

Monthly Director Report

May 2019



**Early
Learning Hub**

of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties



Allergy season is upon us! Thanks a lot, Spring. Good thing you are bringing beautiful weather.

Over the course of the past few month, the conversation regarding issues of access and affordability of child care has been elevated in our region as a significant crisis employer's face when trying to hire and retain a quality workforce. This affects all businesses throughout our region. I have heard from a large, local employer who has shared that high-level management position offers have been declined because the candidate was unable to find child care. I have also heard from multiple employers in manufacturing about how this issue is impacting their employees. As a result, we have partnered with a handful of large regional employers, our local Workforce Development Boards, and our Child Care Resource & Referral, and are planning a child care summit for interested employers in our region to explore innovative solutions to this complex issue.

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

Regional Data Book

The Data & Evaluation work group began meeting 18 months ago and began intensive work meetings with the goal of a complete first draft by the February Governing Board Retreat.

At this retreat, the work group used Board feedback to complete their next draft. Rich Waller, work group co-chair, presented this draft to the Board in May, which ignited positive feedback and potential concerns that the work group will address moving forward.

As of now, the work group plans to update the document on a biennial basis to align with funding cycles. They plan to create an executive summary/contextual factors page regarding geographical areas that need additional supports and areas already doing well. We are very excited to move forward.

Student Success Act

House Bill 3427 (the Student Success Act) passed with an 18-11 vote. This bill provides approximately \$400 million in new revenue for Early Learning programs!

Starting in 2020, roughly half the money would go to grants for local districts and 20 percent to programs serving toddlers and preschoolers. The remainder would be split between full funding for a 2016 voter-approved measure to expand career-technical offerings (Measure 98) and anti-dropout programs and initiatives to improve schools' performance statewide. This is a very exciting time in Early Learning and for our K-12 partners! I will keep you up to date as I know more about what this means for Hubs.

Welcome Shannon

Rose to 211info

Shannon Rose started as the 211info's Community Engagement Coordinator in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties.

She believes that 211info is a valuable tool and is looking forward to increasing community awareness of what 211info can do.

Shannon is an OSU graduate with a degree in Human Development and Family Science. She lives locally and looks forward to helping make our communities stronger.

Welcome to the team, Shannon!

Parent Engagement Opportunities

Shirley Rubio Blake continues to embrace opportunities that will ultimately serve more families and parents furthest from opportunity.

Shirley recently attended the Foundations of Trauma Informed Care Train the Trainer at Portland State University.

She also attended Linn County CAN with United Way, a family resource fair at the YMCA, and a Boost Oregon community training in Happy Valley. The Health Care Integration work group plans to coordinate Boost Oregon trainings for parents in our region.

Shirley gave a speech for the Old Mill City auction on May 11.

Hub Work Group Updates:



P-3 ALIGNMENT WORK GROUP: The P-3 Alignment Work Group met on Friday, September 19, 2018. We discussed Baby Promise, child care licensing, KPI project updates, the ELC strategic plan, preschool development grant application, and the COSA conference. Our next meeting is postponed until further notice.



DATA & EVALUATION WORK GROUP: The Data & Evaluation Work Group met on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 to wrap up the content draft of the regional data book. Rich Waller presented this draft at the May Governing Board meeting. Jennie Hartsock will review Board feedback and begin creating the final regional data book in InDesign.



HEALTH CARE INTEGRATION WORK GROUP: The Health Care Integration Work Group met on Tuesday, April 9, 2019. They discussed *Raise Up Oregon* system goals and strategies to focus on, reviewed the Ages and Stages Questionnaire online software, as well as the Regional Health Information Collaborative (RHIC). Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2019.



EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL: The Early Childhood Coordinating Council met on Friday, April 19, 2019. They welcomed Shannon Rose, our new 211 Community Engagement Coordinator, discussed *Raise Up Oregon* work group priorities, and discussed the upcoming LBCC STEM-CTE Hub conference. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 17, 2019.



PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: The Parent Engagement Committee met on Tuesday, April 30, 2019. We discussed trauma informed care train the trainer, bringing Boost Oregon community trainings to our region, and presenting at the Old Mill Center auction. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2019.

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.