

**South-Central Early Learning Hub  
Lake County Community Governance Council  
Minutes – January 25, 2022**

**Attendees:** Jack Thompson (s), Michael Carter (s), Gail Buermann (s), Vicky Taylor (s), Machel Ramirez, Gillian Wesenberg, Cynthia Hurkes, Athena Wikstrom, Danielle Walker, Charlene Shaw, Connie Rosas, Julie Hurley, Heidi Martinez, Bailey Guido, Tina Aguilar, Hannah Carlon, Wendy Brown, Vanessa Pingleton, Rejeen Cooper, Susan Warner, Colleen May

**Please note:** The Lake County Community Governance Council meeting was held virtually due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns and guidance on public meetings from the Governor.

**Review Agenda/Meeting Minutes - Approve minutes from October**

Jack Thompson made a motion to approve November 2021 minutes as submitted. Gail Buermann seconded the motion. No further discussion, motion carried.

**Presentation: Baily Guido: Early Learning Support Specialists: Conscious Discipline and general program updates.**

Bailey Guido shared information about the Hub’s Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program (KPI), advising that there are 3 seats available for Conscious Discipline training out of 100 that were purchased by KPI. Currently, 7% of participants in the Conscious Discipline training are Lake County educators, 25% are from Klamath County, and 68% of participants are located in Douglas County. If anyone would like to participate in the training, reach out to Bailey Guido for registration. KPI will be hosting another Early Learning Gathering on February 22 about Self-Regulation for All. Registration information for the Early Learning Gathering will be released on January 31.

Bailey also shared about Take Root Parenting Education. The Winter schedule was distributed via email. This term series and workshops include Parenting a Second Time Around (PASTA), Babies Don’t Come with Instructions, Teaching Your Child to Talk, Make Parenting a Pleasure, and Behavior Supports that Build Success for Children.

Take Root and KPI are looking for ideas to support parents in Lake County; Bailey requested that the group discuss potential ideas for classes that might benefit the community, for example, budgeting and navigating pre-teen years. Suggestions from the group included: ASL for families, big feelings and behaviors, Conscious Discipline for parents, and minimalizing biting.

**Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) Planning**

Cynthia Hurkes discussed the history of the Hub’s Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) regional investment funds. Investment funds must meet the goals of Raise Up Oregon (RUO) and align with the priority populations of the Early Learning Hub. Cynthia also shared that these are one-time funds that must be expended by June 2022, ideally have an evaluation component, and cannot fund processes that are already in place. The KPI workplan with regional investment fund strategies is due to the state, in alignment with the ELH workplan, in March.

The Regional Governance Council (RGC) determined funds should be expended regionally as opposed to county-by-county. Cynthia requested feedback on whether an ad hoc regional group or three county-level ad hoc groups should be formed to determine the plan for funding. Michel and Jack shared they

believe the group should meet as a region so that each county can hear what the other is planning; those who participate in the regional group can share back with the county-level groups.

### **EI/ECSE Update**

Jack Thompson advised that the EI/ECSE County Plan will be submitted in March/April. Mike Benson was not able to attend today's meeting as he is training a new Speech-Language Pathologist.

### **School District Update**

**Lake County ESD** – Jack shared that his replacement for July 1 has been selected. The new Superintendent for Lake County ESD will be Lisa Drewery from California.

Schools in Adel and Plush are doing well. COVID has not yet hit these communities. Children at the schools are excited to be naming five new horses from the wild horse camp.

**Lakeview School District #7** – Michael Carter shared the School District will be going to the county commissioners for approval to hire a contractor for the renovation of their new child care building. The School District is recruiting teachers.

Susan Warner shared teachers at the elementary school are working on an intensive phonics project and have been practicing together to ensure they are teaching phonics with consistency.

### **Early Learning Program Updates**

**Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR)** – Heather Freiling shared the CCRR is hiring for two new positions, a Klamath Community College (KCC) / Umpqua Community College (UCC) Navigator, and a Recruitment Specialist. The KCC/UCC Navigator will provide information on scholarships and other funding opportunities for schooling to individuals interested in becoming a child care provider; these opportunities are available to individuals in Lake County. There will be an in-person/hybrid child care provider appreciation conference at KCC with trainings and materials for providers on April 2. CCRR was able to reach and provide technical assistance regarding the Child Care Stabilization Grant to 97% of child care providers across the region.

**Healthy Families** – Vicky Taylor provided feedback from families that they are utilizing and enjoying the 0-3 kits that were distributed through the KPI and the Hub.

**South-Central Early Learning Hub** – Gillian shared that the Oregon Early Learning Division Hub Manager, Denise Swanson, has accepted a position as Deputy Director for Health and Human Services in Clackamas County and will be leaving the Early Learning Division (ELD). The Hub has been working with both Denise and Dylan of the ELD to create measurable outcomes for the Hub Strategic Plan and Workplan due to the ELD in March.

Gillian also shared that the transition from the ELD to the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) will likely be changed from January 2023 to June 2023 in order to align with fiscal years.

### **Health District Report**

**Lake District Wellness** – Heidi Martinez advised Lake District Wellness is serving 296 clients within Lake County, but are still very low on staff and hiring for many positions; not all positions require licensing or a degree. Lake District Wellness is getting a new Clinical Supervisor which will allow Heidi to focus on

staff recruitment once the new supervisor is in place. The Lake Community Governance Council previously reviewed wrap-around care approvals, but in order to meet required community representation, wrap-around care work will be shifted to a High-Risk Youth meeting. If anyone is interested in attending this meeting, contact Heidi. Heidi expressed appreciation for the efforts from this group for their work on wrap-around care.

### **Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) Updates**

**ODHS** – Wendy Brown shared that ODHS in Klamath Falls will be moving into their new building in April. She will share address information once the move is completed.

### **Other Updates**

Danielle Walker shared that the South-Central Early Learning Hub is updating the Klamath/Lake Resource Directory. Bailey Guido sent out the Resource Directory Listing Form to the Lake Community Governance Council. If anyone needs to make a change to their listing or be added to the Resource Directory, please complete the form and return before February 28, 2022. Please share the Resource Directory Listing Form widely; the goal is to create the most useful directory possible for the community.

**Next Meeting:** February 22, 2022 at 1:00 pm