

# SOUTH-CENTRAL EARLY LEARNING HUB

# NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As the 2025–2026 school year begins, we are reminded of the excitement, curiosity, and limitless potential that comes with a fresh start. In early childhood education, these first days and weeks are especially important setting the tone for a year of learning, growth, and connection. Across our region, dedicated educators, caregivers, and community partners are working together to create warm, engaging environments where every child feels safe, supported, and ready to explore. Whether it's a preschooler's first day away from home or the next step in a child's learning journey, our shared commitment to high-quality early education ensures that each young learner has the foundation they need to thrive. Here's to a year filled with curiosity, creativity, and the joy of discovery.

Happy reading,  
Gillian Wesenberg- Director of South-Central Early Learning Hub



SOUTH-CENTRAL  
EARLY LEARNING

HUB

DOUGLAS, KLAMATH & LAKE COUNTIES

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## WELCOME BACK

As we begin the new school year, we want to thank you for the incredible work you do to inspire, nurture, and guide our youngest learners. Your dedication sets the foundation for a lifetime of curiosity and success, and we're excited to see the joy, growth, and discovery that this new year will bring. Here's to a wonderful year ahead!



# Building Bright Futures: Inside the South-Central Early Learning Hub

## Building a Strong Start for Every Child in Our Region

The South-Central Early Learning Hub is dedicated to ensuring that every child in Douglas, Klamath, and Lake Counties enters kindergarten with the skills, confidence, and support needed for lifelong success. Through partnerships with schools, early learning programs, health providers, and community organizations, including the Klamath Tribes and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, we work to align resources and strategies that create equitable opportunities for young learners, especially those farthest from opportunity.



## Expanding Access to Quality Early Learning

Across our three-county region, we coordinate enrollment for programs like Preschool Promise, which offers free, high-quality preschool to children ages 3–4. This ensures that families have streamlined access to early education that aligns with kindergarten schedules and prioritizes readiness in literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional development. We are also investing in early literacy initiatives, such as Little Free Libraries, that provide culturally diverse and multilingual books to families, making it easier for children to develop a love of reading at an early age.

## Supporting Families and Educators

Strong early childhood education relies on strong families and educators. Through initiatives like Community UPLIFT and Family Governance Advisory Committees, we elevate family voice, connect households with local resources, and promote inclusive decision-making. We also provide professional development for early educators, offering workshops, certifications, and peer learning opportunities to strengthen teaching practices and classroom environments.

## Our Commitment

By focusing on the earliest years, we are building the foundation for stronger schools, healthier families, and thriving communities. Every investment we make in early childhood education is an investment in the future of Douglas, Klamath, and Lake Counties

# Apply for Preschool Promise Today!

Enrollment for the 2025–2026 school year is now open in Douglas, Klamath, and Lake counties!



## Preschool Promise

Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care

## About the Program:

The South-Central Early Learning Hub accepts applications for Preschool Promise year-round. Eligible students must turn 3 or 4 by September 1st of the school year the applicant is applying for, are residents of Oregon, and have a family income of up to 200% of Federal Poverty Level. We encourage families who think they might be over income to apply. Preschool Promise is accepting applications for the 25–26 school year now.



## 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 the applicant is applying for

## For More Information:

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



## Community UPLiFT is taking referrals!

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

### Community UPLiFT has a new text number!

Text the keyword “uplift1” for Douglas, “uplift2” for Klamath, and “uplift3” for Lake to **(541) 351-3100** to receive a link to the referral form!

### Other ways 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)
- QR Code
- Fax initial referral form or brochure
- Mail initial referral form or brochure



## Professional Development - Strengthening Skills, Strengthening Communities:

In July, our Douglas County Family Resource Specialist proudly completed Community Health Worker (CHW) training through the Oregon Community Health Workers Association (ORCHWA). With this achievement, all of our Family Resource Specialists are now certified CHWs, strengthening our ability to connect families with vital resources, provide culturally responsive support, and promote overall community well-being.

In August, our four CHWs attended ORCHWA's 12th Annual Community Health Worker Conference, an inspiring event that brings together CHWs, supervisors, health systems, community-based organizations, traditional health workers, and allies

from across Oregon. The conference offered a rich opportunity to discuss current issues impacting the CHW workforce, engage in continued learning, and celebrate the vital role CHWs play in public health, healthcare systems, and the broader community. Attendees participated in panels and workshops over the 2-day event, earning continuing education units (CEUs) and bringing back valuable insights to share with our team and partners. This investment in ongoing professional development reflects the South-Central Early Learning Hub's strong commitment to fostering the growth of our staff, ensuring they have the tools and knowledge to better serve families. By supporting opportunities like this, we strengthen the skills of our workforce and, in turn, enhance the health, resilience, and success of the communities we serve.



# Community Events



**Blessing Bags  
Clothing Giveaway**



**Meyer Activity Center  
990 W. Stanton Ave Roseburg**

**September 12th & 13th**  
Fri 12-4pm \* Sat 9- **While supplies last!**

**Everything is free! We'll have clothes ;adult - babies, formula, baby equipment, diapers, maternity clothes, blankets & more!!**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BAGS** 



**Blessing Bags  
Clothing Giveaway**

**Meyer Activity Center  
990 W. Stanton Ave**



**October 10th & 11th**  
Fri 12-4 pm Sat 9- **While supplies last!**

*Clothes for adults- babies, Halloween costumes for kids, toys, baby equipment, coats, shoes & more!*

**BRING YOUR OWN BAGS** 



**Thrive Umpqua**

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**  
**DOWNTOWN ROSEBURG 6PM**

**THE LONGEST TABLE**

[\*\*Register Here!\*\*](#)



**YOUR VOICE MATTERS**

Let's work together to help children in our community thrive.

Would you like an opportunity to offer input to Take Root about it's services?

Lake County Take Root Parenting Connection offers workshops, series and family activities.

Share your thoughts and ideas for what parents and children really need.

November 28 at The Center  
11 N G ST Lakeview, OR

5:30- 6:00 pm a catered dinner will be provided at no cost to families.

6:00-7:30 pm childcare will be provided and parent Input will begin

**\$50 gift card incentive for attending to each parent**

**Register here**  
[tinyurl.com/ParentVoiceMatters](https://tinyurl.com/ParentVoiceMatters)





# Take Root

PARENTING SUPPORT FOR DOUGLAS,  
KLAMATH & LAKE COUNTIES

# Conscious Discipline

**8 Week Virtual Series**

Tuesdays-September 9th-October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

5:30 pm-7:00pm via zoom

<https://tinyurl.com/yx3ha5xy>



Register Here

**Conscious discipline is an evidence-based approach that teaches adult's the skills to help themselves and their child to have a better way to manage misbehavior and upset. This series will give you tools and strategies to use right away. The course will be interactive and engaging with rich conversation and connections from like experiences familiar to all families.**

For questions call: Laura Barajas

541-670-6123

lbarajas@desd.k12.or.us

This will be presented in English

For the deets:

Sarah @ 541-817-3119 call or text  
sarah.wheelock@douglasesd.k12.or.us



Thursday, Sept 11<sup>th</sup>  
5-7 pm at... TBD Sutherlin

# PICKLING PARTY!

Let's make some PICKLES together

...all veggies can be a pickle if they really want to.

Get ready for some

**Fabulous Fridge Ferment Fun!**

**Take what you Make! All supplies will be supplied to you.**



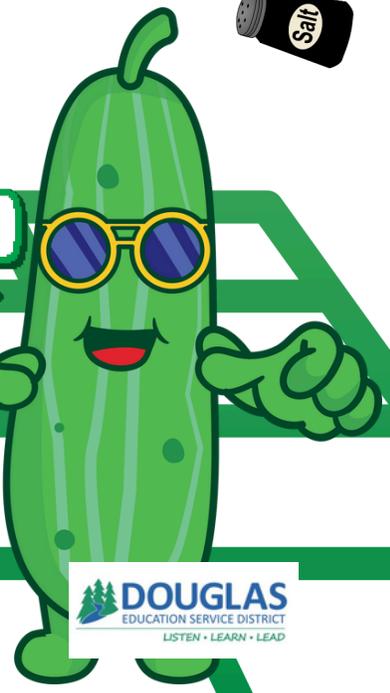
Register Here:



<https://tinyurl.com/ye6m5nwc>



I'm kind of a big dill...



## We Want to Hear From You!

Your voice matters to us. The South-Central Early Learning Hub is committed to sharing information that is useful, relevant, and engaging for our community. If you have feedback about our newsletter, ideas for future topics, or stories you'd like to see featured, we'd love to hear from you! Please email your suggestions to [cscheer@desd.k12.or.us](mailto:cscheer@desd.k12.or.us) and help us make this newsletter an even better resource for families, educators, and community partners.



To subscribe to our newsletter,  
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