

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	2:02 pm, December 7, 2024 Online via Zoom
MEETING CALLED BY	Lola Jones
PRESENTER	Jennifer Holman & Erica Jauregui, ODHS
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Connie Adams, Kristi Collins, Matt Grams, Antonia Huerta, Jinguang Lin, Ana Reyes, Sam Rounsavell, Carmen Santacruz, Kelly Schell, Bryan Steinhauser, LeAnne Trask,
VERSION	Draft
RECORDED	Yes

Agenda topics

ROLL CALL	Board Members Present or Absent							
	Present	Absent		Present	Absent		Present	Absent
Shelagh Baird	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Claire Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeAnn Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susan Halliday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neftali Pizano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belit Burke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jason Hay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bettina Schempf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jeff Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Todd Jeter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Dougherty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lola Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Wilkinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laura Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephany Koehne	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lynnette Wynkoop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
QUORUM								
A Quorum was present. There are currently 18 seated Board members and 10 of them were present at this meeting.								

DISCUSSION ITEM	Welcome and Introductions
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SPECIAL PRESENTATION	Family Preservation Demonstration Site
<p>Kristi introduced the presenters, Jennifer Holman and Erica Jauregui, from the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) Preservation Sites. This presentation was requested to offer the Board information for our Raise Up Oregon goals and Strategic Planning.</p>	

Jennifer introduced the Family Preservation team: Lydia Sterba, Aimee Osborne, Erica Jauregui, Jennifer, and Akhila Nekkanti. Jennifer and Erica each explained their roles on the team. They are in the process of hiring six new policy analysts for this team.

The Child Welfare Vision for Transformation: We believe children do best growing up in their family and on values related to honoring and supporting cultural wisdom, building community resilience and voice, and ensuring the self-determination of our communities of color.

The Self-Sufficiency Vision in Action: We believe that everyone in Oregon deserves opportunities to thrive and reach their full potential. Maximizing people's potential helps our communities thrive and benefits our entire state.

The goal is absolute transformation.

The Family Preservation approach actualizes these visions by supporting systems to shift to prioritize keeping families together and in their communities. We turn to families and communities to tell us what they need when they need it, how they need it, and who they need it from. Family Preservation is working to build and deliver through this work. They are looking at internal practices, how we approach the work, how we're connected to the community as an agency, and how we use our resources differently. That means using our money and people differently to support communities in doing what they do best and supporting their families.

Family Preservation is working to shift our systems away from seeing separation as a solution for families when they're struggling and instead recognizing that families do better when they're together and that stability, both financial and well-being, really promotes safety and not the other way around. This is not new work. It is a reprioritization and refocus on working with families together in their homes.

Jennifer discussed the difference between prevention and preservation. Prevention is stopping something before it occurs, and preservation is keeping families together while we are working with them. She also shared about the work happening at two cohorts of demonstration sites in Oregon.

She addressed the implied question – “What can this Board be doing right now around family preservation?”. There are foundational elements that need to be in place to support moving and shifting the practice away from separation and making it easier to keep kids and families together. These foundational elements are:

- Intra-agency Relationships: Self-Sufficiency & Child Welfare
- Community Engagement: Sustainable Partnerships
- Practice: Engagement
- Supports & Services: Meeting Needs

These four elements are seeded in equity and data. She further discussed each element in detail.

Erika shared that the family preservation sites were very intentional about community engagement. This is essential to dismantling systematic and institutional racism and oppression. The Board asked how the demonstration sites were handling power sharing. Jennifer acknowledged the natural tension between statutory requirements and open community engagement. They are working to coach and support staff around true

power sharing. It is key to take time to build relationships and create a community safety network.

Jennifer presented data on the connection between concrete economic support and keeping families together. Difficulty finding child care was a stronger predictor of maternal neglect than almost any other factor, including mental health, severity of drug use, history of abuse as a child, or use of public assistance.

Erica discussed the importance of offering evidence-based economic and concrete support as a first-line intervention, eliminating the culture of conditional support, and working to identify and address poverty-related neglect in new ways.

Jennifer will share a Foundational Elements best practice guide after the meeting. This guide can be used to prepare for when the Family Preservation practice rolls out statewide. Understanding the foundational elements and beginning to put those in place is work that can be done now.

Board members were encouraged to contact Jennifer or Erica with questions at jennifer.holman@odhs.oregon.gov or erica.m.jauregui@odhs.oregon.gov.

Kristi asked what our cross-sector Board can do to support this work. Jennifer suggested that the Board can facilitate, through their networks, conversations with families about what they need, where they want those things to come from, and how they are best delivered. She shared some examples of those conversations and their positive results. Another suggestion was made to work to normalize asking for help and offering easy-to-find resources.

CONSENT ITEMS				November 2023 Meeting Minutes								
The Board was asked to approve the November 2023 meeting minutes.												
Motion: Bettina Schempf												
2 nd : Lynnette Wynkoop												
	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A	
Shelagh Baird	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Claire Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DeAnn Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Halliday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neftali Pizano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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Jeff Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Todd Jeter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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VOTING RESULTS				Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)								
Abstentions: DeAnn Brown, Barbara Dougherty												
The Board voted to approve the minutes as presented.												

DISCUSSION ITEM	Linn County Business Representative Board Application
<p>Kristi introduced Dean Craig. He is an employee with Willamette Workforce Partnership, and his supervisor there, Kim Parker, is the former chief of staff for the Early Learning Division. Dean has been participating in our regional child care work group with the COG for quite some time. At the Workforce Partnership Conference in Bend at the beginning of November, Kristi approached him about joining this Board, given his engagement in child care. Dean is a person who is not afraid to ask hard questions and will bring a strong voice to this Board and a better understanding of child care, early learning, and how it impacts workforce and economic development.</p> <p>The Board noted that Dean has an extensive network of skills and resources.</p>	

DISCUSSION VOTE	Linn County Business Representative Board Application										
The Board was asked to approve Dean Craig as the Linn County Business Representative on this Board.											
Motion: Paul Smith											
2 nd : Laura Farmer											
	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A
Shelagh Baird	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Claire Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VOTING RESULTS	Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)
Abstentions: None	
The Board voted to approve Dean Craig as the Linn County Business Representative on this Board.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	Board Member Registration
<p>Kristi shared that after today's meeting, Neftali Pizano will be stepping down from this Board.</p>	

SPECIAL PRESENTATION	Oregon Health Plan 1115 Demonstration Waiver
<p>This presentation was requested to offer the Board information for our Raise Up Oregon goals and Strategic Planning. Todd Jeter presented information on the Social Determinants of Health (SDoH), Health Related Social Needs (HRSN), and the Oregon Health Plan Demonstration Waiver.</p>	

HRSN refers to the social and economic needs that individuals experience that affect their ability to maintain their health and well-being. They include housing instability, housing quality, food insecurity, employment, personal safety, lack of transportation and affordable utilities, and more.

SDoH refers to the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age that are shaped by the distribution of money, power, and resources and impacted by factors such as institutional bias, discrimination, racism, and more.

The Oregon Health Plan 1115 demonstration waiver is also called the 1115 waiver. It is related to HRSN. Waivers specify ways that the state Medicaid program will operate differently than what is outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations. Oregon reviews or revises the OHP waiver every five years. This waiver is a way that Oregon demonstrates that using funds in non-traditional ways will improve quality, lower overall system costs, and support the health of OHP recipients. The demonstration period for the current waiver runs from 2022 to 2027. Oregon received authority for \$268 million in federal buyout for the five years of the demonstration that will free up funds to invest in these nontraditional ways, as outlined in the waiver application. It freed up state funding, resulting in 1.2 billion across the demonstration.

Components of the waiver include:

1. Ensuring people can maintain their health coverage
2. Improving health outcomes by addressing health-related social needs
3. Ensuring smart, flexible spending for health-related social needs and health equity
4. Creating a more equitable, culturally and linguistically responsive health care system

Under items three and four, a new medical benefit HRSN is created. This benefit includes the categories/components of Housing, Food, and Climate. Under the new waiver, members who are OHP members and meet the eligibility requirements will be able to receive rental assistance or temporary housing for up to six months and utility assistance for up to six months in conjunction with that rental assistance. The one-time transition of moving costs, housing deposits and fees, medically necessary home modifications, pre-tenancy, insolvency support services, and navigation or case management for housing. Importantly, this also means that non-profits and these different arenas that may be funded by short-term grant cycles can now bill for their services and generate sustainable revenue for their operations.

The SDoH Equity and Transformation Team is leading the development of the Regional Social Care IHN Regional Social Care Network to meet the region's needs. They will also be incentivizing the uptake of Unite Us to address SDoH and community infrastructure by connecting providers and community support services. IHN is sponsoring unlimited Unite Us licenses to support IHN-CCO's providers and community partners. They will offer a social care payments module to bring case management functionality and the ability to invoice right within the referral system, doing technical assistance and supporting adoption by Samaritan Health Services.

Todd explained how this waiver aligns with existing programs IHN utilizes to support social determinants of health-related services and health-related social needs in communities. This includes:

- Housing Initiatives
 - Coalition for Housing Equity

- FUSE (Frequent Users System Engagement)
- Data Harmonization
- Respite Care Support
- Food and Climate Initiatives
 - Foodsmart
 - Mobile Van Drives
 - Community Events
 - Furniture Share
- Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
- Supporting Health for All through Reinvestment (SHARE)
- Delivery System Transformation (DST)
- Health Related Services (HRS) and Community Benefit Initiative (CBI)

Todd discussed the collective impact of the integrated community systems of behavioral health and the SDoH Equity and Transformation team.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Board Meeting Follow-Up

Kristi shared that a [JamBoard activity will be posted to Basecamp](#) to collect thoughts about the two programs presented at this meeting. That feedback will be brought back to the next Board meeting in February.

DISCUSSION ITEM

February Board Retreat Benton County location

Kristi has reached out to see if the meeting room at the Philomath District Office is available for our February Board retreat. She asked Board members to share suggestions for a Benton County space appropriate for a hybrid meeting. The meeting will be from noon to 4 pm.

Locations suggestions included:

- Monroe Public Library. I really like the idea of trying to be in rural Benton
- Corvallis Community Center
- Consumer Power

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

LBL Hub Updates

Due to time constraints, the Director's Report will be presented on Basecamp.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Parent Leadership Council Update

Ana explained the work of the Parent Leadership Council (PLC). The PLC works to bring parents' voices to our work. Each county has a council to capture each area's unique needs.

Parents self-nominate for this council and commit to serve for two years. Parent compensation. The EL Hub will host quarterly PLC meetings, including training and skill-building on topics like testifying before the legislature and attending lobby days as a parent representative. Parents will be compensated as parent consultants for their time and any expenses that they might incur for participating.

Parent Leadership Council is written into our contracts as a scope of work item. We are structuring this group to be meaningful and help impact the work that we're doing as an Early Learning Hub in the region.

FISCAL REPORT

Matt Grams

Matt presented the revenue, expenditures, and miscellaneous reports for October 2023. The EL Hub is working with the LBCC Business Office to change our accounting structure to eliminate activity codes. KPI MOUs will be sent out very soon. Supporting documents will go out to partners tomorrow.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Business Liaison Request

Bryan is working with Little Beavers Preschool in Corvallis. They approached LBCC Family Connections in October, looking for a start grant or expansion grant to turn the house next door into an extension wing of a classroom. Currently, the house is zoned residential, so they want to open it as a home-based child care for infants and toddlers. The center is to open in early 2024.

Bryan asked the Board to suggest an employer or contact with decision authority for ten slots to help with start-up costs.

The Board suggested contacting the Benton County Sheriff's Office.

Bryan shared his email and asked for suggestions and feedback from the Board.
steinhb@linnbenton.edu

WORKGROUP & PROGRAM UPDATE

To prioritize meeting time for items that need action or feedback, Program Updates and Workgroup Reports will be included in the Board packet but not presented during the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

1:00 pm, February 1, 2024
Online via Zoom

MEETING ADJOURNED

3:51 pm