

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties
 Governing Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	2:00pm September 3, 2020 Online via Zoom
MEETING CALLED BY	Julie Manning
WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Connie Adams, Shirley Blake, Kristi Collins, Matt Grams, Lynn Hall, LeAnne Trask
VERSION	FINAL
RECORDED	Yes

Agenda topics

ROLL CALL	
DeAnn Brown, Jeff Davis, Sarah Dorgan, Laura Farmer, Claire Hall, Stephany Koehne, Kelly Locey, Julie Manning, Lorena Reynolds, Bettina Schempf, Paul Smith, Rich Waller, Rebecka Weinsteiniger	

SPECIAL PRESENTATION	Family Connects Update from LeAnne Trask
<p>LeAnne Trask, Pollywog Coordinator, presented information regarding the ongoing process to develop and implement Family Connects for the LBL region. Family Connects is a universal nurse home-visiting program for families with newborns.</p> <p>In July, 2016, the EL Hub provided funding for Family Connects training for nurses from the three county health departments, and visits started in January, 2017. Due to staffing changes, Linn and Benton counties have not continued nurse visits through Family Connects. Lincoln County has continued with Family Connects nurse home visits.</p> <p>The Oregon Legislature passed funding for Family Connects for all Oregon families in 2019, and the LBL region became an early adopter of the program. EL Hub staff have been meeting with Family Connects representatives from Duke University since February, 2020.</p> <p>The process to fully develop the program for all three counties has been extensive, and has included creating multiple components like a Community Alignment Plan, a Community Advisory Board, and an Agency Finder Database. The Hub and Pollywog will also hire a Community Alignment Specialist, and OHA will provide</p>	

funding for this position. Because much of Family Connects aligns with current Pollywog work, the Hub is at an advantage with this work.

County health departments must also complete certain components including staffing and training, scaling up, getting certified, and beginning home visits.

February 2021 is the intended start date for Family Connects services in the LBL region.

Board member questions and comments:

- 1) "Can Family Connects materials have gender neutral language that is inclusive of same-sex, transgender, and non-binary parents? This would be more appropriate; especially given the number of queer parents we have in Oregon." Hub staff agreed and will review the materials for this language.
- 2) "Are home visiting nurses required to be full-time in Family Connects? Can we send information to OB nurse managers to see if part-time nurses would like to pick up extra hours for this work?" Hub staff will share the information, however the nurse visitor positions will most likely be full-time.
- 3) "Is it possible to overlap the Community Advisory Board with other groups to avoid meeting/board fatigue?" Yes, the Community Advisory Board has been presented to the Regional Maternity Care Committee, which has doulas, care coordinators, and other agencies as members, and they have agreed to serve as the advisory board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT	LBL Hub Updates from Kristi Collins
1) Kristi shared information about Zoom fatigue and Zoom apnea since so many of us are participating in frequent Zoom meetings.	
2) Staff from the Hub and the CCR&R are still hosting regular meetings with child care partners. Staff members are also working with a regional work group regarding the child care situation. This group includes personnel from United Way, the Benton Community Foundation, local and state politicians, and some providers. The group has split into county-specific groups to focus on the unique needs of each county. Primary concerns are getting facilities licensed and open and finding staff for facilities. Hub staff will continue to participate in and lead these conversations.	

FISCAL REPORT	Matt Grams
Matt presented July's revenue, expenditures, and miscellaneous reports.	

CONSENT ITEMS	August Meeting Minutes
The Board was asked to approve the meeting minutes for the August board meeting.	
Motion: Julie Manning	
2nd: Paul Smith	

VOTING RESULTS				Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)											
Brown	Y	N	A	Gere	Y	N	A	Reynolds	Y	N	A	Weinsteiger	Y	N	A
Chase	Y	N	A	Hall	Y	N	A	Schempf	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Davis	Y	N	A	Koehne	Y	N	A	Sigman	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Dorgan	Y	N	A	Locey	Y	N	A	Smith	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Everest	Y	N	A	Manning	Y	N	A	Thielman	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Farmer	Y	N	A	Miller	Y	N	A	Waller	Y	N	A	Open	Y	N	A
Abstentions: Rich Waller, Rebecka Weinsteiger, Kelly Locey															
The Board voted to approve the minutes with a correction to Sarah Dorgan's attendance.															

DISCUSSION ITEMS
<p>EL Hub Funding and Biennium Budget from Kristi Collins: Proposed reductions to EL Hub funding by the Ways and Means Committee amount to \$1.3 million and would be primarily community dollars which the Hub contracts out to community partners for providing services. In response to questions from Board members, Kristi clarified that the amount will be divided among all EL Hubs statewide but it is not known exactly what amount will be the LBL share. Kristi requested that Board members contact representatives to solicit support to keep the EL Hubs budgets whole.</p>
<p>Coordinated Enrollment Information from Kristi Collins: EL Hub staff members Matt Grams and Shirley Blake have participated in required trainings about eligibility, and Kristi took part as well in case back-up is needed. Through the EL Hub, Preschool Promise has a commitment to continuity to children who are currently enrolled and will eligible for Preschool Promise slots. With over 200 new slots coming to our region, more than half will be with providers who are new to Preschool Promise and the Hub will address these slots after all currently enrolled children have been transitioned. An important part of these process is a collaboration with Head Start so that families have a choice and all funded programs are full.</p>
<p>System of Care Coordinator Position Information from Kristi Collins: The Hub is in the process of transitioning Jennifer Schwartz's System of Care Coordinator position into a contractor position with IHN-CCO. This is a good change for Jennifer as it gives her more autonomy and a higher salary. This transition is planned for November, and the Hub has carry-over funds that can cover her into December, if needed.</p>

Pollywog Update from LeAnne Trask: LeAnne shared that Pollywog has received funding for Year 2 of expansion into Lincoln County. Additionally, Pollywog is now listed as a referral service within Epic, the medical records system for Samaritan Health. LeAnne also shared current statistics and data regarding Pollywog's database, website, and social media.

Parent Engagement Update from Shirley Blake: Parent Cafes are moving forward after a slow down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Shirley hopes the cafes will be successful again in the fall, especially as families will be indoors more and potentially need more support.

NEXT MEETING	October 1, 2020 Online via Zoom
MEETING ADJOURNED	3:25pm