available. Will, Jack, and Amy can definitely attend. | **Vicky will email the Pacific Research Evaluation and Final Report to all.**  **Vicky will work with DESD staff on flyers for parent engagement night.** |
| **Hub Updates: Vanessa, Vicky** | Vanessa reported a Community UPLiFT Lunch & Learn will be held in Lakeview on November 20, 2019, from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM. There will be a catered lunch, raffles, and other giveaways. A registration link will be sent.  Daphne Greer accepted another position elsewhere, so DESD is looking for a Family Resource Facilitator to hire.  Vicky reported that Cynthia will have one day trainings for Growing Early Mindsets coming up. Make Parenting a Pleasure facilitator training is coming up in November. | **Vanessa will share the Community UPLiFT Lunch & Learn Registration link with the group.** |
| **Schools/School Readiness: Jack, Will, & Gail** | No updates to share at this time. |  |
| **Public Health/Health** | Heidi reported that the parenting class in Christmas Valley is going well with a group of four coming each week. She is now a certified Mental Health First Aid trainer, and will offer classes. She is able to travel throughout the county. Several people expressed interest. Heidi will get an informational flyer out. | **Heidi will email a Mental Health First Aid informational training to the group.** |
| **Early Learning Partners** | Melinda reported there will be an Early Learning Conference at Klamath Community College (KCC) on 11/2. If anyone is interested, contact her for more information.  Amy reported the Lakeview Early Learning Baby Shower was held on October 12, with three families attending from 27 invitations being sent. The Christmas Valley baby shower will be held on November 2. Also, this is the first year that Lakeview community organizations and businesses are coordinating to host a Trick or Treat from 3-5 PM on Halloween. Over 40 locations are participating. |  |
| **DHS** | Kadi reported that Jeannette Grant will be retiring at the end of December, so they are recruiting for a new ongoing caseworker. In January the legislation changed so the education requirement is now an associate’s degree. New employee Olivia Perry is finishing training this week and will be able to take cases next week. They are still in great need of foster homes. Currently, they are faced with sometimes having to place children in Klamath since they do not have enough homes in Lake County. This is very disruptive for the children. |  |
| **Next meeting** | **December 17, 2019** |  |