

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Pollywog Partner Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	9:00am, August 8, 2019 Linn-Benton Community College, Albany
MEETING CALLED BY	LeAnne Trask
WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Cindy Cole, Shannon Rose, Cheryl French, Sheri Branigan, Jennifer Schwartz
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Kristi Collins, Lynn Hall, Jennie Hartsock, Shirley Blake
VERSION	Final
RECORDED	No

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	Pollywog Parent Newsletters – Jennie
The topic for July was “Hop-a-Park,” which highlighted family-friendly parks with playgrounds for small children.	
The topic for August is “National Learning Month,” which highlighted learning strategies for providing a safe and nurturing environment for children to learn.	
Jennie plans to write about “Back to School” for September. She will align this newsletter with Shirley’s blog and the chosen protective factor.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Pollywog Parent Voice Blog – Shirley
Shirley’s blog will highlight one protective factor each month.	
The topic for August is “National Learning Month,” so Shirley focused on parenting knowledge, resources, and child development.	
Shirley plans to write about relationships and social connections for September.	
Aoife Magee is hosting protective factor workshops this fall, which will tie things together.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Pollywog Friday Update – LeAnne
Please let LeAnne know if you would like to be added to the listserve.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Google Analytics – LeAnne
LeAnne presents the Google analytics for June and July. The large spike on July 25 th was due to a DHS training.	
LeAnne asks the group if we want to rotate the resources on the Pollywog website. Add dental to each age group on the front page. Check with Samaritan to see who they refer to.	
Users from Samaritan visit the website most often and spend the most amount of time browsing the website.	

There is a decrease in prenatal class participation, which has led to several Samaritan prenatal classes getting cancelled. Due to HIPPA regulations, it is difficult to connect pregnant women and families through email or other digital means.

The Oregon Community Foundation granted the LBL Hub/Pollywog \$100,000 per year for three years in order to support a Pollywog Assistant position and expansion into Lincoln County.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Family Connections – Sheri Branigan, Juana Estrada
	Phone calls were low for a while. Prenatal numbers are lower than last year. This might also be due to parents looking to online resources instead of in-person. About 45% of families in the Pollywog database responded to the Mailchimp newsletter regarding upcoming LBCC parent/child classes. It appears that families who participated in LBCC prenatal classes are moving into our parenting education classes.
	Open registration for LBCC parent/child classes began on Monday, August 5 th .
	Parents seem to want any number of our classes—there is no clear pattern to what is being asked for.
	Transportation accommodations are not available for those signing up for parenting education or prenatal classes; however, the Juntos classes for Albany residents offers transportation options. A family can take this class once per year.

DISCUSSION ITEM	VistaLogic (Clara) Updates – LeAnne
	LeAnne demonstrates the new VistaLogic system.
	The new race and ethnicity list provides a more in-depth community data that is helpful for reporting. Does this list come from the US Census?
	The phrase “Do you have support” can imply judgement on the need for support. Consider rewording this phrase to “Are you looking for support?” How does this question measure what “support” means? Explore this more in-depth at our next management meeting.
	It is unknown if the Corvallis Birth Center accepts Oregon Health Plan.
	Any “Alert” – and all other information in Pollywog – can be subpoenaed, so we should be very cautious about what we put in that field.
	This version of the system goes live at the end of August. LeAnne will provide an online training before the 26 th .
	There are two current open positions for Family Connections/Pollywog and Pollywog Program Assistant. LeAnne asks the group to widely share with their partners.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Healthy Families Presentation – Cindy Cole
	Cindy is currently the Program Manager of Healthy Families, which provides resources and intensive in-home support for eligible parents in Benton and Linn Counties. Children must be ages 0-3 months old in order to apply.
	Children already in the program may transfer within the program to another area.
	Healthy Families is funded by the state of Oregon and donations. There is hope that more funding will become available through the Student Success Act.
	Their Spanish speaking participants use the dual-language home visitor services often.
	There are three current openings.
	Cindy brought brochures for anyone interested.

NEXT MEETING	9:00am, Thursday, October 10- 2019 Linn-Benton Community College, Albany
MEETING ADJOURNED	10:30am