

FOUR RIVERS EARLY LEARNING HUB

WASCO ECC Meeting



ECC Meeting

Oct. 17, 2016

Columbia Gorge ESD

Present

Nancy Patten, Child Care Partners

Teri Thalhofer - Health Systems Rep for 4RELH

Lori McCanna - DHS – SSP

Noemi Ochoa – Child Care Partners

Shellie Campbell, NCPHD

Lisa Roth – Mid-Columbia Center for Living

Ronda Hull – Headstart

Mike Goris – 4RELH

Introductions and Welcome

Nancy Patten calls the meeting to order as Kristen Richelderfer is unable to attend the meeting. Introductions are made around the table.

Call for Additions to the Agenda

No additions were made to the Agenda

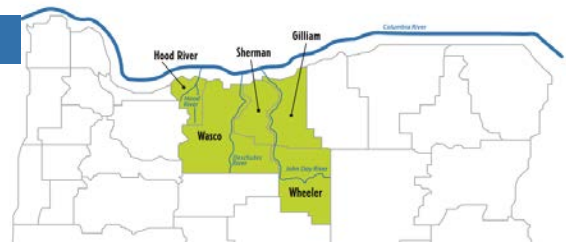
MCCFL Lunch n' Launch

This gathering is to have an open discussion about wrap around services again. In order to attend you only have to be involved with two or more systems. It's meant to be for everyone in the community. It's going to be separate from mental health services. This is specifically for kids and families that have a lot of community partners. Team approach to care is key with client centrality and family focus.

Lori mentions CCN and funding and maybe including them in the Lunch n' Launch.

Teri mentions that CCN & Ocean had to redo priorities due to funding changes. Ocean would not be supporting CCN to work on sustainability efforts.

Wednesday, October 26, 2016



This then brings up funding for a parental outreach.

Eventually Lisa will have to hire a full time parent peer.

Challenge also revolves around Hood River & Wasco are under one CCO while Sherman is under a different one.

Our Kids Connections Specialist

Nancey introduces Mike to talk about the job opening for the Our Kids Connections Specialist position.

It was emailed out by Christa during the meeting.

Candidate must have a degree and must be able to coordinate finding facilities, networking within the community and also working closely with families. It will take a unique individual to get the program up and running by January.

Hot Topics

Absenteeism

Looking at the regional problem of student absenteeism among elementary and Pre-K programs.

Rhonda mentions that Head start has new performance standards. They are now required to have a 90% attendance standard. With that being said there are lots of transportation issues, children being sick. Etc.

Teri mentions that the definition of what sick is needs to change which might help with attendance. We don't want to encourage to send their kids to school when they are contagious but to ring awareness and when to send you child to the doctors.

It's mentioned we should get the pediatric practices involved and share what it means to be sick with the private pre-k & childcare programs.

Lori mentions that sometimes absenteeism might be due to cultural or parental lack of understanding of the benefits of early childhood education. For 3 years, Self Sufficiency has focused on getting kids to school, but unfortunately we can't access attendance records due to legal reasons.

Socially it's a huge gap for children when they're absent from school.



Pocket full of Feelings

Teri passes out pocket full of feelings on behalf of Debbie Jones who couldn't attend the meeting. The classes are meant to help take away some of the anxiety parents may have about dealing with their children's feelings and behavioral reactions to those feelings.

I & R grants

Applications will be out soon. There is not a lot of money but it might help support some new ideas or expand some things that you're already doing in your area.

Lori mentions she passed along the information to school super intendent.

Christa is working on a review board committee in order to expedite the process. Both Lisa and Noemi will be part of that committee.

Transportation & Housing

If there are any other big issues that can be addressed.

Lisa mentions that transportation is a big issue for everything. There have been lots of complaints for the Link bus. Furthermore, it creates a huge barrier for all services.

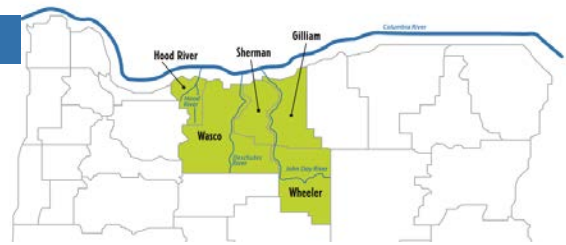
A suggestion is made that we should invite the new Transportation director to one of our meetings to further discuss the issue

Housing is also a really important issue.

Discussion around Celilo Village and Warm Springs and public health is mentioned.

Teri and Shellie will both be attending cultural competency training on Nov. 7th. They want to make connections between Warm Springs and public health to see what they're thinking and what their thoughts are on several issues. The majority of the reservation is in Wasco but the majority of the population is in Jefferson.

Lori mentions that the responsibility of helping Celilo is falling on the BIA to take the lead with managing the community center for services every 2 weeks. The Umatilla tribe out of District 12 – Hermiston was actually getting funding for Celilo.



Mobile Pre-K Program

The goal of the mobile preschool program is to serve those children whose families make too much income to attend headstart and are receiving no early education services at all in the Cascade Locks, Chenoweth, and Colonel Wright areas.

Changes within agencies

Lori – many things changing including new leadership. There will be lots of opportunity for collaboration with DHS Services.

Noemi – CCR is all over social media. Thanks to the HUB there is a chance to help 10 providers increase their quality and go through QRIS in Spanish. 6 are actively participating and hoping to get all ten very soon.

Hood River Children's Fair was also a success with a total of 435 families and 23 agencies in total.

Ronda – Serving 139 children currently and always looking for more children to help. Headstart will start doing PEP soon which is a parent employment program. Headstart is trying to train parents to eventually help them get hired by headstart programs.

Shellie – New staff at health department. Really trying hard to strengthen and expand home visiting services to families because the more we can see moms all the way through pregnancy the healthier the outcomes.

Teri – looking at processes improvement for home visiting. Had conversations with Christa about the possibility of Public health managing database piece of HVC. Also flu shots are available for children. Doing shot clinics and outreach for that.

Nancey – 211 will be handling parent referrals for child care. Our area doesn't really use 211 so it's going to have to be treated differently so people actually use the service. We will still follow no wrong door because there is a lag in getting services to families. If families have had any negative experiences with 211 please let CCR know about it. We are working with Margie McNab on a solution.

The Coordinator thanks everyone for their time and wrapped up the meeting.