

**South-Central Early Learning Hub  
Lake County Community Governance Council  
Minutes – March 15, 2022**

**Attendees:** Jack Thompson (s), Michael Carter (s), Amy Hutchinson (s), Michael Benson (v), Machel Ramirez, Gillian Wesenberg, Cynthia Hurkes, Athena Wikstrom, Danielle Walker, Charlene Shaw, Connie Rosas, Bailey Guido, Wendy Brown, Vanessa Pingleton, Susan Warner, Colleen May, Linda Watson, Heidi McGowan

**Please note:** The Lake County Community Governance Council meeting was held virtually due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) concerns.

**Review Agenda/Meeting Minutes**

Jack Thompson made a motion to approve February 2022 minutes as submitted. Michael Benson seconded the motion. No further discussion, motion carried.

**Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) Activities Discussion**

Heidi McGowan provided facilitation for the discussion around identifying KPI Investment Fund priorities. Cynthia reviewed a one-page document with the group that outlines KPI requirements, priority populations, Raise Up Oregon Objective 7.2, and possible activities that could be supported by KPI. The group discussed:

1. Identify 2 to 4 activities that participants think would be impactful in the county
2. Identify the priority population giving thought to the Hub's equity lens
3. Is the activity measurable?

There was energy surrounding Kindercamps throughout the discussion. Kindercamps are 1-15 days where kindergarteners go into a school to learn routines and acclimate to the building before starting the school year. Kindercamps potentially help in the earlier identification of students who might need intervention services. Group members shared that Community Cafes, parent learning opportunities, or Conscious Discipline could be incorporated into Kindercamps as an enhancement. The group also discussed:

- What are the measurable outcomes for Kindercamps, and what are the priority populations?
  - Geographic Isolation
  - English language-learners (especially Lakeview)
- Is the activity measurable? What would your measurement be?
  - Pre and post survey for parents
  - Survey kindergarten teachers after the first month of school
  - Kindergarten assessment - students who attended Kindercamp vs. those who did not attend

Cynthia advised that a mandatory requirement for anyone receiving KPI funds is to utilize PSU surveys. The objective selected by the Regional Governance Council (RGC) does not focus on kindergarten readiness. Kindercamps cannot be entirely funded by KPI, but funding could be used for an enhancement to the program. A piece of the Kindercamp needs to focus on strategies surrounding social-emotional health.

Lake Community Governance Council would like to see Kindercamps brought forward to the RGC as an option for the KPI Investment Funds in Lake County. Currently, Lakeview, Paisley and North Lake offer Kindercamps for students.

### **South-Central Early Learning Hub Update**

The South-Central Early Learning Hub is still waiting on updates from the Early Learning Division (ELD) about Preschool Promise Request for Applications (RFAs). The ELD shared that RFAs will be released in the spring, but no specific date has been given.

### **EI/ECSE Update**

There are currently 17 children in Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE). Three additional students are being evaluated to see if EI/ECSE services are needed. These three students will likely qualify for EI/ECSE. Case numbers are starting to return to pre-covid levels. Mike Benson still has an intern who is working to become certified as a Speech Therapist. Kindergarten transitions will be happening soon. Six children will be transitioning into kindergarten in Lakeview, and two students will be transitioning into kindergarten in North Lake.

### **School District Updates**

**Lake County ESD** – Lane Stratton has been hired as the new Superintendent of the Lake County ESD.

**Lakeview School District #7** – Michael Carter shared that the school district is still working on their new child care facility. There was a substantial water issue with the building purchased from the county, so they are looking at potentially building a new facility. The hope is to partner with community organizations but the school district has run into barriers in the partnering process.

### **Early Learning Program Updates**

**Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR)** – CCRR hired two new staff members. With this additional staffing, CCRR will have the ability to provide more support in Lake County. The Spring Fling provider appreciation conference on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Registration will be coming out soon and open to early learning professionals in Douglas, Klamath, and Lake Counties.

### **Health District Report**

**Lake District Hospital** – Amy updated the group with information about the Dental Health Initiative. A potential order includes: tooth brush, tooth paste, and floss with a plastic pouch. Lake County Community Governance Council members discussed two-minute timers, but didn't feel this was a necessity. Michael Carter shared that the Lakeview School District would be willing to aid with putting the kits together. Distribution for the kits will be late in the school year or over the summer.

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

April is child abuse prevention month. There will be a child abuse prevention event in Klamath Falls on April 6th at 4pm. If anyone is interested in having a pin-wheel for a prevention garden, contact Wendy at: [Wendy.L.Brown@dhs.oregon.gov](mailto:Wendy.L.Brown@dhs.oregon.gov).

### **Other:**

Amy Hutchinson's new email address: [ahutchinson@lakehealthdistrict.org](mailto:ahutchinson@lakehealthdistrict.org)

**Adjournment:** Jack Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Amy and Michael seconded the motion with no further discussion.

**Next Meeting:** April 26, 2022 at 1:00 pm