

**Early Childhood Hub of Lane County
Early Learning Stakeholders Meeting
Thursday, February 23rd, 2023
3:00 - 5:00 pm**

1. Welcome and Introductions

- In attendance: Emily Reiter, UWLC; Kris Coomes, UWLC; Ayana Moriguchi, UWLC; Yajaira Guzman, UWLC; Jessie Daher, UWLC; Christina Karns, University of Oregon; Sam Lim, Early Dual Language Development Lab; Ilana Jakubowski, St Vincent De Paul; Chandra Payne, Self Sufficiency ODHS; Crystal Morrison, Pearl Buck Center; Mariela German, Arc of Lane County; Ariana Matthews, Willamette Family; Sara Starlin, Early Childhood Cares; Zayra Longoria, Self Sufficiency ODHS; Peggy Whalen, Family Relief Nursery; Sara Loveless, 90by30

2. Research Opportunity for Families

- Christina Karns, Ph.D., Assistant Research Professor, University of Oregon
 - TOTS Project (Tiered Online Training and Support) 5-year project 2019-2024 to develop and evaluate virtual parent training programs to support early development in young children with developmental delays or disabilities.
 - Federally funded research project with a goal to develop sustainable solutions for parents and caregivers for children with developmental delays and disabilities.
 - Three different tiers of intervention
 - Online Modules (www.totsproject.org)
 - Individual Coaching
 - Community Referrals
 - Goal is 200 families and have 140 currently enrolled
 - Eligibility includes a parent or caregiver with a child 2-6 years old with a developmental delay or Intellectual or Developmental Disability
 - Parents are asked to complete a first questionnaire/interview (\$25) and complete 10 online modules over 3 months, complete a second questionnaire (\$25) and then a third one after 6 months (\$50) after that with a total of \$100 of incentives
 - Recruiting Partners
 - If you met a family that would be eligible if you could pass along a link
 - Sharing flyers on email listserv or other lists
 - At this point all of the materials are in Spanish, the hope is that after this session they will be able to adapt the content into Spanish both linguistically and culturally

3. Oregon Department of Human Services

- Chandra Payne, Operations Manager & Zayra Longoria, Self-Sufficiency Program Manager, ODHS

- ODHS staff will share about current services available to families and changes occurring next month. We will also discuss current barriers families face to accessing services and ways ODHS can collaborate with local agencies.
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
 - Benefits are loaded onto cards to access food items
 - Eligibility for SNAP benefits are used in other eligibility programs including Free or reduced-cost school meals, WIC, Economic deferment on student loans, Reduction on Phone and internet bills
- TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
 - Cash assistance which are loaded on to cards as well
 - Income criteria is strict for these benefits
 - Additional benefits include working with a family coach, child care, support services through the JOBS (Job Opportunity and Basic Skills) program
- ERDC (Employment Related Day Care)
 - Helps eligible families pay for childcare while they are working
 - Maximum co-pay is up to \$130
 - There was an initial income limit and hours can now be approved “part time” or “full time” categories
 - 1-20 hours a week for part time childcare (up to 20 hours)
 - 20-40 hours a week for full time childcare (up to 40 hours)
 - Enrollment fees are eligible to be paid
 - Students also have access to ERDC and travel and study time are in consideration with the hours that are available to them
 - <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/ASSISTANCE/CHILD-CARE/Pages/Parents.aspx>
- There have been a lot of changes throughout the public health emergency and medical coverage stayed in place throughout this, starting this year participants will need to turn in their paperwork and meet with workers to make sure that these benefits continue
- There is a big unwinding process that will start soon and it will be different for every family
 - Make sure to contact your families if you know they are using these benefits to make sure they are aware of these changes
- Starting In March families will start receiving their regular SNAP allotments and not the additional funds that were dispersed over the past couple years
- Discussion:
 - People who are eligible for TANF childcare can use providers who are ERDC providers through the state. There are no copays for TANF Childcare, and those hours are intended to be used while doing activities in collaboration with their family coach
 - Under the TANF program the hours for childcare are more strict than under ERDC
 - How quickly do families start receiving benefits once they apply?
 - They are able to book appointments a lot quicker than in the past and benefits can be started same day or within the next couple days

- Are there any programs to help spread food budgets more widely for families who are going to start to see this reduction?
 - Some places that were doing cooking classes a couple of years ago which were aide around helping families cook food on a budget
 - OSU Extension food recipes:
 - <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/food/recipes>
 - Food For Lane County:
 - <https://foodforlanecounty.org/>
 - Food Hero
 - <https://www.foodhero.org/>

4. Early Childhood Hub Updates

- Governance Consortium Update:
 - Discussion around the second edition of the Raise Up Oregon plan with the hub being given the topic of the intersection of the housing sector and early education sector to conduct listening sessions to guide the update
 - Discussed the process for additional hub funding requests that are not already established and a subcommittee was created who will report back at the next meeting
- Program Updates/Announcements:
 - Triple P – TPOL: free for all Lane Co families!
 - Black Early Learning
 - Have an event on the 3rd and 4th of March – Tiny Titans Summit
 - Flyer is attached
 - Home visits will be incentivized until June along with educational toys
 - Preschool Promise
 - Starting to take family information if they are interested in the 23-24 school year, parents will be notified once the application is released

5. Agency Updates

- Early Childhood Hub
 - Onward has a grant process called Seeding Justice which is a childcare capacity grant
 - Flyer attached
- Early Childhood CARES
 - Have a parent outreach coordinator, so if you have events let them know to connect!
 - Meeting with local pediatricians to remind them of what they do and to increase enrollment
- Self Sufficiency ODHS

- Public Health Emergency is ending and they are trying to work how to support families through this transition
- Saint Vincent De Paul
 - Family Support and Preschool Program for families who are unhoused and a Preschool Promise Program with current openings
 - Have a Day and Night Shelter for families who are actively unhoused
- Early Dual Language Development Lab
 - Currently conducting a MILO (Maternal Mental Health Language Input Language Output) study
 - Currently recruiting Spanish speaking Latino moms with children ages 22-32 months for an ongoing study about bilingual development
 - Families are compensated \$75-\$100 for each remote visit up to three visits
 - They have bilingual research staff to help screen and conduct the study
 - <https://blogs.uoregon.edu/edldlab/>
 - edldoregon@gmail.com, (971) 220-5648
- Pearl Buck
 - Continuing Jellyfish classrooms on Thursdays
 - Open door support groups for pregnant/expecting parents and parents with babies (6 weeks to 2 years)
 - 2-year old classroom is full, have spots available in 3 and 4-year old classrooms and their preschool promise site
 - Will be holding a parenting education class in April with more details to come
 - Family support team is now fully staffed
- Arc of Lane County
 - Familias en Conexión
 - Will be holding monthly meeting this Saturday from 11-1pm
 - Any parent is welcome to join
 - Next meeting is on March 25 with an IEP training in Spanish
- Willamette Family
 - Recruiting teachers who are on step 9 of the Professional Development Oregon Registry
 - CDA Program is going well
 - Teachers in the Child Development Center are taking a Circle of Security training to bridge what they learn to the families that they serve
- Eugen Public Library
 - Lots of advertised and pop up activities during spring break at the library
 - Family Dance Party – early literacy focused program
 - Thursday March 30th 10:15 and 11:15

- Babies up to 7 year olds with their grown ups
 - Library Calendar of events: <https://www.eugene-or.gov/1005/Events>
- Fatherhood is Sacred, Motherhood is Sacred
 - Parenting workshop for indigenous families
 - Flyer attached
 - April 4th to May 23rd

NEXT MEETING March 23rd, 2023