



**(EARLY LEARNING WASHINGTON COUNTY (ELWC)
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2019
2:00 - 4:00 pm**

Washington County Department of Health and Human Services
20665 SW Blanton St., Aloha
Minutes

Call to Order

The Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm and was presided over by Chair Marilyn Harrison.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included: Amy Shea Reyes (Lifeworks NW), Donalda Dodson (OCDC), Katherine Gallian (Community Action), Sabi Velasco (Amazing Minds), Katie Anderson (WCCLS), Martin Blasco (WCCLS/Equity Committee), Olga Acuña (Hillsboro SD), Bridget Cooke (Adelante Mujeres), Luis Nava (Parent/ Parent Committee), Marilyn Harrison (Chair, retired), Tara Olson (Washington County WIC), Rolanda Garcia (DHS), Juana Garcia (Lifeworks NW/ Equity Committee), Susan Salkeid (Tigard Tualatin SD)

Staff members in attendance included: Adam Freer, Ron Kasabian, Leslie Moguil, Begoña Rodriguez-Liern, Genevieve Ellis, Brittany Geertsen

Guests in attendance included: Tenisha Woodson (Pacific Research & Evaluation), Steve Rider (Pacific Research & Evaluation), Miguel A Barrios (The Little Train Day Care), Denise Swanson (Early Learning Division, ELD), Sue Parrish (ELD), Maureen Seferovich (Washington County Behavioral Health)

Members not in attendance but excused included: Health Share

Members not in attendance without advance notice included: Beaverton SD, Forest Grove SD, NWRESA, Providence Health

Quorum

A quorum of voters was present.

Agenda Items	Result/Action Steps
Welcome and Introductions	None

<p>Approval of Minutes and Conflict of Interest Declaration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correction to minutes – page 4 – action item should say Marilyn and Adam will make changes to the conflict of interest form. We got SC feedback on the conflict of interest form in January and we are planning to make those edits. • A motion to approve minutes was made by Marilyn. A vote was taken and the motion approved. • No declared conflicts of interest. <p><u>Votes in favor (13):</u> Amy Shea Reyes, Donalda Dodson, Katherine Gallian, Sabi Velasco, Katie Anderson, Martin Blasco, Olga Acuña, Bridget Cooke, Luis Nava, Marilyn Harrison, Rolanda Garcia, Juana Garcia, Susan Salkeid</p> <p><u>Votes opposed:</u> None</p> <p><u>Abstentions:</u> None</p>	<p>Action: Minutes were approved.</p> <p>Next Steps: Correct Jan Minutes</p> <p>Have the form completed annually by everyone. Additionally, SC members are asked to review agendas/packets in advance and identify any potential conflict of interests.</p>
<p>Director’s Briefing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Learning Collaborative in Silverton, Feb 4-6 – Attended release of the Early Learning Strategic Plan - <i>Raise Up Oregon</i>. There were important legislators there. • Update on integrated referral system. ELWC is working with the metro region and health share to develop a pilot for an integrated referral system. We are working with Providence Swindell’s Center (Help Me Grow) to build on the vision that was presented to the SC last fall. Health Share funding will help develop HMG-Washington County expanding beyond its current focus to become a broader, more integrated referral system • Preschool Development Grant (PDG) update – Oregon received \$4.2 million for several projects, including a statewide needs assessment focused on preschool needs and service gaps. There is also a planning component, hiring a PDG manager, and developing a preschool assessment. There will be two pilot sites for the coordinated enrollment, but not for community planning as originally proposed. • What would be the most helpful way for ELWC staff to make sure SC members are updated about what is happening in the legislative session? Response: If something is important to share, please do so. Otherwise, every other week will be fine. 	<p>Next Steps: Adam will send legislative updates every other week, unless something more urgent happens.</p>
<p>Committee & Workgroup Reports - see meeting summaries attached to email</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAC – busy planning for advocacy, will cover later in the agenda • All committees discussed proposed priority populations research plan. 	<p>None</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equity – presentation about how to advocate for people with disabilities. 55% of communities of color are not successful with their claims; this is a disparity. 	
<p>Headlines and Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olga Acuña was selected by Centro Cultural for their Leader award for her advocacy work. Preschool Promise is working on a summer transition backpack. Brittany will share an official sample soon. Supplies will help children continue skills after school lets out for summer (based on kinder transition backpack). Will also add some local resource flyers, VROOM cards, and books. If there is a blended classroom, all students will get a backpack. We are purchasing 640 backpacks for this year and next. Curiosity Kits have been developed, building on the STEM kits. The content is focusing on worms. IRCO and PTWC decided last week to cancel the Nurturing Parenting series in Vietnamese, because no one signed up. We would like to better understand how we can better align with our communities’ needs and how we can build relationships within the Vietnamese community to make sure we have maximum impact with these opportunities. We will roll the funds up and try to build connections to offer the course again. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Susan – what about alternative models, such as parent ambassadors or train-the-trainer for parents? We had some success with the early childhood mental health summit through faith-based connections. IRCO did have success connecting with a Vietnamese church for space. 	<p>Next Steps: STEM Curiosity kits will be ready in a few weeks</p> <p>We will roll the funds up and try to build connections to offer the course again.</p> <p>Bridget agreed to connect Leslie through the Civic Leaders training.</p> <p>Sabi can connect with Vietnamese early childcare providers through the union.</p>
<p>Discussion: Priority populations research project Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phased approach – first step is to identify where the populations we want to reach are located. Next would be service area gaps, but that could be a huge project, so we want to hold off on that until we can do it well. Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE) put together an initial proposal, which was then vetted and refined by all the committees. The result is reflected in the attachment. This will be an ongoing conversation (iterative process) and PRE will come back to get guidance from the Hub. At this point, the plan is to use the Hub structure to get input, rather than create a separate workgroup, which was discussed at the previous meeting. DHS has a ton of data and a data coordinator. Rolanda would like to make sure that DHS families are included and connected to this work. PRE will start with a comprehensive list of data sources and variables then get input from the Hub via email, in case there is anything missing. Comments are also welcome. Recognition that different data will be available at different levels of specificity. For the Tableau map, PRE will make the 	<p>Next Steps: PRE will meet with committees to get input and direction after completing the first step of the research – hopefully in May.</p> <p>PRE will consider having the ability to aggregate up to a school district level.</p> <p>PRE will consider adding the following factors into their analysis: 3rd grade math and science; English Language Learner status; home language;</p>

<p>map as specific as possible for each data source. Therefore, for some areas of the map you will be able to drill down to smaller areas. One idea for layering is having an equity index to identify areas where there is more convergence of factors, but we will need to look at feasibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input: Having the ability to aggregate up to a school district level would be great. • PRE has mostly completed the research design and would like to report back some initial findings in May for feedback. Between May and summer, PRE would like to engage the Hub to build on knowledge. Currently, we have a wish list of data to include in the report. PRE will likely get in touch with Hub Partners to request data. The ELD has a pre-doctoral fellow and a post-doctoral fellow doing similar assessment work, if PRE would like to have a conversation with them to make sure that the projects align. 	
<p>Discussion: Raise Up Oregon – How can we be ambassadors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition in this report of all the different sectors that interact and support early learning. Would like to get input from the Hub on how we could use this report. • Input: Importance of including housing in the plan. We can see some of the work from ELWC in Goal 1, objectives 4 and 6. We like seeing opportunities for connection. Importance of coordinating services. Goal 3 objectives are all things this Hub has been working on – reflects an opportunity for expansion. Importance of different pathways to be credentialed and recognizing experience as preparation for teaching. Objective 6 – interesting that it focuses on k-3 and doesn’t include early learning – need to continue alignment and communication between early education and k-12 system. Colt Gill wanted to emphasize having schools ready for kids, rather than kids ready for school. Schools have come a long way in terms of recognizing the strengths of early learning providers and there is more work to be done. Need to unpack the label of “housing” – i.e. providing services that help families stay in housing is an important component. While this is the state’s plan, it is really our plan. It shows we are heading in the right direction and provides strategic guidance. • The plan includes a complex vision. • Additional Chart in packet shows vision for what a high quality preschool system looks like – can see Hub as part of each of these roles in the system. • Consider language around parents being children’s “first” or “primary” teachers. In addition, how do these words translate in different languages? 	<p>Next Steps: Continue to consider what role the Hub can play in being ambassadors for that vision in our region? We will need to continue this conversation over time.</p>

	<p>We want parents to know how important their lifelong roles are.</p>
<p>Discussion: Advocacy Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On March 21, ELWC PAC organized to go to Portland to testify in front of the Ways & Means Committee. • Next Friday, 6-8 pm, at Brown Miller School library – opportunity to meet with local legislators. Inviting the community to attend and give input. • April 9th – Early Learning Lobby Day – PAC representatives will be there, but want to show larger numbers. It is from 12-4 pm • Planning a breakfast event with tri-county area representatives and one of the co-chairs from the Ways & Means committee. Tentative date is May 18th. The intent is to highlight parent voice. • Suggestion: in the interim (non-legislative years), invite representatives to visit service providers to see services in action. 	<p>Next Steps:</p> <p>Lobby Day - Begona will send out the link to the Children’s Institute website. There are T-shirts for anyone that attends.</p> <p>Let Begona know if you can help with the breakfast event.- LATER CANCELLED</p>
<p>Charter Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review final Conflict of Interest policy – changes are summarized in January meeting minutes. The policy states ongoing disclosure of any conflicts. The group can vote to determine whether an individual or organization’s conflict should result in abstaining from a decision. This is not a governance decision – it pertains only to the Steering Committee. The vote from January carries. • Mission Statement – feedback from the committees on whether to add “safety” to our mission statement means we need to circle back to this discussion. The plan is to add the phrase about safety and circulate the draft mission statement to all the committees for a vote. • Guiding Principles – same issue as above – will ask each committee to vote whether to keep the guiding principles. There was an effort to incorporate all the feedback that was received. • Equity Lens – we currently have multiple equity statements. The Governance Workgroup created a third equity lens statement with bullet points for clarity. Introducing to the SC first and then will send to the other committees. Recommendations: reduce the repetition of the word children. It seems redundant to say “in our priority families...” We could say, “ELWC will actively work on reducing disparities and supporting and influencing the improvements in...” 	<p>Next Steps:</p> <p>The SC members will sign the Conflict of Interest Form at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action item:</p> <p>The revised version of the Equity Lens was approved.</p>

<p>Vote on the approval of the Equity Lens:</p> <p><u>Votes in favor (13)</u>: Amy Shea Reyes, Donalda Dodson, Katherine Gallian, Sabi Velasco, Katie Anderson, Martin Blasco, Olga Acuña, Bridget Cooke, Luis Nava, Marilyn Harrison, Rolanda Garcia, Juana Garcia, Susan Salkeid</p> <p><u>Votes opposed</u>: None</p> <p><u>Abstentions</u>: None</p>	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>April 24, 2019 Back at the NWRES D</p>
<p>The meeting was adjourned.</p>	<p>4:05 pm</p>