

# Monthly Director's Report

## September 2017



Early  
Learning **Hub**

of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties



We are very pleased to announce that the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year has finally been wrapped up and put to bed! This was our first complete funding cycle, and we had a few hiccups and odd circumstances arise, but were able to successfully use all of the funding that the State allocated to us. (That is a HUGE accomplishment!)

The first Early Learning Hub Annual Report is nearly ready for print, and we are very excited to unveil this beautiful document to our partners. In this report, each funding stream will be reviewed, along with partner agency successes, and an overview of the funds spent in each area. It is going to be a very useful tool when you are talking about the Hub and trying to explain what our purpose is to someone who has no knowledge of our work. The finished version will be available in the next few weeks, and we will begin handing them out, first to our Governing Board, and then at all Committee and Work Group meetings.

And finally, I want to publicly announce that I am officially changing my name back to my maiden name, and you will now see me listed as "Kristi Collins" in all Hub materials and communications. My email has proven to be a bit more difficult to change, but it will soon be "Collins" as well. I apologize for any confusion that this may cause.

**Thank you for all of your continued good work,  
Kristi Collins, EL Hub Director**

# 1st Annual Early Learning Hub Conference

The Data and Evaluation Work Group will be hosting the first Annual Early Learning Hub Conference at Linn-Benton Community College on Friday, October 20, from 9:30-3:30pm. Based on the Collective Impact Model, this conference strives to create a common understanding of self-regulation, the importance of children's self-regulation skills on their success in kindergarten, and to highlight activities that support the development of self-regulation happening in our region.

This is a free event, and is currently open only to partners from Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties. Registration will open statewide on October 1 for any remaining seats. If you wish to register, please [click here](#).

Speakers at the event include Megan McClelland, PhD, from Oregon State University, and Elizabeth Tremaine, a graduate student from Portland State University.

# Statewide Early Learning Hub Collaborative

The Early Learning Division hosted a statewide Early Learning Hub Collaborative in Ontario on August 8th and 9th. Our Hub took a team of five staff, including Anna Menon, to participate and present at this event. The new Hub Roles and Responsibilities were shared along with potential indicators that are being explored for use.

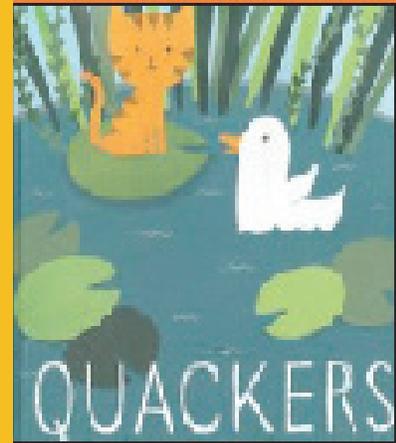
This event was the first opportunity for Hubs to hear from Miriam Calderon, the newly appointed Early Learning Systems Director. To learn more about Miriam, [click here](#).



# JumpStart Gears up for Another Year

This year the JumpStart "Read for the Record" will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2017, and the new books have just arrived in our office!

To date 24 local agencies have signed up to read on October 19th, with about 900 children participating. If you would like to participate, you can still sign up by [clicking here](#), and we will contact you about materials and books in the next few weeks. We will supply each child with a certificate of participation for attempting to break the world record, and one book will be provided for each classroom, in English and/or Spanish.



# Pollywog Updates

The Pollywog Project continues to rumble along and gain momentum. We currently have nearly 150 families in the database, and have been able to supply them with prenatal and parenting classes, resources and information, and referrals to other partner agencies.

Unfortunately, at the end of August we lost our Project Specialist, Cathy Corkery. Prior to coming to us, Cathy was a Health and PE teacher at Linus Pauling in Corvallis, and when she got word that her old job was available again, she couldn't resist the pull to return to education. We will miss her input and appreciate so much all of the work that she did to further this project.

This month meetings have begun with Lincoln County partners, introducing them to the functionality of the project, and individual trainings are being held with local Linn County partners. We are working our way through the partner list, so you will be getting an email soon!

# Hub Work Group Updates:



**WORK GROUP DAY:** The next Hub Work Group Day is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, 2017, at the Newport Public Library. Please plan on attending.



**DATA & EVALUATION WORK GROUP:** The Data & Evaluation Work Group did not meet in August because of a timing conflict with the Early Learning Hub Collaborative meetings, scheduled by the State.



**HEALTH CARE INTEGRATION WORK GROUP:** The Health Care Integration Work Group met on Wednesday, August 23, 2017, at the Benton County Sunset Building in Corvallis. The group discussed the ASQ Training and Tracking Initiative, plans for future START trainings, and an update on the RHIC project. At the next meeting, they will be discussing ACEs training and the 2018 CCO Incentive Metrics.



**EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL:** The Early Childhood Coordinating Council did not meet in August because of a timing conflict with the Early Learning Hub Collaborative meetings, scheduled by the State; however, two subcommittees of the ECCC did meet, one to discuss preschool intake, and one to discuss early childhood workforce development.



**PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE:** The Parenting Engagement Committee met on Tuesday, August 29, 2017, at the Oregon Coast Community College in Newport. The group discussed upcoming parent engagement events that have been targeted by the group, "Attendance" Focus groups with parents (discussing absenteeism), and a proposed reporting system.

## Early Learning Hub Mission and Vision Statements:

**Mission:** The Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties brings partners together to increase family stability, improve kindergarten readiness, and ensure service coordination that is equitable and culturally and linguistically competent.

**Vision:** Our communities provide an easily accessible and collaborative system of support and care for families that help children to grow up safe, nurtured, healthy, and ready for school and life.