



Southern Oregon Early Learning Services  
**Agency Advisory Council**

**Date:** 2/8/2019

**Time:** 10:00- 12:00

**Location:** AllCare Health

1701 NE 7th Street, Grants Pass

**Members in Attendance:** Ann Ackles (Jackson County Public Health), Peter Buckley (Southern Oregon Success), Susan Davis (Josephine Community Library District), Lisa Farlin (Southern Oregon Head Start), Patricia Foster (The Family Connection), Donna Lipparelli (Options for Southern Oregon), Jessica Machen (DHS), Tami McGonagle (CPSD #6), \*Heather Olivier (FACT Oregon), Nancy Peterson (Jackson County Library Services), Megan Pinder (Jackson County Library Services), Rhonda Schock (Great Beginnings), Sunny Spicer (Kid Time! Discover Center), \*Megan Stevens (EI/ECSE SOESD), Brystan Strong (Jackson County Library Services), \*Mary Wolf (CCRN & Family Support and Connections), Brittain Zimmerman (Kid Time)

\*Via Zoom

**Guests:** Marne Kapule (Jackson County Library Services), Laura Kimberly (Jackson County Library Services), Jenny Woo (OHSU Nursing Student)

**SOELS Staff Members Present:** René Brandon, Chelsea Reinhart, and Karen Johnson

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

R. Brandon called meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. and introductions were made.

René announced a change to the agenda and advised that not all agenda items will be covered as a result. She shared that most Hub staff attended the Early Learning Collaborative, where the Early Learning Council presented Oregon's 5-year strategic plan called RAISE UP OREGON. Copies of the two-page plan were handed out. (Later a pdf version of the full plan was emailed to the group, and René offered to look into Spanish translation.)

### RAISE UP OREGON DISCUSSION

- René encourages emphasizing the importance of the first 2000 days of childhood when promoting initiatives.
- Typical return on investment in early childhood is \$2 to \$4 for every dollar spent, yet less than 10% of Oregon's combined federal and state early learning investments are for families with children under the age of six.

- Income, race and zip code are powerful predictors of outcomes for families. More supports are needed for equitable access to early learning opportunities.
- In 2017, the governor pulled together the Children’s Cabinet made up of of state agency leads from health, housing, DHS, K-12, and Early Care and Education. The goal was to identify where their strategic plans and priorities aligned in an effort to use a one-voice approach with the legislature.
- Oregon’s Early Learning Council holds all early learning programs accountable for three system goals:
  - Children (System) arrive ready for kindergarten.
  - Children are raised in healthy, stable, and attached families
    - One of the bullet points under this goal, “All families with infants have opportunities for connection,” related to Senate Bill 526, has been misunderstood by some as government intervention. The language will be changed to emphasize the voluntary nature of the bill.
    - Strategy is to connect early parent education with self-sufficiency and housing.
  - The Early Learning System is aligned, coordinated, and family centered
    - The Hub is hoping to share race and ethnic equity data at our March meeting.
    - Jessica shared that DHS is currently trying to determine gaps in services and partnerships with surveys and focus groups.
    - DHS is focusing on the needs of all household members, not just the child.
    - The Hub (along with community partners) plans to reach out to business leaders in 2019 to explain the economic value of early care and education
- René suggested that partners collaborate on a community-wide marketing campaign (like Buckle Up) to raise awareness around the need for “face time” as opposed to “screen time”
- René advised that the Hub is supporting Professional Learning Teams with KPI funds.
- Peter shared that DHS is conducting a study on the social determinants of kindergarten readiness down to the neighborhood level, which should be completed this spring.
- Peter advised that the Oregon Education Association came out with a report on Disrupted Learning. The link was later shared with the group.  
<https://www.oregoned.org/whats-new/a-crisis-of-disrupted-learning>

#### **WHICH COMMUNITY LEADERS CAN WE REACH OUT TO FOR LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT?**

- Nurse Family Partnership
  - Public health advisory board every other month on Monday night. Kathy Bryant is the chairperson.
- Radio/public service announcements (Shady Cove & Rogue River).
- SOC-ORAEYC
  - Conference/registration table.
  - Poster-size registration form on which the agency can list their name and related goals.
- School district board meetings.
- City council meetings.
- DHS – All staff agendas, partnership meetings.
- Hub to present to DHS partnership meetings.

- CASA
- Jackson County Library Board/Early Literacy Newsletter.
- Head Start parents met with legislatures to share pictures and stories.
- FACT Oregon – Legislative action and the Go Project.
  - Develop talking points to share with legislatures.
  - Heather will share a related “cheat sheet” with the Hub.
  - Help families make a positive impression on legislators through effective communication.
- Kid Time – parent engagement nights, board members, community forum.
- Statewide parenting campaign by OPEC/OSU.

### **STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROTECTIVE FACTORS FRAMEWORK**

A couple of years ago, the Hub invested in preparing trainers to teach Strengthening Families Framework and is offering trainings in each county two or three times a year. The idea is to serve as a kind of follow-up to the ACES training and provide tools and resources for family-serving organizations.

The Strengthening Families Protective Factors:

- Parental Resilience
- Social Connections
- Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
- Concrete Support in Times of Need
- Social-Emotional Competence of Children

Two handouts were provided and discussion followed:

- CSSP’s Protective and Promotive Factors - Social Connections  
[https://cssp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/SF\\_Social-Connections.pdf](https://cssp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/SF_Social-Connections.pdf)
- Strengthening Families Self-Assessment Tool for Community Based Programs - Social Connections piece only. For entire document, go to: <https://cssp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/COMMUNITY-BASED-PROGRAM-SELF-ASSESSMENT.pdf>

This is a tool to measure how effectively we are meeting the diverse needs of families in our community and how we can improve outreach.

- Oasis Center is now providing a space for families in recovery from substance abuse to connect and feel supported.
- Jackson County Library Services offers meeting rooms to community partners at no charge for space to host support groups and meetings. (Key card allows for access outside business hours.) <https://jcls.org/meetingroom>
- Rhonda is teaching a two-part Strengthening Families training on February 28 through the Job Council.
- The Hub will host a Strengthening Families training soon. (Later determined it will be in May.)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Peter Buckley announced a follow-up workshop to ACES training focusing on self-regulation. The training can be provided at your location.

- Rhonda started a new after-school program in Rogue River. Ideas for helping families pay for the program? CCO's?
- Josephine Community Library is updating their facilities and switching to front-facing books.
- Safe Sleep Coalition of Jackson County will offer refresher for safe sleep 0 to 1 in May.
- Options started three after-school programs in District 7 called Stepping Stones, for children (most kindergarten through second grade) who are too disruptive to be in a school classroom.
- The Hub will host a grantee appreciation dinner on April 18 at Inn at the Commons.
- The Hub is offering professional development opportunities for home visitors.
- Southern Oregon Head Start is waiting to hear back on the expansion grant for EHS.
- The Family Connection submitted OPEC grant on February 1, 2019.
- Club Northwest in Grants Pass will start hosting parenting education classes.
- Kid Time will begin construction on the Carnegie building the week of February 11. The Preschool is scheduled be open August of 2019, and the museum May of 2020.
- Jackson County Library Services is in their second month of facilitating Kaleidoscope Play and Learn groups. <https://jcls.org/occ>
- Jackson County Library offering "Babies in the Library storytimes". <https://jcls.org/storytime>
- CPSD is participating in Kindergarten Launch this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:06p.m.

Submitted by K. Johnson