South-Central Oregon Early Learning Hub

Lake County Community Governance Council

Minutes January 26, 2021

Welcome/Introductions

Jack Thompson (s), Colleen May, Amy Hutchinson (s), Athena Wikstrom, Charlene Shaw, Cynthia Hurkes, Francie Winters, Gillian Wesenberg, Heidi Martinez, Heather Freilinger, Julie Hurley, Machel Ramirez, Michael Benson (v), Michele Totten, Susan Warner, Breann Vandenberg, Vanessa Pingleton, Danielle Walker, Rejeen Cooper (v), Jake Greer (v), Judy Clarke, Arvinder Singh (v), Michael Carter

Review Agenda/Meeting Minutes- Approve minutes from December 15, 2020 meeting

Heidi Martinez would like Lake County members to stay after this meeting to address one wrap-around referral.

Members who have not received email notices for the Lake County Governance Council and would like to be added to the mailing list:

Michele Totten: michele.totten@dhsoha.state.or.us

Heather Freilinger: heather.freilinger@douglasesd.k12.or.us

Charlene Shaw: charlene.shaw@douglasesd.k12.or.us

Members reviewed the December minutes. Amy Hutchison requested that attendee list on the minutes include: (s) for steering committee and (v) for voting member so that it would be easier to determine if there was a quorum at the meeting.

Amy made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Reejeen Cooper seconded the motion, all members were in favor.

Kindergarten Partnership and Innovation (KPI) - Cynthia Hurkes advised that there have been over 750 Teach My Kits distributed to partners in Douglas County, around 600 in Klamath County, and over 150 in Lake County. Vicky advised she has distributed 10 kits, and families are very appreciative and say that the materials are great.

KPI is planning a virtual early learning gathering on February 25 from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Early educators will discuss social-emotional learning based on family engagement and kindergarten guidelines. Incentives will be provided to attendees.

The first of three regional Dare to Lead trainings facilitated by Heidi McGowan was held last week and was well attended.

South-Central Early Learning Hub - Gillian Wesenberg provided a state update.

A progress report on Raise Up Oregon was generated by the Early Learning Division (ELD) and can be found on their website.

- Raise Up Oregon: https://oregonearlylearning.com/raise-up-oregon
- Raise Up Oregon Progress Report: https://oregonearlylearning.com/form_sets/raise-up-oregon-progress-report-2019-2020-highlights/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Every six years, Early Learning Hubs are required to submit a request for application (RFA). Requirements for the RFA process will be received in February. The Early Learning Hub (ELH) will be asking Professional Advisory Committees (PAC) and Governance Councils for input and feedback during the process.

The legislature is currently in session. During this session, legislators are discussing early care and education expansion in programs including Healthy Families, Oregon Pre-K, Preschool Promise, Early Head Start, Head Start, and other programs. The legislature would like to hear about the Preschool Promise collaboration that is happening between the Early Learning Hubs, Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR), Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE), Preschool Promise, and K-12 so that we can ensure children can receive the support they need to be successful in kindergarten.

Community UPLiFT – Vanessa Pingleton reported that as of December 31, 2020, Community UPLiFT has received 625 regional referrals.

Last week, Dr. Amy Stoeber, a psychologist, trainer and consultant (trainer for parents and professionals as well as keynote speaking), gave a presentation on ACES 201. Community UPLiFT is looking forward to partnering with additional agencies to have mini trainings with Dr. Amy and focus on mental health. These trainings will be specific to medical and educational providers.

Community UPLiFT is looking to expand their data portal to include Family Care Plans. With a family's permission, all agencies working with a family would be able to view this plan and add information to it. The addition of these care plans expands on the closed-loop system by providing agencies the ability to work together to communicate and online to meet the needs of children and families who have been referred through Community UPLiFT.

Online referrals for Community UPLiFT can be completed at http://www.community-uplift.com/

Care Connections and Education – Heather Freilinger shared that Care Connections and Education, our regional Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR), will now be housed at Douglas ESD. Postcards with updated CCRR contact information will be going out to regional partners.

Care Connections and Education have hired employees to support Preschool Promise and child care providers in Klamath and Lake Counties. CCRR offers technical assistance, professional development, and other opportunities for providers across the region.

Take Root Parenting Connection – Julie Hurley advised that Take Root has been holding all classes virtually through Facebook Live or Zoom. There are currently four series and six workshops. A list of their parenting opportunities can be found here: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/cuZablV/Winter2021.

Department of Human Services (DHS) will be making parenting education a requirement for parents in their JOBS program. This will provide funding to help educate parents of children 0-18 years old rather than only to parents of children 0-8 years old.

Take Root is piloting a new website called Mighty Networks, a platform where they can host workshops, series, and provide parenting information in one location.

EI/ECSE Report – Mike Benson reported that EI/ECSE was not providing in-person home visiting and direct services to children due to COVID-19 mandates, but has been able to resume these services. Three new referrals have been received over the past week.

There are eight children in the EI/ECSE program; two in North Lake and six in Lakeview. Only three of the eight children will be transitioning into kindergarten this year, and staff is planning the students' transition process.

Lake County ESD - Jack Thompson advised that there was staff quarantined due to COVID-19 but are back to work. Lake County Health Department has started vaccinations for phase 1-A and 1-B, and education staff are also being vaccinated.

New buildings in North Lake are beginning construction. The gym is complete but still unavailable due to curing floors.

Adelle and Plush Schools are still doing in-person learning and have had no COVID-19 diagnoses.

Lakeview School District - Michael Carter advised that the Teach My Kit distribution has received coverage in the newspaper and that the kits are appreciated by families.

Michael will address the City Council to request their approval to purchase a property that will house a district child care facility. He also met with Klamath Community College (KCC) to discuss bringing Early Care and Education (ECE) programs/classes to Lake County.

Head Start - Rejeen Cooper advised that Head Start decided to increase class times to six hours per day. There were a few COVID cases in December but attendance has not been affected. Recruitment for enrolling students into the Head Start program will begin in March.

Lake County Library - Amy Hutchinson advised that partners hosted a virtual baby shower but the number of attendees was small. If anyone knows families with babies less than a year or expectant parents, please connect them with Amy Hutchinson. Families can watch the baby shower virtually then pick up goody bags from the Lake County Library.

Lake Health District - Arvinder Singh reported that Lake Health District will be offering the Summer Lunch Program in 2021 unless there are COVID-19 restrictions.

Francie Winters, with Lake Health District, requested any organizational changes be sent to Amy so that the Outback Strong Resource Guide stays current.

Peer Leader trainings are taking place across Lake County. One training opportunity includes Reducing the Stigma Around Opioid Use.

Lake County Public Health – Judy Clarke reported that there are not enough COVID-19 vaccines to distribute to the entire Lake County population. Lake County Public Health should receive a shipment of the vaccine this week for Phase 1-A and Phase 1-B. People who are eligible for vaccinations can contact Public Health for scheduling. They will start actively calling preschools and early care providers once doses are received.

Lake District Wellness - Heidi Martinez advised that their program is receiving a lot of self-referrals. Many employment opportunities are available at Lake District Wellness. If you know of any qualified individuals, please have them check job listings on the Lake District Wellness website.

Lake County Community Corrections - Jake Greer advised that Lake County Corrections is fully staffed and are working in schools. There was an initial increase in juvenile issues last spring when COVID-19 hit, but they have not seen a large increase since then. Lake County Community Corrections received a grant to purchase materials for a sports program with their Youth Investment Coordinator in charge.

Department of Human Services (DHS) - Michele Totten advised that DHS upgraded their computer system in November and staff is currently learning the system. When COVID assistance programs for housing and SNAP benefits are lifted, there will likely be an increase in homelessness and food insecurity.

Additions-Update

Michael Carter – Mind Matters

No-Cost "Mind Matters Minutes" Builds Resilience in Youth

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 23 at 1 pm.