

## Monthly Director's Report

March, 2020



I hope this month's Director's Report finds everyone well and in good health. With all the uncertainty happening in the world right now, I wanted to use this opportunity to share some happy news with all of you from my personal life.

On March 15th, my first grandchild was born at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis. My daughter and I have joked throughout her pregnancy that this experience has been like a behind-the-scenes look at how Pollywog works for an expectant family. I know that she appreciated having one place to go to find all the local resources. The experience has been amazing and we are so blessed by the new addition to our family. Welcome to the world, Delilah Lee Cain.

I hope this can serve as a reminder that even though the world seems like a crazy place right now, good things are still happening. I can't wait to introduce Delilah to the world, when it's safe to do so. For now, we are enjoying the family time, safe at home.

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

# Pollywog in Action

## Childcare for Essential Workers

Pollywog and the LBL EL Hub are working hand-in-hand with emergency childcare providers to provide needed information and help with changes.

Emergency Childcare is for essential workers who are working outside their home during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Pollywog staff and 211 operators are available to help families find emergency childcare for children of all ages, including current openings.

For childcare questions, call Pollywog at 541-917-4884 or 2-1-1.

## Pollywog's Support for Parents At Home

Pollywog staff have increased our [Facebook postings](#) during the mandatory stay-at-home period. The goal is to offer parents help with activities and support for handling the extra stress.

We are hoping to get parents to interact with staff and each other on our Facebook page to lessen the impact of social isolation. Plus, as parents take on the role of teacher, we're sharing ways to make learning fun for the whole family.

We need your support to make sure we reach as many parents as possible. You can 'Like' our Facebook page, share it with your network, and perhaps join in the activities.

The [PollywogFamily.com Resource page](#) has also been updated to provide links to trusted information about COVID-19 as well as links to other online resources and activity ideas.

## COVID-19 Resources

Please check these resources for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and our region, and let us know others we can share.

- [Oregon Health Authority COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Oregon's Early Learning Division](#)
- [United Way of Linn/Benton/Lincoln](#)
- [SBA's Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- [Benton County Health Department](#)
- [Lincoln County Health Department](#)
- [Linn County Health Department](#)

# Coordinated Enrollment Update

Coordinated enrollment is taking shape and moving forward. Following the statewide EL Hub Collaborative in February, the Early Learning Division (ELD) tasked all EL Hubs in Oregon with the role of filling all state-funded preschool slots at the Hub level.

The LBL Hub has received a budget and job descriptions with specific duties. We plan to divide the coordinated enrollment duties between two current staff members at this time. They will begin to prepare with training from the state for screening families for eligibility, organizing with providers, and working to ensure everyone – families and providers – are heard and supported.

The LBL Hub will be prepared and ready with coordinated enrollment when everything starts moving again.

## RFA Deadlines Postponed

In response to the coronavirus outbreak in Oregon, the Early Learning Division (ELD) has postponed the deadline for Student Success Act Request for Applications (RFAs) until May 4, 2020.

This new deadline applies to Preschool Promise, Early Learning Equity Fund, Preschool Promise Fiscal Agent, and Oregon Pre-Kindergarten programs.

Applicants can still submit questions to and find answers via the ELD's RFA FAQ section on it's website. The ELD continues to offer assistance via helplines and emails.

<b>Preschool Promise &amp; Fiscal Agent Helpline</b>	
503-856-2895	psprfa@state.or.us
<b>Early Childhood Equity Fund Helpline</b>	
503-930-1297	ECEFRFA@state.or.us
<b>Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Helpline</b>	
503-207-3067	OPKRFA@state.or.us

# Hub Work Group Updates:



## **P-3 ALIGNMENT WORK GROUP:**

The P-3 Alignment Work Group met online on April 3, 2020 and plan to meet each Friday at 3pm for as long as needed. Hub staff, CCR&R staff, and representatives from local school districts discussed the districts' roles in emergency childcare for essential workers.



## **DATA & EVALUATION WORK GROUP:**

The Data & Evaluation Work Group met online on March 25, 2020 and discussed how the upcoming Data Book supports Raise Up Oregon. This information will be included in the Introduction. Another online meeting will be scheduled soon to review the Introduction. Please contact Lynn Hall for meeting information.



## **HEALTH CARE INTEGRATION WORK GROUP:**

This work group is on hold for April and possibly May.



## **EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL:**

In lieu of the Early Childhood Coordinating Council meetings, the EL Hub and the CCR&R are holding weekly online meetings on Fridays at 1pm. EL Hub staff and the CCR&R are providing updates and answering questions from childcare providers during these meetings.



## **PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

The Parent Engagement Committee will meet online on April 28, 2020, 9:30am to 10:30am. Please contact Shirley Blake for more information.

## **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.