

**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; Emily Reiter, UWLC; Jessie Daher, UWLC; Sarai Barrera, Looking Glass Counseling; Sarah Mackenzie, Arc of Lane County; Sara Loveless, 90by30; Lori Shinger, Early Childhood CARES; Amy Davidson, Trillium CCO; Ariana Matthews, Willamette Family Treatment Services; Crystal Morrison, Pearl Buck Center; Krystal Sanchez, Migrant Education; Xana McCrea, ODHS Self-Sufficiency; Gretta Sagolla, Eugene 4J School District; Rebecca Saxon, Eugene Public Library; Kalina Glover Moresi, Parenting Now; Becky Lamoureux, Moss St Children's Center; Peggy Whalen, Family Relief Nursery; Kristen Helton, Quality Care Connections; Tracy Stafford, Oregon Community Programs, Taylor Worley, Eugene Public Library Bethel; Sue White, Bethel School District; Elisa Grundmeyer, Smart Reading

2. Early Childhood Hub Updates

- Program Updates/Announcements:
 - Triple P- TPOL: transition to Parenting Now
 - The Hub will be stopping their contract with Triple P on June 30 and Parenting Now will holding it starting July 1st
 - Black Early Learning
 - Flyer about BIPOC Playdates throughout the summer attached
 - Preschool Promise
 - Updated Website: <https://www.earlychildhoodlane.org/preschool-promise>
 - Reminding Parents that if they are currently enrolled in Preschool Promise they do not have to do anything and if they would like to transfer their enrollment to please contact preschoolpromise@unitedwaylane.org
 - Already had over 200 families applied
 - The first lottery for Pearl Buck and Relief Nursery will be July 7th (These programs start earlier than all the others)
 - We will be building waitlists as the process has been streamlined for families
 - Priorities are staying the same
 - New Provider Profiles: <https://www.earlychildhoodlane.org/preschool-promise-profiles/>
 - If you want any more information or any paper information/applications, please feel free to reach out to Preschool Promise

3. Group Discussion

- **What is culturally responsive childcare?**
 - Looking into what exactly we think of as culture making sure we look at:
 - Diversity of language and peoples
 - How families communicate
 - Types of food they eat
 - What their family sees as acceptable or not

- Acknowledging the bias or preconceived notions that we as providers bring into every meeting with families
- The materials that we hand out and even that are hanging around the space we provide service in
 - The visuals or what is on the walls are representative of the diversity that are out there, that different family systems are represented or different, if caregivers know their demographics of being intentional with their material to help families bring some of who they are into the learning
- Reflecting on what families we serve and understanding our role and our stance in the world and being an active anti-racist and ally to the world. And doing the uncomfortable sometime to flex those muscles.
- Interrupting Microaggressions and looking at intent to not put people of but to bring people in
- Being able to find care that represents what you are looking for your family
- Continuing to remove barriers for others who want to start childcare and helping bring people in to better diversify the childcare provider market
- Doing the work ourselves and not putting it on the families to educate us of their culture/or make decisions for the whole of our culture
- There is a lot of knowledge and awareness and skill at this level and a trickle-down affect that doesn't happen effectively to raise awareness with providers themselves
 - A knowledge of diversity is not necessarily required to be a childcare provider
 - Would love for center directors or those that work with providers to highlight those trainings and take them to help reinforce these ideas
 - Help increase providers knowledge
 - Summer training calendar came out yesterday they are offering a DEI training 3 class series July 20th Aug 3rd Aug 17th (Equity Center Class) <https://www.lanecc.edu/community/resources-community/quality-care-connections/provider-training/register-provider>
- **What do you see as the role of the stakeholders? How do you think we can better accomplish our goal?**
 - Coordinating, collaborating, and bringing Topics for group discussion
 - Potentially having a monthly newsletter instead of taking meeting time for updates
 - Opening a slack channel for better communication and collaborative abilities

4. Regional Systems Assessment

- Governance Consortium Priority Issue:
 - **Low Wages/benefits paid to ECE workforce**
- Interviewed different groups with the childcare report boiled
- 4 main issues:
 1. Many families are unable to access *existing* high-quality affordable care and education that meets their unique needs/preferences
 2. Not enough supply of high-quality ECE to meet families' needs and preferences

3. Insufficient number of ECE workforce in field who represent communities served and can deliver high-quality, safe, and culturally responsive ECE
 4. Low wages and benefits paid to the ECE workforce
- We have chosen the 4th Issue and will create a strategy and need to test it out by November
 - If you have any brilliant ideas that would like to be considered please email Kris

5. Sue White – Bethel School District

- Bethel School District will be holding a Summer Institute August 1st – 4th for their special education staff.
- On the 4th there will be a resource fair during their lunch (12:00pm – 1:00pm) at Willamette High School
- If you are interested in a spot or would love to bring resources please contact Sue at Sue.white@bethel.k12.or.us
- Later down the road they hope to create a community resource fair for families as well so please keep that in mind too

6. Bethel Early Literacy Project

- A few years ago, the Bethel Community sent surveys and other information gathering and the community wrote a plan where EPL was a big factor about increasing literacy in the Bethel area
- One of their primary foci is to figure out how to help with the plan and improve community engagement and literacy rates
- If you work in or provide services to the Bethel community please connect with Taylor Worley and start figuring out what steps you all can take together
 - tworley@eugene-or.gov

NEXT MEETING August 24, 2023