

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties Leadership Committee Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	10:00pm, May 1, 2015 Western Title Building, Newport
MEETING CALLED BY	Kristi May
WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Bettina Schempf (remotely), Shelley Paeth, Julie Manning (remotely), Renee Smith (remotely), Julia Young-Lorion
VERSION	Final

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Funding Current Providers
<p>Governing Board requested a recommendation from this group regarding funding of five providers with funds from the State. Kristi reached out to these five organizations regarding how their goals aligned with Hub goals:</p>	
<p>Family Connections: completely aligns with Strategic plan and Work Plan, but doesn't align with Great Start Funds data forms, and can't draw funds because they can't report to the information they are asking for. Using State funds to educate providers and improve their QRIS rating score. Great Start is asking for child-level data, which Family Connections (FC) can't provide. Maybe this isn't the correct funding stream for this organization? This is a metric that the State is looking for, but maybe not funded with the Great Start funds, but rather regular Hub funding.</p>	
<p>Hart Family Resource Center: operating a parent coop preschool (only program in Harrisburg) – teacher wages and supplies. Their goals and population are outside of our metrics (0-18 instead of 0-6). Are Hub funds being used for children outside of our work plan? Would like to institute a 0-3 program in Harrisburg, but isn't a current service now. Many families in Harrisburg use medical providers in Lane County instead of Linn County, so we won't be able to collect their data.</p>	
<p>Are their targets universal or are they seeking at-risk children to serve? Possibly they don't understand the form requests? Our funding is targeted for at-risk children, and we need to make sure that Hart is working to serve at-risk. If we withhold funding, might all of the at-risk children suffer because there are no other services to fill their need. Where are they getting their numbers? How are they collecting and counting their target children?</p>	
<p>Lincoln County School District (Learning is Fun Together): operating a school readiness class. Metrics match our strategic plan, with good detail. Includes some kindergarten assessment data that also applies to our metrics. Seeing results, and have the data to prove it. (Great presentation of data!) Doing well to serve their target population. Exceeding in other areas, serving at-risk children.</p>	
<p>Linn County Public Health (Maternal Child Health): providing nursing home visits for pregnant women and 0-6 year old children. Using ASQs. Connecting medical providers to at-risk families. Target was 50, but actually served 130. (Unduplicated clients.) --How did they do that without additional funding? Are these blended funds?</p>	
<p>Why isn't this service being billed through the Oregon Health Plan? Are they receiving funds from other agencies, so they possibly don't need our funding?</p>	
<p>Strengthening Rural Families – providing parent-child together programs. Ready to Read in Monroe. Squishtivities classes in Philomath. Data is a little vague: explains the goals but not how they plan to reach them. Reported target is 100 each quarter, but only had 12 the first quarter (tough to start a new program). Target numbers increased with each quarter, and exceeded their goal.</p>	
<p>What documentation has been collected to verify this information? How does these metrics mesh with our goals?</p>	

If the funding was discontinued for these programs, do they have other funding, or would the programs have to be discontinued? The State Legislature might vote to cancel this Great Start funding, so what would happen to these organizations? Could the EL Hub continue to fund them? Could new streams become available that these organizations could turn to instead of the EL Hub?

We need to go back to each organization and ask them some more pointed questions. Documentation and accountability appears to be poorly done. Should we be auditing at some point? Spot checks? Papers rather than computers, because they are so small. State database isn't in place yet, so most organizations are being done by hand. The organizations need to know what documentation we are asking to see, and make sure that they are keeping those numbers.

Parent/Child In-Take forms for every child receiving services/funds from an organization? This is what California is doing. Need to know what Oregon wants to see, as documentation and proof of service. Progress reports?

What does the Board need to know by May 28:

Can this organization continue without our funding?

Should we be mentoring some of these small organizations? Offering technical assistance?

Revisit the FC funding (since we have no data from them) and figure out what to do.
Could FC drill down further to get that provider data?

CONCLUSIONS

The Group feels that the additional information is necessary before a decision can be made on funding.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Kristi will send an email to the Leadership Committee with the additional information, and the Group will decide on their recommendation to the Governing Board based on that.	Kristi May	ASAP

NEXT MEETING

The Group will receive an email about from Kristi regarding the additional information that is needed to make a decision.

Group Members will respond by email what their final impressions are, and that is the information that will be presented to the Governing Board.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Kristi will receive email responses from Leadership Committee members, and will compile the results to present to the Governing Board.	Kristi May	By 5/28/2015

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:46