

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

November 18, 2021 | 10:00 a.m.

In Attendance, Welcome, Approval of Minutes

Present: Colleen May, Judi Mone, Kat Cooper, Kendra Bickham, Lee Ann Grogan, Madison Holmes, Maureen Short, Mckenzy Gausnell, Peggy Whalen, Rachelle Ellery, Sandy Henry, Shawn Lybarger

Staff Present: Gillian Wesenberg, Danielle Walker, Athena Wikstrom, Vanessa Pingleton, Cynthia Hurkes, Connie Rosas, Mel Johnson, Susan Stiles-Sumstine

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

COVID-19 Updates and Vaccine Roll Out

Kendra provided a COVID-19 update as Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer was not able to attend. Kendra shared that there has not been as much interest in five to eleven-year-olds receiving the COVID-19 vaccine as anticipated. Aviva is currently providing COVID-19 vaccines on Wednesdays. Vaccines come in ten dose vials, so Aviva is waiting until they have ten individuals from five to eleven interested in receiving the vaccine before scheduling to preserve as many doses as possible. Call 541-672-9596 for information or to get scheduled for a vaccination appointment.

Aviva is accepting new pediatric patients.

There is an event coming up where Aviva will be providing COVID-19 and flu vaccines. The Winter Family Wellness Event will be held on December 11th from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm and December 12 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The event will include food, booths, an ice-skating rink, and flu and COVID-19 vaccines. Lee Ann is coordinating community vendors, while Aviva is coordinating the medical side of the event. The Winter Family Wellness Event is funded by Umpqua Health Alliance (UHA) community dollars. Currently, there is a letter explaining the event, the flyer will be shared when it's available.

Kindergarten Readiness Innovation and Partnership (KPI) Updates

Cynthia shared the draft KPI workplan.

KPI, in partnership with Care Connections and Education, the regional Childcare Resource and Referral (CCRR), is bringing Conscious Discipline trainings to 100 educators across the region. There are currently 110 people registered, with only 100 subscriptions available for educators. Trainings for attendees will be held virtually with participants completing independent virtual trainings and then coming together for a facilitated, peer-driven conversation around implementing Conscious Discipline and reviewing the virtual trainings.

KPI is recommending adding to the knowledge from Conscious Discipline Phase 1 by providing Conscious Discipline training to non-educators throughout the region, including home visitors. The program would ask educators and support staff to bring two to three families to three, one-hour sessions.

Opening Doors facilitator training is in the planning stages. KPI is recruiting facilitators who speak Spanish to complete the training, then the facilitators will certify families through the Opening Doors program. In addition to training facilitators, KPI is proposing they put funds towards the ten-meeting series to implement Opening Doors in communities across the region. As KPI does not have funds to fully support the effort to train parents across the region, they will ask for leveraged funds including personnel.

Cynthia is attending the Hub's Regional Governance Council meeting, December 8, to determine how to allocate community funds. The program has an additional \$50,000 for the region. The Regional Governance Council will determine if funds will be spent county to county or regionally. Once spending decisions are made, the plan will be shared with the Professional Advisory Councils.

If you have input on how community funds should be spent or the draft workplan, please send suggestions to Cynthia, her email is cynthia.hurkes@douglasesd.k12.or.us.

Head Start Overview of Enrollment & Specific Services

Shawn shared a video created by a policy council member as a "thank you" for the legislature. In 1965, President Eisenhower created Head Start to fight poverty. The Confidence Clinic in Washington DC started the first Head Start in 1969. Currently, United Community Action Network (UCAN) has 17 Head Start preschool classrooms across Douglas County. South-Coast Head Start supports Reedsport. There are 16 to 20 students in each class.

Head Start is based on a wrap-around family-based approach and mostly focuses on social-emotional supports. All children receive screenings for hearing, vision, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), and physical development. Most families are low-income, which leads to a mobile population that is served. Head Start typically serves families whose income is up to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Case managers and program staff work with families enrolled in any Head Start program to set family goals to determine what success looks like for their family. Case managers and home visitors help schedule well-child, and dental checks. Children who attend onsite classes all day receive three meals. Children who attend class half day receive two meals. Children get most of the nutrients they need each day while in class. Head Start provides transportation for most children. Head Start students cannot be on bus longer than an hour a day, so families may need to bring children to a designated pick-up location to reduce bus time. Currently, Head Start classrooms are 95% enrolled, and Early Head Start services are 87% enrolled. UCAN takes applications year-round and serves children with special needs and some families who are over income. Children do not need to be independently toileting (potty trained) to attend Head Start. Head Start and Preschool Promise cannot suspend or expel children from the programs.

The Early Head Start Program began in 2015. In Douglas County, there are four classrooms of eight students in Early Head Start through UCAN. Early Head Start students attend for six and a half hours per day, five days per week. Early Head Start provides services from pregnancy until the child is three-years-old. There are currently ten families enrolled in five home-based Early Head Start groups. Families and home visitors get together for playgroups and socialization for students and families two times per month. Families enrolled in Early Head Start receive home-visiting once a week.

Head Start is hiring. Teachers need an associate's degree or Early Childhood Education certificate with a plan to receive an associate's degree. The preference is for all teachers to have bachelor's degrees. Classroom assistants will be trained and they receive help to get their Early Childhood Education certificate. UCAN provides aid for bus drivers to get their CDL. UCAN prefers family service and home visitors to have associate's degrees.

WIC and Healthy Families are also provided through UCAN. Nurse Home Visiting is available at UCAN as well.

Douglas County Child Care Coalition Update

The Douglas County Child Care Coalition received grants to work in the community to provide technical assistance including Wonder School, a shared services program to provide billing, collections services, scheduling, payroll, and other assistance. The coalition tries to find ways to support providers in a day-to-day capacity. They have provided and continue to provide packages for providers including cleaning supplies, paper products, and care packages for providers (gift cards, and self-care items). There is a distribution event tonight. The goal is to increase child care slots across the county by assisting with hiring, retention, and education of providers.

Mel Johnson is creating a flyer detailing who the Douglas County Child Care Coalition is, their vision, and current and long-term community needs.

Hub and Partner Updates

Gillian – The South-Central Early Learning Hub is still waiting for their state contract from the Early Learning Division (ELD). The Preschool Promise request for application (RFA) is supposed to be out in November. Child Care Resource and Referral directors and Hub leaders are meeting with the ELD monthly. They had a shared meeting this month about multicultural services. This meeting highlighted that not all speakers of a language are the same, and may come from different countries, cultures, or backgrounds (Spain, Mexico, South America, etc.).

Judi Mahoney – Healthy Families – Christmas for Kids shopping took place yesterday and Healthy Families participated in the event.

Colleen May – Healthy Families – Healthy Families is currently accepting referrals. Referrals can be received through Community UPLIFT, the hospital, and other referral sources. Services are not income-based and are dependent upon family need, determined through a screening process. Families have to start services before the child is three-months-old.

Sandy Henry – Yimisa Preschool – The new Early Learning Tribal Hub just had its second meeting. Cow Creek is very blessed as some Tribes are having significant struggles including a lack of sufficient drinking water. The Tribal Hub is working on creating bylaws.

Yimisa is having a family engagement event tonight. The event will include dinner with preschool families. Some families are bringing extended members such as grandparents. Families who attend will receive goodie bags. Yimisa is full and has a waiting pool for their Preschool Promise seats. The program is still struggling to get transportation assistance for some families.

The Cow Creek education website (CowCreekEducation.com) has Senate Bill 13 - Tribal History - curriculum and Takelma (pronounced dayelma) language is included in the website. A new Takelma, Colors and Numbers, book has been published with Alison Oliver as the illustrator. Takelma words are recorded on the website so individuals can learn the language.

Lee Ann Grogan - Creating Community Resilience – Lee Ann is coordinating the community partner portion of the Family Wellness Wonderland that is taking place on December 11 and 12. The event will include vaccinations and the hope is to work towards normalizing them as part of wellness. A free ice rink will be onsite. Santa is expected to be at the event. There will either be a food truck to offer meals for free or food boxes for families to receive a week worth of food for a family of four. Head Start will have a booth. The event is free to everyone. Aviva Residents will be available for families to talk to during the event as well.

Judi recommended Red Cross Disaster Coordinator be invited to the event.

Lee Ann asked everyone to send suggestions to her about groups to be invited (lgrogan@roseburgphoenix.com).

Mel Johnson - Business Champions for Kids (Biz for Kids) – Biz for Kids is in the process of relaunching the program after it took a hiatus during COVID. The group is putting a timeline together to relaunch the program and will be working to reengage current businesses who were involved before COVID as well as expanding to new businesses to go through a pilot process. Eventually, Biz for Kids has a goal of being self-sustainable. Businesses would have a base fee to receive membership and would receive an employee survey, and other benefits with their membership.

Connie Rosas - Will be working to update the Resource Directory. Connie asked the group to review the directory and let her know what changes need to be made or what information should be added. Email Connie feedback at Connie.Rosas@douglasesd.k12.or.us. The Resource Directory can be viewed at: https://douglasesd.k12.or.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-Douglas-Co.-Resource-Directory_1.pdf

Mckenzy Gausnell – ADAPT - Darkness to light trainings are taking place. Next month Adapt will have the full roster of available trainings. There is a Saturday training, December 4th. To register go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/adapt-integrated-health-care-prevention-department-34757681483>

Madison Holmes - Family Relief Nursery – The Giving Never Melts event will include a fill the van toy drive for families. The Relief Nursery will be at Walmart in Cottage Grove this Friday holding the toy drive and they will be serving hot chocolate. Donations can include toys, clothes, toiletries, and other essential items. Another drive will be held at Ray's

in Drain on December 10 from noon to 6:00 pm. The North Douglas High School is doing a Christmas Food Drive for families and is making baskets for families who sign up. The North Douglas Middle School is providing food baskets for Thanksgiving, the deadline to sign up for Thanksgiving is this Friday.

Peggy Whalen - Family Relief Nursery - The Relief Nursery was not able to do much for families last year, so they are excited to have an event this year.

The Relief Nursery is excited that they are receiving American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to renovate the Drain site. They also received another grant to help with the renovation. The goal is to have renovations complete by September 2022 and start offering additional classes to families at that time. The Relief Nursery is getting ready for the holidays and supporting families through them.

Vanessa - Community UPLIFT – Community UPLIFT is a coordinated information and referral exchange platform serving expecting families, families with children zero to five years old, or up to the age of 21 with special needs. For a referral, you can text uplift1 for Douglas County, uplift2 for Klamath County, uplift3 for Lake County to 484848. You can also submit a referral through www.community-uplift.com, https://douglassesd.k12.or.us/community_uplift/, or you can contact Vanessa Pingleton at 541-530-1931 or Vanessa.pingleton@douglassesd.k12.or.us. Connie is getting ready to begin processing referrals on her own.

Susan – Take Root – Take Root is offering Ready for Kindergarten virtually for families across the region. They are participating in the Family Wellness Wonderland event. Take Root rescheduled Ready for Kindergarten from last week as no one attended.

Kat Cooper – Umpqua Health Alliance (UHA) – UHA is accepting CHIP applications. The Community Advisory Council (CAC) is open to new members right now. The CAC determines where community funds will be distributed. If you have questions about CHIP funding, reach out to Kat at kcooper@umpquahealth.com.

Future Topics

COVID-19 Updates with Dr. Dannenhoffer

Next Meeting Date

Next meeting January 27, 2022 from 10:00am – 12:00pm. (No December Meeting)