



SOELS Executive Council – September 20, 2016
SOESD, 101 North Grape Street, Medford
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Call to Order	Kelly Soter, Chair
Welcome and Greetings	Kelly Soter, Chair
Approval of Minutes from June 21, 2016 Meeting	Kelly Soter, Chair
Additions or changes to the Agenda	Kelly Soter, Chair
Director's Report	René Brandon
Member updates: share activities of interest to Hub	All
Budget Report	Susan Fischer, Treasurer
Chair and Secretary terms to end in December	Kelly Soter, Chair
Next Meeting	October 18, 2016 AllCare 740 SE 7 th Street Grants Pass 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Adjournment	

Executive Council Meeting Attendance September 20, 2016

Mary Wolf

Martha Ibarra

ON THE PHONE: Susan Fischer; Karla McCafferty

Amy Buehler

Michelle Gallas

TJ Jessup

Jennifer Johnstun

Eileen Micke-Johnson

Nancy Nordyke

Lisa O'Conner

Kelly Soter

Rita Sullivan

Pam Thompson-Arbogast

Jennifer Ware

Rene' Brandon

Teresa Slater

Directors report:

First two days spent in participating in a collaborative meeting of Hubs in The Dalles. This was helpful and she learned a lot that put the work in context. Other Hubs have also struggled. She heard a message that you have to be flexible. Some other hubs have started a model for stability. Rene will bring forward the best ideas at a future meeting.

Rene has been having individual meetings with members of the executive council. These have been really informative and helpful. There are some themes.

1. Clear and concise materials are needed
2. Council members want enough information to clarify, but not too much
3. Show documents that demonstrate tangible progress over time

For future meetings, hopefully that is what you can expect from us. Also heard from several that not everyone has the same educational background and work experience, but we don't. We have unfamiliar acronyms and there isn't a shared understanding of some of them. However, participation in this council is a great opportunity to speak more clearly and she will help hold us accountable to that.

Interviewing: Has been a focus over the first few weeks. They have started to interview for the administrative assistant. They haven't found anyone with the right skill set. They are also interviewing soon for the other new positions (family resource facilitator?) and _____. Currently, the staffing is just Teresa and Rene, so they are working with very limited resources. Hopeful interviews will go well.

Highlights of the actual programs our Hub is supporting.

Preschool Promise: (I am not going to restate the information from the slides) All of the sites opened their doors on the 12th.

Commentary from Michelle, Imagine That: They are at Jerome Prairie, which is at an elementary school that had been boarded up for about 5 year. The school closed due to numbers. When they entered the classroom, little did they know that they had been using as a warehouse site-all the rooms were full of overflow from many sites. Also broken windows, damage and glass. They went in and room by room started to go into the site. Quite a bit of money went towards a fence for safety and protection. The school looks great is and now open.

Southern Oregon Head Start: This went in at Lorna Byrne. (I missed the details of this program-are there two sites?)

Child Care Resource Network: Can you fill in the details here? This was a bit confusing for me...(is this a new house or was the house purchased for the program?)

Kid Time: Had some full construction similar to that at Imagine That. The environment is really soft, they have named the rooms in a very welcoming way. All of the classrooms are full. This houses 34 kids.

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Families are thankful, quote, "We are so happy that our child got accepted to Preschool Promise! We feel like our child just got into Harvard"

People are really responding to this opportunity, a very powerful project. Wait lists are individual by program. We are working together to keep the enrollments full. There are a couple of places available in Grants Pass

KPI Expansion: Had a busy summer. She meets with EP school dist, there are two schools that they work with. These are already within KPI funding. A goal was to see the whole continuum start to happen. Giving services to the young children but also need workforce to meet these needs. How can they do a child development curriculum certificate program there? Fortunate to be able to utilize Eileen and dispel the barriers. At the start of school, the have kids in the CDA program, will be able to graduate with their certificate. Funded EP staff to build the curriculum.

Have also been able to work with the Family Connection to support and work towards the continuation of the Parenting Track. KPI would like to keep the momentum going. (I missed the details of the actual program)

A collaboration between RCC and CCRN? To form a cohort that is going through thecurriculum to English Speakers. The classes will start next week. They anticipate 25 in Jackson and 25 in Josephine.

Kudos to Teresa for all of this work, keeping it on track through a period of transition.

Last, look at the SOELS operating budget, not just operating within the funding silos, but taking advantage of how to braid and leverage funding opportunities.

Annual Work Plan: Informed by Sue Parrish that this needs to be done by the end of the year. Will be reaching out to different stakeholders about different approaches to the work. We are all invited to participate as we can at the level that we can.

The indicator groups- some are meeting regularly and some are hit and miss. What is the progress to date, what are the barriers to date? What could we do to make that progress a little easier.

Executive Committee: Met recently. Identified that the by-laws need to be revisited. This is two years old and we need to make sure that these support the work as it needs to be done. The executive committee are willing to make a "first running jump" at that.

Rene asks the Executive Committee meeting to be a good sounding board and place for information to help prepare for meaningful Exe council meetings.

Committed to site visits for grand awardees. Attention to sustainability and enduring results.

Early Learning Division: An appreciate site visit from 9-3, a point for them to check in and talk about what is going on locally. That is happening October 6th. Sue Parrish, Denise Swanson, Brett Walker, Gwen from Preschool Promise.

Member Updates: Share activities of interest to the Hub

TJ: Parent track meeting, meeting every two weeksish. The Same Keynote will be used for both the teachers and the parents. They have some funding to support transportations. They are trying to get the YMCA to offer day camps for child care. Some good speakers have agreed to be there. "Be your own child advocate." A great turnout from Parents. About a dozen suggestions, and they have about 9 topics prepared. ACEs, stress in Parenting,

Rita: There is a training- registration information....

Lisa: Preschool promise at Jackson started last Monday. This is going great, but it complicated to run in a school environment. Two parent mentors have been elected to serve on the state parent advisory council. They will get to go to Washington DC

Jen: Great regional turn out on CCO measures, such as developmental screening and dental sealants. This year immunizations are added as an incentive measure, in Jo Co we had a regional roundtable with OHA to work on immunizations best practices. We are working to increase bh integration in peds practices, working off of models that have been successful in adults. In addition, we are providing funding for the CLEAR program at Lincoln Elementary, which will provide training and coaching on trauma informed practices.

Scott: Been involved with the Laura Porter training and Paper Tigers. Working with districts on how to build out models for trauma informed approaches. Colt Gill coming down on the 22nd to meet with parents and get input on what they see as an agenda for legislature in the coming session. Have been working with Rene to staff the hub.

HeadStart: New regional standards that started on September 1st. There will be some changes. HeadStart classes started today. There is a variety of additional opportunities this year. Duration- extends the hours and days that are available. ?? Early Head Start, written expansion grants for that. Working with JC Mental Health to embed therapists into centers. Continuing work on Trauma Informed Care.

At RCC classes start next week. Excited to be offering family support services degree and classes in early childhood home visitation. If staff would like to take that and they aren't currently taking classes, they can get in touch with Eileen and she can get them enrolled. They need more enrollment in that class.

Kelly: Preschool promise started yesterday with 18 kids. Very happy that they had more applicants than they had spots. They had a preschool there and the preschool teacher is now there full time and part of the staff. It already feels like a preschool inside of a school. Reach out and Read: Expanding reach out and read in our area, will be talking to other CCOs. There is state support to expand this in medical clinics. This fits perfectly with CCO work. West Medford applied to be in a campaign for 3rd grade reading proficiency. We were accepted into the campaign, which connects to other communities working on the same things.

Mary: Also supports family support and connections. Parenting support. Several programs starting. All going to training around nurturing families and dads. An expansion of parenting opportunities. A lot this year around diversity, the early learning division has taken this on as a key issue. All of this is listed on our website.

Michelle: Preschool promise been a lot to implement. They are working through issues around reimbursement.

Jennifer Ware: They are doing lots of trainings around health equity and cultural competency. They have been doing this with district staff and school staff. Tomorrow the Oregon Health Policy Board will be here to hear about how OHP is doing. This will be at 5:30 at the Inn at the Commons. November 1st at SOU will be an implicit bias summit, at 6-8 pm. A partnership between several organizations.

Martha: Working with Mary on the performance, now is supporting all of the curriculum.

Amy: In the work with SORS, there are some things in common, such as with the ACEs training. There will be a showing of the movie Paper Tigers tomorrow at Parkway Christian and Smullin. This is a story about how a school changed their path. October 10-11 Next NOW this will be important for children and families. This will be an opportunity to interface with Robert Anda and Laura Porter. For Jackson we are looking at training PCIT trainers in a classroom version of PCIT (parent child interaction therapy).

Pam: Not surprised to hear that PHJC had the highest rate of developmental screenings because they kept getting referrals and more referrals. They have gotten some state resources to help deal with this. On a similar note, preschool promise, there are several kids with delays in each program. Literacy Outreach Grant, new mentor Danielle LeCray a program very similar to SMART. This program will be up and running soon. Starting the fall session of storytime and registration is through the library. Past activity, books in the park collaboration was a success. Collaboration between the USDA food and EI and OSU extension. They were at several park sites and she was lucky to be a reader at the park. If there were funding for book giveaways, the library volunteers loved that. If there are people you know that could give an hour a week to read to kids in Jo Co, let her know.

Karla: started increasing their presence in the schools, but last year bumped up presence in the high schools and elementary schools. They are payer blind. Able to do screenings. Leadership met with the Three Rivers dist and they are pleased with how this is working and it has been helping to keep kids in school that are at high risk for drop out.

Expanding mobile crisis work, and they talked to the schools about the availability of a mobile crisis team to come to the school if there wasn't someone there already. Jail Diversion work, this would divert people from jail but also secondarily works with kids and family that are involved with that person.

The Chair and Secretary terms will end in September. It would be good for the four officer not to rotate off all at once, but two at a time. Thus, Susan Z and Kelly will rotate off in December. There is a moderate time requirement, at least one more meeting and preparation work. Kelly also attended the

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learning collaborative once a quarter. There is also a monthly leadership institute with the ELD, which is not necessarily a requirement.

Budget-No budget update this month, will share in a future meeting

The parenting conference will be Feb 24-25.



Southern Oregon
Early Learning Services

Director's Report

September 20, 2016

The following report is designed to share what has been going on internally within the hub staff office, highlight a couple of our hub funded projects, and describe the work through the rest of the calendar year.

The First 6 weeks on the job: Learning Mode

- **Attended Early Learning Collaborative - The Dalles.** Beginning on my first day of work, Teresa, Scott, and I attended a three-day conference with other early learning hubs across the state. It was a great chance to connect with other hub staff, meet Early Learning Division staff, and to get inspired while hearing what other regions are focusing on.
- **Individual meetings Executive Council members.** Met one on one with 12 EC members and hope to connect with the remaining group over the next month. Great to meet many new partners and very informative process. The takeaways:
 - Provide clear, concise materials
 - Provide enough information, but not too much into the weeds
 - Share documents that provide tangible progress with services and metrics
 - Not everyone at the table works in the same field or knows the same jargon and acronyms, so be mindful of this during discussions
- **Interviewing for SOELS staffing positions.** We are down to just Teresa and myself. Actively interviewing for Administrative Assistant, Preschool Promise Grant Facilitator, and Family Resource Facilitator.

Update: Hub Funded Projects

- Preschool Promise
- KPI expansion

What's Next – through December

- Onboarding new SOELS staff

- **Fine-tuning SOELS budget to maximize/leverage funds as much as possible.**
- **Annual Work Plan** – This needs to be submitted by end of calendar year. We will be convening stakeholder meetings around specific work plan goals and objectives to get feedback and suggestions. Be looking for invitations in the coming weeks.
- **Indicator Groups** – I want to connect with each group and get a snapshot of progress to date, road blocks, and successes. If your group has meetings scheduled, please send me that information. If I don't hear from group members, I will reach out.
- **Executive Committee**
 - Bi-laws need to be updated. Anyone interested in participating, please let me know. We are targeting completion for the end of calendar year.
 - I would like to rely on this committee as a sounding board as I am still learning history, processes, and details that this group can share with me. My hope is that it will make the Executive Council meetings to be more efficient and productive by filling in blanks for me prior to meetings.
- **Site visits to SOELS grant recipients** - I will be scheduling meetings in October and November to meet with each site, review partnership progress, discuss progress and challenges the hub can assist with, and discuss sustainability plan.
- **Early Learning Division – Appreciate Site Visit set for October 6th**

This is not a formal monitoring but a check-in. When we get more information, I will send out in case anyone would like to join for a portion of the visit and share thoughts, hopes, concerns, etc. A formal monitoring will be in the Spring, date to be determined.

It has definitely been a fast-paced, whirlwind journey so far! I look forward to building my team, strengthening relationships with each of you, and continuing the meaningful work the early learning system is charged to do. Thank you so much for your continued support, amid so much change.

Sincerely,

René Brandon
 Director
 Southern Oregon Early Learning Services Hub