

South-Central Early Learning Hub
Lake County Community Governance Council
Minutes - May 25, 2021

Attendees: Jack Thompson (s), Vicky Taylor (s), Amy Hutchinson (s), Michael Benson (v), Charlene Shaw, Hannah Brollier, Heather Freiling, Machel Ramirez, Michael Carter (s), Tina Aguilar, Wendy Brown, Gail Buermann (s), Gillian Wesenberg, Vanessa Pingleton, Cynthia Hurkes, Athena Wikstrom, Ceresse Harris, Danielle Walker

Review Agenda/Meeting Minutes- Approve minutes from March 16, 2021 meeting

Michael Carter made a motion to approve the April minutes as submitted. Gail Buermann seconded the motion; all members were in favor.

South-Central Early Learning Hub – Gillian Wesenberg shared that the South-Central Early Learning Hub is still waiting on the legislative session to close in order to provide additional information.

Athena Wikstrom advised that the Lakeshore Kits for infants/toddlers are almost completed and are getting ready to ship. The group advised the number of kits each program was interested in receiving:

- North Lake Library – 6
- Healthy Families – 15
- Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) – 5
- Michael Carter – 47 or (50-70)
- Lakeview Head Start – Athena will reach out to Reejen Cooper

Danielle Walker shared that the South-Central Early Learning Hub has upcoming Parent Focus Groups in English and Spanish for families with children 0-6. The Hub will use parent feedback to inform partners in our work, inform our upcoming plans, and help in the formation our Parent Advisory Council.

Focus Groups will be taking place virtually June 2 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am (Spanish) and June 3rd from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (two sessions, one in English and one in Spanish). We have a target of 16 participants per group, with one participant per household. Individuals participating in the sessions will receive a \$50 check as a thank you for their time and feedback. The English session on June 3rd is full, but we are hoping to open an additional focus group in English. For more information contact Athena Wikstrom at (541) 957-4807 or Athena.Wikstrom@douglasesd.k12.or.us.

Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) - Cynthia Hurkes provided an overview of KPI and advised that KPI is receiving summer funding to be expended between July 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021. KPI will be presenting a proposal to the Regional Governance Council (RGC) on June 2, and wanted to do a temperature check with each of the Hub's advisory committees to see what is important for their communities. The group discussed the proposed possibilities and made suggestions, including:

- Ready! for Kindergarten
- Conscious Discipline
- Mini Grants (\$7,000 - \$10,000)
- Abriendo Puertas / Opening Doors

- Parent Trainings about being a supportive school parent
- Parent listening sessions

Community UPLiFT – Vanessa Pingleton shared about the Trauma Informed Training series for first responders with Dr. Amy Stoeber. Trainings are being offered in partnership with Community UPLiFT, Adapt, Health Families, Take Root, Lake District Hospital, and others. Attendees can attend one or all five sessions of the series.

Vanessa presented an annual review to The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF), who were excited by the work of Community UPLiFT and the upcoming additions to the database. Database updates include:

- Allowing partners who submit referrals to see where their referrals are in the Community UPLiFT process.
- Allow partners organizations to run reports in the Community UPLiFT database.
- Allow CCOs to add Family Case Plans, with a family’s permission, in order for programs to communicate between each other and work together for benefit the family.

Once the database updates are finished, Vanessa will request time in the Lake County agenda to show the group the modifications.

EI/ECSE - Mike Benson advised that the required EI/ECSE County Plans are due to Douglas ESD on June 1, 2021. All documents were emailed to the council prior to today’s meeting.

- A new reporting area in the plan requests identification on how referrals are gained from the Tribal community and people of color. There is no specific policy due to the small size of the non-white community in Lake County, but EI/ECSE receives referrals through typical referral sources. Two to three referrals are received from the Hispanic community each year.
- Calendar dates are renewed every year. EI/ECSE receives a three-week break each year and is typically taken at the end of June / beginning of July.
- The CAPTA agreement with ODHS was reviewed, and minor revisions were completed. This agreement is for child abuse prevention and mandatory EI/ECSE screenings for children taken into care.
- Procedures for ODHS referrals were updated to reflect changes. ODHS now sends referrals via email.
- If families are interested in child care options, community partners are contacted to get information. Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) staff is updating potential resources for families to connect with when looking for child care.
- Data from the 2020-2021 school year was used by the state in requesting improvement plans for Lake County EI/ECSE. Mike advised that data is challenging when working with a small case load. Data from one child can mean meeting or not meeting state metrics.
- EI/ECSE also reviewed service plans for children on IFSPs. EI children were below state targets last year but are now seen once per week. EI is now meeting the state target at 100%.

Lake County School District #7 - Michael Carter advised that Hillary Hessman was selected as the new High School Principal. Schools will begin updates to some facilities such as new paint and play structures.

Lake County ESD - Jack Thompson advised that both Adel and Plush were approved and able to take students on extended, over-night field trips that the children enjoyed. The state funding projection looks

good and Jack is hoping that school districts will get additional funding to maintain current service levels.

North Lake School District - Gail Buermann advised that all children are still on site and participating in in-person learning. The last day of school is June 10. The summer school program has 39 students enrolled with children ranging from Pre-k through grade 8. They were hoping to have 20 registered, and are pleased to have more. The majority of participants (14) are in pre-k and kindergarten.

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) - Charlene Shaw advised that, according to Find Child Care Oregon, the only available child care providers listed in Lake County include Lakeview Head Start, Lil Ones, an in-home provider in Christmas Valley. If there are additional providers that you are aware of, please let Charlene know. Michael Carter advised that he is also looking into offering infant/toddler care.

Heather Freilinger advised that the CCRR just completed the Spring Fling Conference. Heidi McGowan was the keynote speaker presenting on Dare to Lead. CCRR will continue to offer webinars over the summer and will continue to reach out to Lake County.

Lake County Library - Amy Hutchinson advised that they are rolling into a more normal Summer Reading Program this year that begins the week of June 23. There are fun activities planned for this program. Amy will try to send flyers for the program home through the schools, and will email flyers to the group once they are ready next week. Library rules for masks have changed to match the new state issued guidelines.

Lake District Hospital - Tina Aguilar was filling in for Heidi Martinez, and advised that their office has been very busy. There have been a few client deaths. Wrap-around services are starting to fill up.

There will be one wrap-around to present to the group after the close of the Lake County Governance Council meeting.

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) -- Wendy Brown advised that the new system for ONE application is starting to run smoother. ODHS offices will slowly start to see clients face-to-face soon.

Gillian Wesenberg is still meeting with Maurita Johnson and Desta Walsh, ODHS District Managers for the region, and are continuing to work together on Raise Up Oregon.

Additional Updates

If partners would like time to present to the Lake County Community Governance Council, please reach out to Vicky Taylor and she will add you to the upcoming agenda.

Next Meeting: June 22, 2021 at 1:00 pm