

**Early Childhood Hub of Lane County
Early Learning Stakeholders Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2023
3:00 - 5:00 pm**

1. Welcome and Introductions

- In attendance: Kris Coomes, UWLC; Jaycob Nolte, UWLC; Dulce Cano, UWLC; Ayanna Moriguchi, UWLC; Krystal Morrison, Pearl Buck Center; Krystal Sanchez, Migrant Education; Tami Stebbeds, CASA of Lane County; Amy Hand, Fern Ridge School District FRC; Ilana Jakubowski, St Vincent De Paul; Marcia Koenig, Career Pathways LCC; Samantha Lim, Early Dual Language Development Lab UO; Kristen Helton, Quality Care Connections; Xana McCrea, ODHS Self-Sufficiency; Heather Murphy, South Lane School District; Rebecca Saxon, Eugene Public Library; Mtima Richardson, FOOD For Lane County; Kalina Glover Moresi, Parenting Now; Elisa Grundmeyer, SMART Reading; Loa Farr, St Vincent De Paul; Drea Smith, Lift Every Voice; Ariana Matthews, Willamette Family Treatment Services; Becky Lamoureux; Peggy Whalen, Family Relief Nursery; Zayra Longoria, ODHS Self-Sufficiency;

2. Early Childhood Hub Updates

- Governance Consortium Update:
 - In the past meeting the GC went over the Regional Systems Assessment to help identify barriers for giving and receiving childcare
 - There is an opening for a stakeholder representative in the Governance Consortium, if you have interest please reach out to Kris:
Kcoomes@unitedwaylane.org
 - The GC meets every second Friday from 3:00 - 4:30 of the month
- Program Updates/Announcements:
 - BEL
 - Playgroups 3:30-5:30 on Tuesday's at the Bethel FRC
 - 3rd Thursday adventure children's museum BIPOC playdate 10-11 free
 - Still doing Home visits and have some extra funds to give families gift cards and learning kits
 - Summer playgroups will be outside, still coming with fun ideas for the summer
 - Working on Transition Summaries who are transitioning into kindergarten
 - Triple P – TPOL: free for all Lane Co families!
 - Starting July 1, 2023 Triple P will be housed at Parenting Now, more information will be provided to Triple P providers within the next month on what this means
 - Preschool Promise
 - Currently working to get set up for next year and waiting for the new application to be released by the state
- There will be a survey coming out on how we want to structure the Stakeholders meeting going forward. Some of the main questions include:

- Do you want to go back to in-person meetings
- Do you want to have a 2-hour meeting or would 90 min be better

3. Group Discussion

- What do you want our Stakeholders meetings to be? We want to make these productive, engaging meetings. Should we change the format? More information or more time communicating with each other.
- From our www.earlychildhoodlane.org website:
 - The Early Learning Stakeholders are a group of committed and dedicated professionals representing organizations that work or interact with families with young children all across Lane County. Our shared purpose is to build bridges between organizations, efforts and individuals as we work across systems toward the shared vision that all children in Lane County are ready to thrive in kindergarten and beyond.
- There was talk around having more discussion based topics about what we as a whole can do to impact children in our county, there is a lot of value on how we can work together and partner
 - Still a little bit of sharing at the end, but there is a value in discussion and brainstorming rather than just letting everyone know about events
 - Could be a way of not just sharing what we are personally doing but how we can connect and impact children together
- There was a topic brought up as an example and a discussion that followed. This was about how we can come together on recruitment in the Early Education field.
 - There is a need for childcare but a lack of support, all of us are connected or have resources and how can we pull together and implement an event like a job fair
 - We as a group can look at grants
 - There are workforce development grants out there
 - I agree with the professional development system and in a way we need teachers that are at a step nine and supporting teachers to help get more professional development and coming along
 - Some of it is a catch 22 because you need experience and training and you can't get one without the other
 - There are barriers as well as not paying people's livable wage
 - It is a huge issue, which has a tricky aspect that it is linked to huge systemic issues and how can we try to advocate and shift to a kind of change and acknowledge how important early childhood educators are
 - With the preschool fair that just happened it would have been nice to have a hiring fair alongside it to show what is needed to become a early education professional

4. CASA: Tami Stebbeds from CASA

- April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. Tami will share a little about what it means to be a CASA
- A video was shared:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LWpagif0pU2QvFsXk8hobi63tILAYgXr/view?usp=sharing>
- Once a CASA is appointed to a case they make sure the child/sibling group is moving as smoothly as it can
 - In contact with every and anything to do with the child
- Child that does get a volunteer they are shown to improve in school, their needs are going to be met
- CASAs act as an extra set of eyes and ears for the judge, and advocates for the children as DHS works mainly for the parents
- They are involved in a case until it closes so that the CASA is a stable person in the child's life, with at least a 2 year commitment and some last a lot longer
- Children that have a CASA do better in school, spend less time in foster care, and are more likely to find a permanent placement
- Currently there are over 200 volunteers serving 430 children in Lane County
 - Lane County has the highest maltreatment rate in the state and there are often larger cases of 5-6 children in a sibling group
 - There are 6 CASA Supervisors
- A Mentor and a CASA are both steady adults in a child's life, most of the time a CASA knows the child best
 - The Biggest difference is that the CASA makes sure all of the things a child needs is happening so if they need a mentor a CASA can get them one
- Nearly half of Oregon's CASAs have experience with foster care adoption
 - More than half have experienced poverty at some point in their life and twice as many ACEs than the general public, a lot like the children they serve
 - Some have been CASAs for upwards of 20 years

5. Marcia Koenig Academic & Career Coach, Career Pathways/STEP/PASS Lane

- Department at LCC that focuses on short term skill training
<https://www.lanec.edu/programs-academics/academic-departments/workforce-development/career-pathways>
 - For many it is a pathway to train and help connect people to employers
- Remind folks of training opportunities in Early Childhood Education through LCC Career Pathways
- Funding resources
- PASS Lane ECE program Summer /Fall start
 - Helps with English learners take classes and increase their language skills alongside vocational training
- Students are getting refunds to help fund their college programs so they do not end up in debt
- They have other supports for Immigrants & refugees as well

- For more information please contact: Marcia Koenig, Career Pathways Program Specialist: koenigm@lanecc.edu / 541-321-6498
- Programmatic information:
 - Short term /Vocational Training: <https://www.lanecc.edu/programs-academics/academic-departments/workforce-development/career-pathways/career-technical-programs>
 - PASS Lane ECE: www.lanecc.edu/pathways/pass-lane
 - Computer Basics
 - English: <https://tinyurl.com/3ykt3p8c>
 - Spanish: <https://tinyurl.com/2jsrx6u5>
 - ESL: <https://tinyurl.com/4ee3u6ts>
 - GED en español: <https://tinyurl.com/3ezvt6fh>

6. Agency Updates

- 4J School District
 - Continuing efforts to improve the transitions to Kindergarten, recently wrapped up an observation cycle with one kinder teacher from each 4J elementary school
 - They observed in different preK settings to learn more about developmentally appropriate practices and grounding it in research from [NAEYC](#)
 - Krystal Sanchez participated in the observation
 - District Kindergarten Welcome event on May 19th
 - <http://www.4j.lane.edu/instruction/elementary/kindergarten/>
- Childcare Sector Strategist
 - Hosting an innovation hub on Thursday May 11th on business incorporating childcare or childcare friendly benefits into their business
- OPEC
 - Sent out a provider survey that we are asking all of the Early Childhood Hub's funded and non-funded partners to fill out
- Parenting Now
 - Started their Make Parenting a Pleasure group in River Bend
 - First few years group is going well
 - Parenting Now will be taking over the Triple P contract
 - Held their Preschool Fair this past Saturday, and are hoping to expand this in coming years to have a hiring fair alongside it
- QCC

- Fast Track Program was held, a 1-day training where folks who are interested in entering EC can come and get all the pre-requisites out of the way: CPR first aid, Criminal Background registry; fingerprinting
 - It won't make you teacher qualified, but great entry level folks who are ready to be classroom ready
- Business accelerator program partnership with the small business development at LCC
 - Will help new providers with business classes and coaching
 - One piece we are missing is the model they have chosen they have chosen comes with a stipend and they are looking for seed money of about 2-5,000 to help graduates start their program
- Holding Free STEM for preschoolers class
 - Participants will get a 200 stipend to buy materials for their program
 - Do have spaces
 - Have to be licensed
 - Saturday May 19th held at the downtown athletic club
- St Vincent De Paul
 - Ilana Jakubowski is moving on and Loa Farr will be the new director at First Place Kids
 - FPK has childcare options for their families for children 6 weeks to 5 years old and are looking into get licensed to offer care to children and families not housed at their location
 - PSP program wrapping up their first year and will have openings for the next year
- Migrant Education
 - Getting ready for their summer schools
 - Currently hiring 2 preschool teachers and 2 preschool aids
 - Lane ESD- Migrant Education Summer School (June 26th - July28th) <https://www.applitrack.com/lesdk12or/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Migrant+Education+Programs>
 - Runs 1 month at Fairfield elementary school in Eugene
- SMART Reading
 - Partnership with 4J and KITS; will be at 3 sites this summer
 - Looking to partner with additional preschool sites
 - Will be tabling at the Eugene Dia de los Ninos Event: <https://tinyurl.com/3ajty3nc>
- FOOD For Lane County
 - Food for lane county is conducting their survey this month if you can share out to all of your families who have experienced

- If you would like more information please go to FOOD For Lane County Survey, www.foodforlanecounty.org/survey2023 or contact FFLC Community Engagement Coordinator, Emily Boyer eboyer@foodforlanecounty.org
 - (Flyer is also attached)
- Summer Food Program
 - Once the list is completed we will send it out
- Youth Enrichment activities including Eugene Public Library
 - If you have any ideas or pamphlets you would like to hand out please email: FFLC Youth and Family Programs Manager, Mtima Richardson mrichardson@foodforlanecounty.org
- Family Relief Nursery
 - Having their first ever carnival this Saturday open to anyone starting at 11 with different community members will include Bounce houses and Fire Trucks
 - More information go here: <https://form.jotform.com/230935994562165>
- ODHS Self Sufficiency
 - ERDC is being rehomed to the department of early learning and care
 - Eligibility is also being expanded
 - Now being an across the board 12 month eligibility
 - Family Co-payments will be no more that 7% of the family's income
 - More financial incentives for providers to offer these services
 - New cost of care rate based on enrollment and not attendance
 - Nothing is changing for families who get ERDC benefits
 - Infographic attached
- Eugene Public Library
 - Story time pause during may to table and do more focused work
 - Sensory story time during May
 - Aubrey park outdoor story time during the summer
 - All children who attend can receive a library card
 - Story times at the library (switch to May to see info about sensory story times): <https://www.eugene-or.gov/calendar.aspx?CID=77>
 - For more information contact: rsaxon@eugene-or.gov
- Early Dual Language Lab
 - Tabling community public forum next week
 - Resource fair in spansih, all tabling staff will be bilingual english and Spanish
Flyers attached
- Willamette Family
 - Agency is opened year round
- CASA

- Holding an event on June 24th called Over the Edge
 - For more information: <https://www.casa-lane.org/over-the-edge/>
- South Lane School District
 - Are opening Little Lions childcare center at their High school
 - Will be opening under the offices of the School District instead of the previous non-profit
 - Have a spike in parenting students and have more young staff members so there is a need
 - This childcare center will only be open during the school year with children of students and staff of south lane school district
 - Also conducting Summer school and Kids in Transition to School

NEXT MEETING June 22, 2023

(Last meeting before Summer Break)