

Strategic Priorities



Early
Learning

Hub

Letter from the Director

Contents

Contents

Background.....	2
Early Learning Hub Vision and Mission	2
Guiding Principles.....	3
Raise Up Oregon	3
Early Learning System Goal 1: The Early Learning System is equitable: integrated, accessible, inclusive, anti-racist, and family centered.....	5
Early Learning System Goal 2: All families with young children are supported to ensure their well-being.....	6
Early Learning System Goal 3: All children are thriving in early childhood and beyond.....	7
Early Learning Hub Governing Board	9

Background

The Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties supports underserved children and families in our region to learn and thrive by making resources and supports more available, more accessible, and more effective.

The Early Learning Hub is a collection of program and service providers who believe that by working together as K-12 schools, early education, health, human services, and business we can better serve children and families.

We are focused on young children and their families because research is clear that giving children a strong start helps set them on a path toward future success in school and in life. Well before the start of kindergarten, a child's brain has already created the foundation for future learning and development. The more we invest in young children, the greater the payoff will be down the road, with stronger readers in third grade, more high school graduates, more college-ready students, and a skilled workforce that has the social, emotional, and cognitive skills needed to meet the demands of a rapidly changing economy and contribute to our shared prosperity.

If our Early Learning Hub is successful, we will see more children ready to succeed in kindergarten, more families with the resources and tools to create stable environments for their children, and services and programs working together to provide what children and families need most.

Early Learning Hub Vision and Mission

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.

Mission

The Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties brings partners together to increase family stability, improve kindergarten readiness, and ensure service coordination that is equitable and culturally and linguistically competent.

Guiding Principles

The Hub and its governance Councils shall operate under the following guiding principles in fulfilling the vision, mission, and outcome goals of an Early Learning Hub:

- There are several places where families and organizations cross the three counties, providing opportunities for systems alignment and coordination.
- We will strive to create community-specific strategies since needs and programs differ across counties and communities.
- We respect and value our existing relationships and will seek to expand our partnerships and build new relationships.
- Oregon's Early Childhood System's Theory of Change will guide our work with a focus on collaborative action that leads to systems changes.
- We seek to create a Hub that is inclusive and transparent with processes and procedures that are as stream-lining as much as possible.
- Our governance model will evolve over time and will be evaluated and adjusted to strategically meet outcomes.

Raise Up Oregon

Raise Up Oregon: A Statewide Early Childhood System Plan 2024-2028 is a statewide strategic plan focused on actions that state agencies can use in partnership with families, communities, and the private sector to build a comprehensive early childhood system that achieves the following vision and goals:

Vision: *All of Oregon's young children, prenatal to age five, experience an early start that results in positive health, education, and life outcomes regardless of zip code, race, and family income.*

System Goal 1: The early childhood system is equitable, integrated, accessible, inclusive, anti-racist, and family-centered.

System Goal 2: All families with young children are supported to ensure their well-being.

System Goal 3: All children are thriving in early childhood and beyond.

The early childhood system includes the full set of supports that young children and their families need to grow and thrive. These supports include physical and mental health, housing, social services, and early learning and care. Because a comprehensive early childhood system must address all these domains and do so in a way that respects and empowers families, Raise Up Oregon calls out the specific and collaborative contributions that multiple agencies must commit to building this system.

These agencies include the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC), Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), Oregon Department of Education (ODE), Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS).

Raise Up Oregon At a Glance

System Goal 1: The early childhood system is equitable: integrated, accessible, inclusive, anti-racist, and family centered.

Objective 1: Honor and recognize the sovereignty of the nine federally recognized tribal nations within

Oregon and ensure strong government-to-government relationships to benefit tribal communities.

Objective 2: Multi-agency partnerships are developed at the state and local levels to systematically

support improved outcomes and streamlined access for all young children and their families.

Objective 3: Early Learning Hubs are leveraged and resourced to advance regional early childhood systems that are equitable, integrated, accessible, inclusive, and family centered.

Objective 4: The business, philanthropic, and non-profit communities champion and support the development of the early childhood system.

System Goal 2: All families with young children are supported to ensure their well-being.

Objective 5: Families with young children are supported in knowing about and accessing a full range of services that meet their needs and are culturally and linguistically responsive.

Objective 6: Families with young children have increased access to economic supports.

Objective 7: All families have access to support for their physical, social, emotional, behavioral, and oral health.

Objective 8: Families have expanded access to culturally and linguistically responsive and specific family preservation strategies, resources, and programs focused on the prenatal-to-five population.

Objective 9: Affordable housing is available statewide for all families with young children.

Objective 10: All parents and families are supported and engaged in enabling their children to thrive.

System Goal 3: All children are thriving in early childhood and beyond.

Objective 11: Families have access to high-quality, culturally, and linguistically responsive birth-to-five pediatric health care services.

Objective 12: Families have access to high-quality, culturally, and linguistically responsive birth-to-five social and emotional supports.

Objective 13: Young children with developmental delays and disabilities are identified early and provided with inclusive services to reach their full potential.

Objective 14: Families have access to high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) and affordable early learning and care that meets their needs.

Objective 15: The early childhood workforce is diverse, culturally responsive, high quality, and well compensated.

Objective 16: Children and families experience supportive transitions and continuity of services across early learning and care and public education (K-12) settings.

Early Learning System Goal 1: The Early Learning System is equitable: integrated, accessible, inclusive, anti-racist, and family centered.

Regional Goal #1:	The business, philanthropic, and non-profit communities champion and support the development of the early childhood system throughout the region.
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 1.1: Educate local businesses on the importance of child care and its impact on their employees through the Business Outreach Initiative.
	Strategy 1.2: Work with local businesses to identify solutions to the child care issues their employees face and how to build supports into their budget for both short- and long-term solutions.
	Strategy 1.3: Serve as the regional host for the Best Place for Working Parents certification initiative, working with local chambers and workforce development boards to market the certification throughout the region.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Objective 4

Regional Goal #2:	Pollywog will serve as a regional referral system for health-related social needs. (pending grant award)
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 2.1: Pollywog will apply to IHN_CCO for the Community Capacity Building Funds.
	Strategy 2.2: Pollywog will hire a medical biller.
	Strategy 2.3: Staff will be trained as traditional health workers and position descriptions will be re-written to reflect the work required from the grant.
	Strategy 2.4: Health-related social needs services and supports will be incorporated into the existing Pollywog website, social media, and marketing.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Strategies.

Early Learning System Goal 2: All families with young children are supported to ensure their well-being.

Regional Goal #3: Families have access to an array of home visiting programs to meet their needs.	
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 3.1: Create a home visiting work group as a part of the Early Learning Hub governance structure that leverages an existing meeting time/format and includes all regional home visiting programs, regardless of funding stream or service delivery model.
	Strategy 3.2: Ensure that all home visiting programs in the region have access to Connect Oregon to send and receive referrals.
	Strategy 3.3: Map all home visiting programs in the region with information regarding model type, eligibility requirements, length of program availability, etc. Create a Guidebook for Pollywog staff, health care providers, and other community partners.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Strategies 2.6, 5.1, 5.4, 10.2 and 10.5

Regional Goal #4: Connect Oregon (Unite Us) is utilized to it's full potential as the region's referral system.	
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 4.1: In partnership with Unite Us and InterCommunity Health Network (IHN), host trainings for community partners on the use of Connect Oregon specific to program type and need.
	Strategy 4.2: Support IHN in their rollout of Connect Oregon as the region's Community Information Exchange platform.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Strategy 5.4

Early Learning System Goal 3: All children are thriving in early childhood and beyond.

Regional Goal #5:	Children with developmental delays and disabilities have access to high-quality, inclusive, early childhood programs.
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 5.1: Pilot mixed delivery classroom model in partnership with Corvallis School District, Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education, and Head Start/ Kids and Company for inclusive preschool classrooms at 7 of 8 elementary schools within the district. Imbed a philosophy of shared professional development that includes preschool staff and early grade teachers together.
	Strategy 5.2: Assess pilot for potential replication while sharing success and challenges with all school districts in our region.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Strategies 13.3 and 14.7

Regional Goal #6:	The early learning and care workforce will have access to an array of professional development opportunities to best support the children and families they serve.
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 6.1: Support the Child Care Resource and Referral to increase coaching capacity in early learning and care environments, inclusive of all settings.
	Strategy 6.2: Ensure that the home visiting workforce has access to professional development opportunities that address the unique challenges of home visiting.
	Strategy 6.3: Increase access to professional development opportunities in multiple languages to meet the diverse needs of the workforce.
	Strategy 6.4: Increase access to shared professional development opportunities that include both early learning providers and early grade teachers together.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Strategies 10.4, 12.1, 14.4, and 16.2

Regional Goal #7:	Children and families experience supportive transitions and continuity of services across early learning and care and public education (K-12) settings.
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 7.1: Increase awareness of Kindergarten round up events by leveraging CCR&R's relationships with Child Care providers to help share information with families.
	Strategy 7.2: Work with Early Learning providers and kindergarten teachers to develop a "Transition to Kindergarten" toolkit.
	Strategy 7.3: Explore potential of Early Learning data being tracked in K-12 data system.
	Strategy 7.4: Advocate for a single fingerprint process for early learning professionals regardless of settings (e.g., preschool, K-12).
	Strategy 7.5: Leverage P-3 Alignment workgroup to identify and share best practice strategies related to transition activities and supports.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Objective 16

Regional Goal #8:	Families have access to high-quality, culturally and linguistically responsive birth-to-five social and emotional supports. (IECMHC Grant)
Hub Strategies:	Strategy 8.1: Support CCR&R in the development of their community engagement plan for their Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation grant.
	Strategy 8.2: Support CCR&R in developing collaborative relationships with early learning system partners. Help to identify new or additional partners that need to be included in the work.
	Strategy 8.3: Serve as convener with CCR&R and regional early learning system partners to support development of processes and agreements for “teaming” Warmline request.
Raise Up Oregon Alignment:	This goal and the strategies for implementation align with and support Raise Up Oregon Strategy 12.2

Early Learning Hub Governing Board

Claire Hall, Co-Chair
Lincoln County Commissioner
Lincoln County – Human & Social Services

Lola Jones, Co-Chair
Samaritan House
Lincoln County – Housing

DeAnn Brown
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Standing Position

Belit Burke
Oregon Department of Human Services
ODHS – Standing Position

Jeff Davis
Linn-Benton Community College
Fiscal Agent – Standing Position

Shelagh Baird
Samaritan Health Services
Lincoln County – Health

Dean Craig
Willamette Workforce Partnership
Linn County – Business

Barbara Dougherty
Samaritan Early Learning Center, retired
Lincoln County – Early Childhood Education

Laura Farmer
Parent
Benton County – Parent Voice

Susan Halliday
Philomath School District
Benton County – K-12

Jason Hay
Linn Benton Lincoln Education Service District
Standing Position

Todd Jeters
InterCommunity Health Network (IHN)
Coordinated Care – Standing Position

Stephany Koehne
Kids & Company of Linn County
Linn County – Early Childhood Education

Steve Martinelli
Scio School District
Linn County – K-12

Bettina Schempf
Old Mill Center
Benton County – Human & Social Services

Paul Smith
Strengthening Rural Families
Benton County – Early Childhood Education

Diane Wilkinson
Lincoln County School District
Lincoln County – K-12

Lynnette Wynkoop
Child Care Resource & Referral
CCR&R Standing Position



Early Learning Hub

of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Family Resources & Education Center
Linn-Benton Community College
6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, LM-132
Albany, OR 97321
Lblearlylearninghub.org