



# SOUTH-CENTRAL EARLY LEARNING HUB NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As we step into back-to-school mode, we're excited to bring back our monthly newsletters. This month, we're diving into what Hubs are, our service region, and programs we offer. Whether you're interested in Community UPLIFT referrals, eager to learn more about Preschool Promise, or simply looking to stay updated with the latest news from our Hub, we've got you covered!

Happy reading,

Gillian Wesenberg- Director of South-Central Early Learning Hub



SOUTH-CENTRAL  
EARLY LEARNING

HUB

DOUGLAS, KLAMATH & LAKE COUNTIES



## REGION WE SERVE

The South-Central Early Learning Hub has the pleasure of serving;

- Douglas County
- Klamath County
- Lake County
- The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- The Klamath Tribes

With 16 Early Learning Hubs across Oregon, The South-Central Early Learning Hub is one of the largest regions, covering approximately 19,409 square miles.

# WHAT IS AN EARLY LEARNING HUB?



Early Learning Hubs are conveners, conduits, and capacity builders.

**Convener:** Convene community partners, systems builders, and families in alignment with Raise Up Oregon.

**Conduit:** Secure and distribute information into the community in accordance with State, community, and governance council priorities, to expand and enhance services for families with young children.

**Capacity Builder:** With partners, build the capacity of a child-ready early learning and care system, that services all children under six and their families, primarily focusing on historically underserved and at-risk families.

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# EARLY LITERACY SUCCESS COMMUNITY GRANT

**2024-2027 Early Literacy Success Community Grants Request for Application (RFA) is now available until October 31st on [OregonBuys](#).**

On July 31, 2023, House Bill 3198 established early literacy as a top priority in Oregon. It identified four key targeted collective goals to be met by school districts, communities, Tribes and birth through 5 programs:

- Increase early literacy for children from birth to third grade.
- Reduce literacy academic disparities for student groups that have historically experienced academic disparities.
- Increase support to parents and guardians to enable them to be partners in the development of their children's literacy skills and knowledge.
- Increase access to early literacy learning through support that is research-aligned, culturally responsive, student-centered and family-centered.



# EARLY LITERACY SUCCESS COMMUNITY GRANT CONT.

On January 11, 2024, the Oregon Legislature's Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education recommended the release of the full budget limitation of \$10 million, targeting \$8 million to Communities and \$2 million to the nine federally recognized Tribes of Oregon. The Community Grants program is housed in ODE's Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (OEDI) and will focus on three specific community-based goals:

- Expand culturally and linguistically responsive early literacy programs for children in early elementary grades by:
  1. Encouraging family and caregiver engagement; and
  2. Providing research-aligned professional training and coaching for direct service staff in early literacy.
- Develop and implement programs that engage parents and children in early elementary grades in early literacy and that are available equitably and statewide.
- Provide high-dosage tutoring programs and training to tutors to qualify the tutors for instruction in a manner consistent with research-aligned literacy strategies.

For more information regarding this RFA, please contact Sarah Ortiz ([sarah.ortiz@ode.oregon.gov](mailto:sarah.ortiz@ode.oregon.gov)), ODE's Single Point of Contact. Additionally, to receive up-to-date information on this grant, please subscribe to [GovDelivery](#).

**Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to provide input this fall, focusing on children ages birth through five.**



# Community UPLiFT

## What is Community UPLiFT:

Connects expecting families and families with children birth to five, and up to the age of 21 with special needs, to resources in the community.

## How to make a referral to Community UPLiFT:

- Families can self-refer or be referred through community partners.
- Online at [community-uplift.com](http://community-uplift.com)
- Text the keyword "uplift1" for Douglas, "uplift2" for Klamath, and "uplift3" for Lake to 484848
- QR Code
- Fax initial referral form or brochure
- Mail initial referral form or brochure



# Preschool Promise

## About the Program:

Preschool Promise offers free, high-quality preschool to families living in Oregon who are at or below 200% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The South-Central Early Learning Hub qualifies children for Preschool Promise in Douglas, Klamath, and Lake Counties - with a few program exceptions.



## Preschool Promise

Oregon Department of  
Early Learning and Care



## Requirements:

- Family must reside in Oregon
- Family income must be at or below 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) - \*some exceptions may apply
- Children must be 3 or 4-years-old by Sept. 1 of the school year they are applying for

## For More Information:

- Visit [www.southcentralhubenrollment.com](http://www.southcentralhubenrollment.com)
- View site videos at [SCELH.com](http://SCELH.com)
- For questions or application assistance, contact the SCELH by phone at (541) 957-4809



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