

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Healthy Beginnings Grant Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	12:00pm, June 23, 2015 CASA Offices
MEETING CALLED BY	Lynn Hall
MEMBERS PRESENT	Hilary Harrison, Lynn Hall, Kristi May, LeAnne Trask, Shelley Paeth (remotely)
VERSION	Final

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Review of Site Visit
Meeting went until 3:30pm, and there was a wonderful discussion between our partner organizations.	
One partner felt that the discussion went on too long and was becoming a little bit self-serving as we tried to impress our Representative with our desire for the implementation grant.	
It was a learning process for all of us, and our Representative, Jen, was pleased with the participation and the presentation of our efforts, so far.	
As we spoke to Jen about the 5-year grant, we felt that she was asking us for a state-wide initiative lead by the grassroots level.	
We also felt that the NWHF is looking at communities where parents can mobilize behind advocacy and Legislation. But with five years of funding, it might be possible. We want to identify parent leaders and develop new ones that agencies can use.	
It's a process with parents: they don't come ready to testify at Boards and government functions, and need a lot training to develop those talents. There's also work to do within organizations so that they have the capacity to help do this work.	
It's a systems change.	
Is it worth it to go after this grant?	
If we can build support among the organizations, and develop parents to become leaders and advocates, from a Hub perspective: Yes!	
Since we are not a direct service provider, we are going to have to have the assistance of agencies in order to find the parents.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Interim Report
Lynn has been working on it, but needs help with a couple of questions:	
#3 – Please describe your progress ... about the role of advocacy, policy and civic engagement in your work. The ULA group talked to the Corvallis School District about changes that would help them. The FSO is at the State Capitol advocating today for disabled children. Both of these things, and the things that our parents have said in the parents meetings, can be written up also.	
#7 – What would help you most in the next three months to move forward? Looking for non-traditional parent groups to find parent leaders. Working towards identifying pocket communities, both at-risk and of color.	
Would it be a potential idea to bombard places where kids congregate with information about parent groups and asking them to come and give us their information? Some groups don't have the capacity for parents to meet together and improve their leadership skills.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Analyzing Focus Group Information
Began by looking at the status of our Focus Groups, and our current schedule of Groups.	
Lynn listened to some of the recordings, and was concerned about the amount of background noise that made it difficult to get the information. We have some written notes—thank goodness—so we will need to use those to get our information from the meetings where the recording is hard to hear.	
Megan Lopez-Patton gave us some notes on how to analyze the data, and we have a few other notes.	
Do any of our partners have experience analyzing qualitative data? Jessica and Lauren from Regional Health? What are the key areas for engagement of parents and families in the region?	
Didn't we gather some of this information with our partner meetings?	
Are we going to be able to get the answers we need from the questions we asked?	
What was the intent when we asked the question?	
We are looking for the strengths of families, but we're going to have to look at the data and pull the individual family comments out to get it.	
The "Purpose of the Study" was taken directly from the grant application, and we trying to keep that purpose in our reporting.	
Trying to identify a theme in the parent comments.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Next Steps
County-Level Data: this is the information from the partner meetings that we used to create the PowerPoint presentation for the Site Visit. Also analyzed the strengths of each county, and then the "areas for growth".	
Maybe we should create a summary document from the partner meetings? Post it onto the website so that the partners can see the results. We need them to see that results of the survey indicate a need for partner training regarding parent engagement, parent advocates and parent leaders as partners are not currently setup to make that happen.	
Planning for the grant: Should we bring the initial funding group back together to pose this question to them? They have the foundational knowledge of the initial grant, and we need to see when we can get them to commit to come together.	
Need to contact all the members of the Steering Committee and get everyone here to talk about next steps. Doodle poll?	
Need to wrap-up last two parent focus groups, then complete the analysis.	
CONCLUSION	
Post the results of the partner meetings information onto the website so that the partners can see.	

NEXT MEETING	TBD
Next time, put the remote call-in number on the agenda before it is distributed to Basecamp.	
Want to get partners here for analyzing data – mid-July?	
MEETING ADJOURNED	1:25pm