



Southern Oregon Early Learning Services
Agency Advisory Council

Date: 3/8/2019

Time: 10:00- 12:00

Location: Southern Oregon ESD
101 N Grape Street, Medford

Members in Attendance: Ann Ackles (Jackson County Public Health), Peter Buckley (Southern Oregon Success), Molly Clement (CCRN Warm Line), Lisa Farlin (Southern Oregon Head Start), Devon Finley (CCRN), Patricia Foster (The Family Connection), Cecilia Giron (SOCFC-Listo), Sonja Herbold (Healthy Families), Jessica Machen (DHS), Tami McGonagle (CPSD #6), Eileen Micke-Johnson (RCC), Heather Olivier (FACT Oregon), Nancy Peterson (Jackson County Library Services), Rhonda Schock (Great Beginnings)

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

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

R. Brandon called meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and introductions were made.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Caryn Wheeler with OSU Extension Service presented on Community Health Assessment of Jackson & Josephine Counties. PDF sent with minutes.

REVISIT EMPHASIZING SOCIAL CONNECTIONS TO INCREASE PROTECTIVE FACTORS IN THE FAMILIES WE SERVE

René provided a recap of February's Agency Advisory Council meeting. PowerPoint sent with minutes.

EQUITY ACTION FRAMEWORK

René introduced The Build Initiative's Equity Action Framework as a tool AAC will be using to identify regional challenges/barriers related to racial disparities and inequities and determine which ones our council has authority and/or influence to positively affect. Participants spent time brainstorming challenges:

- Racial Disparities for Parents
 - Parents don't access service out of fear and economic status
 - Lack of documentation preventing access
 - Multi-generational households due to lack of affordable housing
 - Transportation, no driver's license
 - Diagnosis not available in child's native language
- Program Problems

- Territorialism
- Limited culture-specific parenting curriculum
- Beleaguered workforce
- Need to align education for workforce and families
- Recruiting professionals from other states instead of building local community
- Need people of color in leadership roles to implement change
- Accurate translation of documents
- Lack of clear, specific communication
- Connecting families to the best community resources to meet their needs
- Spanish language library books of lower quality and fewer selections than those in English and cost is higher
- Need to serve “all” the community instead of limiting “family issue”
- K-12: Families want to interact with native speakers to avoid mistranslations
- Need to move from “checked box” to action and implementation
- Racial Disparities
 - Access to health care
 - Lack of documentation to access prenatal care
 - Cultural specific child care
 - Educational preparedness
- The Hub will send instructions and guidance on next steps related to racial equity in early childhood systems soon, and results of survey will be shared at our next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- N. Peterson passed out Jackson County Library Services Spring 2019 spring event guide.
- Comic Con will be on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28 at the Medford Library, RCC Riverside campus. <https://jcls.org/mcc>
- Talking Book and Braille Library, a division of Oregon State Library, offers free services for people with print disabilities. Information mailed to group on 3/15/19.
- The Hub is hosting a grantee appreciation dinner on April 18 at Inn at the Commons. Please RSVP if you have not already done so!
- LISTO is offering a Spanish forgiveness and reconciliation staff training later this month.
- There is a shortage of early childhood education professionals in our community. RCC is working to change that. Please refer interested parties to their program.
- Laura van Dernoot Lipsky will return in June.
- DHS’ child welfare hotline will go live statewide in April 1, 2019.
- SORS is collaborating with The Family Connection on parent education courses.
- The Family Connection is revising strategic plan.
- Head Start is waiting to hear back on the expansion grant for EHS.
- Southern Oregon Head Start director, Nancy Nordyke has announced her retirement.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:06p.m.

Submitted by K. Johnson