

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	2:00pm, March 5, 2020 LBCC Benton Center, Corvallis
MEETING CALLED BY	Julie Manning
WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Jeff Davis, Sarah Dorgan, Don Dorman (for Tonja Everest), Laura Farmer, Rebecka Weinstein, Stephany Koehne, Kelly Locey, Julie Manning, Lorena Reynolds, Bettina Schempf, Lauren Sigman, Paul Smith, Sandy Chase
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Kristi Collins, Shirley Blake, Matt Grams, LeAnne Trask, Connie Adams, Lynn Hall, Jennifer Schwartz
GUESTS PRESENT	Lynnette Winkoop, Katie Berns
VERSION	Final
RECORDED	Yes

Agenda topics

SPECIAL PRESENTATION	Stand By Me Program, Jennifer Moore
<p>Jennifer Moore, from Oregon Cascades West Coalition of Governments (COG), presented information about the Stand By Me (\$BM) program. \$BM started in Delaware as an alliance between United Way and community-based agencies. Its purpose is to work one-on-one with participants through financial coaching to help individuals, families, and businesses achieve financial security. Since its inception in Delaware in 2011, participants have increased their credit scores, increased personal savings, and decreased personal debt. These changes have enabled home and vehicle ownership, college savings, and business ownership. As a result, Delaware has seen a reduction in the use of social services, improved health and educational outcomes, and increased resiliency in communities which directly affected regional economic development.</p> <p>Jennifer and the COG envision a plan implementation plan that starts with colocation of \$BM coaches within 1-3 service agencies in Benton County in order to build confidence in the program, and then expanding to Linn and Lincoln Counties. Target markets are, in planned order, families accessing HeadStart and other early learning and childcare facilities within the Early Learning Hub; small businesses and their workforces; community college, university, and workforce development agencies; agencies that support seniors and people with disabilities; and military/veteran support agencies.</p>	

SPECIAL PRESENTATION	Farm Worker Housing Development Corp., Claudia Cantu
<p>Claudia Cantu, Deputy Director and Housing Development Manager for the Farm Worker Housing Development Corp. (FHDC), shared the progress of a new housing project for farmworkers in Lebanon. Construction for the project is set to start in June, and a total of 134 units (studios to 3-bedrooms) are planned. In addition to the housing, the community will include a multi-purpose room that can be rented by agencies to provide childcare and early childhood education.</p> <p>FHDC built their project in Woodburn, OR in 1992. They work to provide housing, support services, education, leadership training, cultural opportunities, and workforce development to farm worker communities in Oregon. The FHDC website is www.fhdc.org.</p>	

DIRECTOR'S REPORT	LBL Hub Updates, Kristi Collins
Events in February: Staff from the LBL Hub attended Baby Blast in Lebanon, Family Fun Day at LBCC, and the statewide EL Hub Collaborative at LBCC.	
Student Success Act Updates: Requests For Application (RFAs) are currently being accepted for Preschool Promise, the Equity Fund, Oregon Pre-K, and Fiscal Agents. The deadline was recently extended (to May 4, 2020) due to statewide shutdowns. LBL staff held a Preschool Promise Road Show to support providers, and question/answer meetings with the P-3 Alignment Work Group (with a representative from the ELD) and the Early Childhood Coordinating Council Work Group. Kristi plans to use current staff to fill the need for enrollment screenings for planned state-funded early childhood education and care slots.	
Family Connects Update: Following the Hub Collaborative, where coordinated enrollment was defined by the state, the EL Hub is working toward getting all three counties trained and up-to-date with enrollment software. A state-wide roll-out is planned for January 2021.	
LBCC has named their new president. Dr. Lisa Avery will begin on July 1, 2020.	
Hailey Cain has been acting as a secret shopper of sorts and attending local prenatal classes. She will be writing a blog for Pollywog about her experiences.	

FISCAL REPORT	Matt Grams
Matt presented the revenue, expenditures, and miscellaneous reports for January 2020.	

CONSENT ITEMS	February Meeting Minutes
The Board was asked to approve the February meeting minutes. One correction to a board member's name was requested.	
Motion: Julie Manning	
2 nd : Laura Farmer	

VOTING RESULTS	Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)														
Brown	Y	N	A	Gere	Y	N	A	Manning	Y	N	A	Thielman	Y	N	A
Chase	Y	N	A	Hall	Y	N	A	Reynolds	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Davis	Y	N	A	Weinsteiger	Y	N	A	Schempf	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Dorgan	Y	N	A	Hughes	Y	N	A	Sigman	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Dorman (Everest)	Y	N	A	Koehne	Y	N	A	Smith	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Farmer	Y	N	A	Locey	Y	N	A	Miller	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A

No abstentions.	
The Board voted to approve the minutes.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Coordinated Enrollment, Kristi Collins
Kristi spoke to the board about the most recent developments in coordinated enrollment. Coordinated enrollment will take place at the Early Learning Hubs for each region. The Hubs will be responsible for marketing, outreach, recruitment, eligibility screening, and placement. This will happen only for state-funded Preschool Promise slots. The state will provide funding and training for a Coordinated Enrollment Specialist, and the LBL EL Hub plans to use current staff for these tasks and scale up in the future. This will allow our Hub to start quickly and not be delayed by the LBCC hiring process.	
Board members had questions about this process and the board discussed answers and other concerns.	
1) What kind of prioritization of applicant families will occur? The concern is if there are many more applications than slots available. <u>Answer:</u> Prioritization will happen with guidance from the state, as well as the sector plan's priority populations and family preference. This might change when training is set up by the state.	
2) What is the benefit of coordinated enrollment to the provider versus doing their own enrollment as they have in the past? What if slots go unfilled that the provider could have filled? <u>Answer:</u> The Hub has the ability to	

reach more families, in addition to accountability for state money. The Hub is required to have all state-funded slots filled before 9/30/2020.

- 3) Is it possible that providers will lose spots, especially half-day preschool slots? This would be a penalty for some providers. Answer: Yes, because Preschool Promise doesn't do half-day slots. This is addressing a request from parents who wanted longer days.
- 4) How can providers plan for slots if they don't know how many they will have? Answer: The state will let providers know the number of slots they receive in advance. Intent to Award letters are scheduled for May 4, 2020.

Update: Coordinated Enrollment dates might change due to extended application deadlines because of Covid-19 shutdowns.

DISCUSSION ITEM	Raise Up Oregon, Kristi Collins
Kristi presented the board with a summary of the work on the Hub's strategic goals from the February meeting, and spoke about the Hub's role in Raise Up Oregon. More information and input was needed from the board, specifically thoughts on strategies where the Hub is a partner but no lead was identified.	
Kristi will post this work on Basecamp for board members to consider, evaluate priorities, consider workgroups that are assigned to issues, and to ensure the needed voices are giving input.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Pollywog Update, LeAnne Trask
LeAnne presented information regarding Pollywog's work in the last month, including analytics from the website and publications, upcoming events that Pollywog will attend, and updates regarding partners in the region.	

NEXT MEETING	2:00-4:00pm, 4/2/2020 Location TBD
MEETING ADJOURNED	3:45pm