

Lane Early Learning Alliance

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GOVERNANCE CONSORTIUM

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United Way of Lane County

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Parent Representative

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Lane Education Service District

ANNIE SOTO
Head Start of Lane County

JOHN STAPLETON
Pivot Architecture

JOCelyn WARREN
Lane County

Lane Early Learning Alliance ECE Expansion Planning Regional Stewardship Committee Notes Tuesday, October 8, 2019 10:30 – 12:00 pm

United Way of Lane County, 3171 Gateway Loop, Springfield

Attendees:

- Rachel Cushman, Parent Representative
- Bess Day, United Way of Lane County
- Graciela Escalante, Parent Representative
- Lani Finnegan, Grandparent Representative
- Todd Hamilton, Springfield Public Schools
- Theya Harvey, Quality Care Connections
- Judy Newman, Early Childhood CARES
- Sue Norton, Lane Community College
- Clarissa Parker, United Way of Lane County
- Chris Parra, Bethel School District
- John Radich, DHS
- Kori Rodley, United Way of Lane County
- Ann Salminen, United Way of Lane County
- Tony Scurto, Lane Education Service District
- Michelle Sheng-Palmisano, United Way of Lane County
- Larry Sullivan, South Lane School District
- Brooke Wagner, Eugene 4J
- Mo Young, Lane County

Welcome and Introductions

Bess Day, Director of Education with the Lane Early Learning Alliance/United Way of Lane County, welcomed attendees to the first meeting of the ECE Expansion Planning Regional Stewardship Committee.

The Lane Early Learning Alliance, along with Head Start and Quality Care Connections, have been tasked with planning for the expansion of preschool slots for Lane County children. The focus of the meeting is to orient the committee to the toolkit and discuss available data.

This group will align and coordinate with K-12 system and their planning process. This planning process is focused on preschool expansion.

Planning Toolkit Review

Primary components of the Planning Toolkit include:

- Overall context of why early learning hubs are engaging in this process including Raise up Oregon, the statewide plan to ensure:
 1. Children arrive ready for Kindergarten
 2. Children are raised in healthy, stable and attached families, and
 3. The early learning system is aligned, coordinated and family centered.

Funding from the Student Success Act that is allocated to early learning, and that, as part of House Bill 2025, early learning hubs are tasked with creating a plan that helps Oregon realize the objectives of Raise up Oregon.

- Focus on Equity
 - There is urgency to support all kids, but emphasize expanding system to families that are historically underserved. Will be engaging with parents/grandparents/caregivers to understand their needs.
 - Need to engage diverse voices and put families from historically underserved populations at center of plan
- Purpose and Use of Toolkit
 - Currently in Phase I of a three phase planning process. Phase I includes: funding decisions, policies and procedures, and community capacity.
- Core Principles
 - 7 core principles will guide the committee and encompass early care and education is a continuum, family choice in all levels of decision making, equitable access to high quality ECE, collaboration, mixed-delivery system, innovation, and program quality.
- Key Deliverables
 - By December 2019 must complete:
 1. Analysis of Priority Populations
 2. Regional “Mixed Delivery” Profile
 3. Emerging ECE Opportunities
- Regional Stewardship Committee
 - Will oversee ECE planning process and develop the ECE system plan for our region.
 - Required representation from key sectors and populations
 - Tribal outreach – Rachel is a tribal member and would be happy to help with making connections
- Timeline
 - By mid-November have completed Family and Provider Engagement interviews, synthesize family needs and preferences, assess the supply of providers and complete a mixed delivery profile.
 - By December engage stakeholders across the county to determine opportunities for expansion.
 - By mid-December deliver narrative to Early Learning Division

Data Review and Discussion

Committee must compile and *refine the priority populations* to next determine family engagement efforts. The current priority populations are:

- Children of color
- Children who are English language learners
- Children with special needs
- Children from families navigating poverty
- Children living in rural communities

The committee discussed which priority populations were missing:

- Children who are unhoused
- Children that have experienced trauma
- Children with a parent transitioning their gender/identify as non-binary
- Children with same sex parents
- Children who are transitioning their gender/identify as non-binary
- Children of parents who have cognitive limitations/intellectual disabilities
- Children of parents who have been incarcerated (potential partner - Sponsors)
- Children in foster care
- Newcomers
- Children with parents dealing with addiction and substance use (potential partner - Willamette Family Treatment).

The Early Learning Division has provided county level data, disaggregated when possible by race/ethnicity, age levels within 0-5 range, and other demographic characteristics.

- The committee reviewed data to be oriented to the need in the community, how Lane County compares with state averages, and the number of families currently served by state funded early childhood programs.
- Group was cautioned that the “multi-racial” race/ethnicity category causes children that are non-white to be underreported.

Future Meetings

Bess will send a Doodle poll to the group factoring in the meeting time preferences expressed by attendees.