

Lane Early Learning Alliance

3171 Gateway Loop
Springfield, OR 97477
tel 541.741.6000
fax 541.726.4150

earlylearningalliance.org

Mission: Working together to prepare children for success in school and life.

Vision: A community in which all Lane County families, organizations, and neighborhoods are unified in an effort to ensure that all children are safe, healthy, cherished and are ready to succeed in school.



**Lane Early Learning Alliance
Governance Consortium
February 11, 2022
3:00-4:00pm
Virtual Meeting**

NOTES

Present:

John Lively, Oregon State Representative
Noreen Dunnells, United Way of Lane County
Adrian Pollut, Parent Representative
Cheryl Henderson, Lane Community College
Nina Watkins, Parent Representative
Tony Scurto, Lane Education Service District
Judy Newman, Early Childhood CARES
Jeanine Taylor, Early Childhood CARES
Debi Farr, Trillium Community Health Plan
Annie Soto, Head Start of Lane County
Leslie Finlay, Relief Nursery
Tina Gutierrez-Schmich, Bethel School District
Todd Hamilton, Springfield Public Schools
Kraig Sproles, Bethel School District

Melissa Ibarra, Eugene 4J School District
Reta Doland, Oakridge School District
Jacob Fox, Homes For Good
Karen Gaffney, Lane County
Jocelyn Warren, Lane County Health & Human Services

UWLC/ELA Staff:

Claire Hambly, Dir ELA, **meeting facilitator**
Michelle Hjelm, Preschool Promise Enrollment Mgr.
Holly Mar Conte, Chief Strategy Officer
Adriana Medina Garcia, Bilingual Family Engagement Coordinator
Michelle Sheng-Palmisano, Dir Early Learning Strat.
Joslyn Vargas, Marketing & Communications Mgr.

Absent:

Sheila Wegener, Department of Human Services
Marian Blankenship, Pacific Source Health Plans
John Stapleton, PIVOT Architecture

Guest:

Chelsea Whitney, LCPH
Kellie DeVore, PacificSource

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM.

II. Welcome and Introductions

III. Public Comment

No comments were made.

IV. Consent Agenda

Approval of the January 14, 2022 meeting notes. Acknowledge receipt of written reports from ELA Advisory Groups and Innovation Teams, Lane AABSS, Preschool Promise, KITS, and LaneKids.

Action requested: Motion to approve, accept or ratify items listed on consent agenda as submitted.

Motion: Noreen Dunnells motioned to approve the consent agenda.

Support: John Lively seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Ayes: Adrian Pollut, Cheryl Henderson, Nina Watkins, Tony Scurto, Judy Newman, Jeanine Taylor, Debi Farr, Annie Soto, Leslie Finlay, Tina Gutierrez-Schmich

Nays: None; **Abstentions:** None

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V. Early Learning Hub Legislative Update

Judy Newman shared about the following two bills that passed out of committee:

- HB4005: Technical fix bill which delays timeline of when Department of Early Learning & Care (DELIC) and true cost of childcare study will be done.
- HB4032: getting information out to all childcare and preschool providers about what is available for kids with disabilities, and helping those programs understand the ADA act and their responsibility to be sure kids with disabilities have equal access and get accommodations. There will be resources attached to that bill.

John Lively shared that although the legislature has billions they did not expect from income taxes, much of that is driven around inflation. Will need to balance near term investments and needs around wages. Currently, even with all of that apparent increase in money, the projection is for the next biennium we will be short money. Will need to consider what can be sustained in the next biennium.

VI. Health Aspects of Kindergarten Readiness CCO Metric

Debi Farr provided some historical context for when there was collaboration on a metric with the ELA. CCOs had a measure on Development Screenings. When looking at the measure and how poorly we were doing in Lane County, Judy and Debi had conversations with Pediatric clinics who thought they were doing the screenings, but this wasn't getting recorded in children's charts and this info was not getting reported to the CCOs. The CCO provided trainings on administering the developmental screen, ASQ, and as a result development screening increased across the county.

Kellie DeVore walked the group through a part of what's next with this metric. There are four components of the metric. First few years of the metric CCOs will be attesting to the work is being done, as opposed to looking at claims data.

- Component One is a review of Social Emotional (SE) metric data. They will review child level data from OHA, identify at least on population that has experience historical injustice, and assess payment policies and contracts.
- Component Two: develop an asset map that captures services and resources in the region that address SE health.
- Component Three: Cross-sector community engagement to review and discuss data, asset map and barriers/opportunities for success. Must include Primary Care Providers, behavioral health, tribal government, ESDs, EI/ECSE, and early learning hubs. Additionally, engage communities that have been historically marginalized to review and discuss data, asset map and barriers/opportunities for success.
 - o There are many groups that fall within that cross-sector list, how do we leverage what they are already doing?
- Component Four: Develop an action plan. Develop at least two target areas for improvement. Potentially, workforce development, increase range of SE services, address barriers to access or payment, public health messaging, etc.

The opportunity is to see the conversations that have historically happened within the Governance Consortium, 100% Health, Pediatric Advisory Team and not create another body that is doing this work.

Group Discussion

- This is a 5-year incentive metric, there are steps throughout the first 5 years. By the end of year one we would be through with much of the action planning.
- What are we trying to achieve and what will we change? Some of the actions based on the data and feedback from community could be resulting in more social emotional services, or reducing barriers to access existing programs, could be training for providers. Want better alignment of services and not creating barriers.
- Is part of the action plan a foundational look how to keep kids from even needing services? There is an opportunity for that to be a part of the conversation within that cross-sector committee. It might be less about prevention and more about addressing existing services.
- Should be sharing this out with our home visiting providers and engaging with obstetric and midwifery community.

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- This isn't just intense interventions that would be offered, but CCOs could look at a model where we are paying for services in a different way. Judy had ideas about this and where failures in the system are now. Part of the reason we want to convene a steering committee.
- This conversation was brought to the Pediatric Advisory Team and they were very interested in how much navigation it takes for a family to get to services. And it becomes someone's full time job to guide a family through accessing services. There is excitement in that group to address some of these barriers.

Kellie expressed that the goal for today is to start the conversation with the ELA, while being mindful of not creating another steering committee in the County, and look forward to continuing this conversation in the future.

VII. Updates & Announcements Regional Child Care Efforts

Holly Mar Conte updated the group that after COVID hit, UW began conversations with partners and funders on how do we provide funding for immediate emergency childcare. These conversations have continued on and evolved to look at the bigger picture. Pulled together a group of funders in December to map out where investments are happening, and where are there needs/gaps that have not been met. Donors came forward with \$140K for United Way to be used broadly for childcare. We've been looking at models that exist in other parts of the state, like child care accelerator programs and have come to a few different priority areas for that funding:

- Development of a child care sector strategist position. With the launch of the regional child care stakeholders group that met last fall, there hasn't been one entity that staffs and coordinates these conversations and want to use funds for this position to identify a plan for exactly what, when and how to reach our goals. They will most likely be housed with OnWard Eugene.
- Based on what we've heard from elected officials that they don't know the issues and how might we address those, have developed a fact sheet. And if you'd like your org to sign on let Holly know.
- Needs assessment to lift voices of providers, families, and businesses. South Lane is heading up an assessment, and may expand to the county. This could be woven in to the Community Needs Assessment.

Cheryl Henderson provided child care updates:

- QCC staff meeting with Be Your Best in South Lane to see how we can help now. Start talking directly to successful childcare centers and family providers to duplicate their services, and find funding to increase salaries child care staff.
- RFA for an ECE navigator position has not yet been released.
- In conjunction with LCPH received 3000 covid test kits to distribute to providers. This allowed us to connect with providers and tell them about QCC, so were able to build relationships and increase connection. Have more test kits that are supposed to go directly to families are in care.
- ECE faculty position at LCC in need of someone.

Family Leadership Council Updates

Adriana Medina-Garcia shared that the February meeting had great attendance. Agenda included:

- Having Judy Newman attend and address concerns of 4J parents, the rural parents were really wanting representation at a future meeting from their School District Board members. The conversation about their child's experience in school has inspired the group to discuss tackling systems level education issues.
- Talked about resource sharing, and doing better outreach with Black, Latinx, Native and Indigenous families.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, March 11, 2022, 3:00 – 4:30 PM