

# Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

## Healthy Beginnings Grant Meeting Minutes

<b>MEETING COMMENCED</b>	10:30am, July 20, 2015 CASA Offices
<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Lynn Hall
<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Hilary Harrison, Lynn Hall, Kristi May, LeAnne Trask, Shelley Paeth (remotely), Julia Young-Lorion (remotely), Jerri Wolfe
<b>VERSION</b>	Final

### Agenda topics

<b>DISCUSSION ITEM</b>	Review of Parent Focus Group Meetings
Each parent group/community seems to have different needs.	
We knew nothing about the coastal communities, going in, and it was good to get to know what their needs are.	
Parents asked for better parks, better jobs, better housing, better child care, and help for the homeless and drug abusers in the area.	
Child care needs came up over and over again. Traditional child care doesn't work for some of these families because of the hours they work.	
Parents on the coast seem to be in desperate financial shape because of the high cost of living in a tourist destination; most had 3 or 4 jobs to get by.	
There also doesn't seem to be any support for people transitioning out of jail or drug and alcohol rehab. or when kids get out of foster care.	
One mom wanted to know what we were going to do with the information we were gathering. She was a little abrupt at the beginning of the meeting, and afterwards she apologized because she realized that we really do want to help.	
Now that we know what they need, what will we do to help them?	
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
Each of the parent groups indicated that they wanted to be on a parent advisory group, and they wanted to help with whatever project we came up with.	

<b>DISCUSSION ITEM</b>	Review of RFP Draft
NWHF wanted each grantee to review the draft and then report to them whether the questions are appropriate, or if we wanted to see something added.	
Page 2, Next Step: Help parents to advocate for themselves	
2020 Objectives: NWHF wants to teach parents how to become political advocates, how to tell their story.	
Measure our Impact: Measure progress in 2 areas: 1) community capacity to pursue HB+HC communities and 2) as well as improvements in health using the HB+HC Health Compass. Also, consider the EL Hub's goals/metrics; how do they fit together?	
Positive Improvements in Health (using the health compass): Family resilience, Mom and family's social support, self-regulation and interpersonal skills, Developmental Screening at 3 <sup>rd</sup> birthday and 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade reading.	

Support Communities: NW Health Foundation's role is to equip communities to take a seat at the decision-making table.

At our review, NWHF rep Jen, focused on racial/ethnic issues. In LBL, poverty is the issue in our rural communities. By focusing on poverty, we will also take care of the racial problems.

If the NWHF focus is on racial issues, are they going to fund us if we focus on poverty? Maybe we should discuss our concerns with Jen.

Advocacy: How do we see ourselves, as an EL Hub, mobilizing for action at the state level? They want a group of people who will mobilize when needed. If we need an advocacy piece, we may need to go outside of LBCC to find the right organization to lead the charge.

The Steering Committee, needs to review the data from the Focus Groups and then decide if it fits with the grant's objectives. If it doesn't, we may need to share our data with another group who is more in-line with the NWHF goals. We need to review all of the Focus Groups data that Lynn has sorted out for us.

Page 4, Bullet 2: We are more concerned about what we are hearing from other Hubs, and what was said during our site visit, rather than what we are reading in the RFP Draft.

Page 4, Bullet 2: The NWHF is encouraging us to work with the Tribe, but the Tribe has rejected our advances. The Eastern Oregon Hub is experiencing the same thing with their ethnic organizations.

Page 5: 5-year grant, but you have to reapply every year, and they will decide whether or not the grant will continue.

Page 5: Lead Organization could still be LBCC (the Fiscal Agent), but another agency may be better equipped to lead the advocacy portion. We would need to subcontract with them; we could contact the Health Equity Alliance (HEA). LBCC could become an institute so all participants can attend. Participants would be LBCC students; this would facilitate offering stipends and college credit.

Is there a non-profit in Lincoln County that specializes in health care? Probably the CCO or Samaritan. Karen Leavy is the contact for the HEA. Another possibility is the Rural Organizing Project; they specialize in immigration issues and as well as health care.

Page 6, Strong Proposals that will demonstrate the following qualities: Equity – should reflect the NWHF's goals of ethnicity and geography.

Page 9, Your First Year: If we were going to do these Institutes, we need to funnel the need into an early learning lens, and figure out what we can do in the first year, the second year, the third year, etc. This will inform our thinking and give us an "end".

Can we get parents onto work groups in addition to parent advisory groups? Get them working, at the grassroots level, toward the goal.

We need to meet with these parents and see if we are on the right track? Are there barriers?

Can we give our parents stipends if they are working on another Board?

Would it be possible to get this Institute class college credit? That would make the State very happy and give them college credit and serve as a possible entry-point into college.

Page 9, Questions 4 and 5: Writing about focus groups, what we found out.

Page 8, Questions 2 and 3: Working with an advocacy group would show the NWHF that we have added an arm that will assist parents in becoming advocates for themselves. Karen Leavy might be the person to talk to about these questions also.

Maybe "Stand for Children" could help us with the advocacy questions?

Maybe add a little information about poverty hot spots in our areas.

Maybe we need to go back and review our Parent Focus Groups and see if there are any gaps in coverage. No group meetings were held in Sweet Home or Lebanon and we know that there are other groups that we should be talking to. Maybe some school collaborations?

Page 9, Question 12: New alliances? We have the partners that we connected with, but other groups, like the Tribe, might be a problem since they are also grant holders and there might be territorial issues. Maybe the Tribe would share their data?

Page 8, Question 14: What is your community's unique contribution? The community college, the Hub, three counties, etc.

What should we do next?

**CONCLUSIONS**

The entire Planning Team could summarize the Focus Group data. This would efficiently identify trends and give members the chance to learn about the data. Bring the sheets/questions that Lynn has created to sort the data. It would put us all on the same page. We need to invite all of the partners, and centralize the meeting at Old Mill (maybe?). We need to also invite Karen Leavy, and some other partners who are “big picture” thinkers.

Maybe invite the partners who hosted a focus group?

Make sure that we are including the rural voice, the latino voice, early education voices, etc.

RFP must be done by October 9, 2015.

<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	August 24, 2015, Benton County Sunset Building, Corvallis, 12-3:00pm
Invitations will be sent to those we specifically need to attend.	
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	12:27pm