

**Hood River County Early Childhood Meeting**  
**June 6, 2017**  
**Hood River County Courthouse**  
**12:00 Noon**

**Present:**

Trish Elliott - HRCHD  
Noemi Ochoa - Child Care Partners  
Cassie Whitmire - HR EI/ECSE  
Karen Mooney - MCCC  
Nadja McConville - DHS Self-Sufficiency  
Mike Goris - 4RELH  
Terri Vann - Keeping Families Together

**Agenda:**

- **Bridges to Health** - Trish Elliott - Trish shared information about the Bridges To Health. She shared that there was a Community Care Coordinator at Housing Authority and Providence Outpatient clinics are using care coordinators helping to provide services to those that need them. There is an emphasis on housing challenged but it is not necessary. There is a software program, CLARA, which links providers together. A big issue is tracking services. Nadja raised concerns about the website. She looked at it and found it difficult to use. There were questions about how to make sure everyone knows who is the lead and there is no overlap. Additionally there were questions about other services like Home Visiting, and how would they know if the person was connected with the Bridges to Health. After discussion, there was interest in potentially bringing in all agencies including home visitors and caseworkers for a group meeting in the fall to talk about Bridges and overlap with other programs. INFO ATTACHED
- **Program Updates:**
  - **Self Sufficiency** - Nadja shared that there is a new program manager - Neal Friederich. He took Susan Gabay's position as an interim. There is restructuring going on in their office. Linda Lawing is serving as the Interim District Manager as well as Program Manager. There is a new hire as Family Support and Connections, Lupita Munoz, who is bilingual. Also Nadja shared that there are many openings at Self Sufficiency, some who have only been there briefly. Additionally Child Welfare in District 9 is currently recruiting for four positions.
  - **Child Care Partners** - Noemi shared about the Children's Fair in The Dalles. There were 920 people with 23 participating partners.
  - **MCCC** - Karen shared that Parkdale is going to full days - 6 hours. There was some discussion about OCDC extending to 8 hours and Karen said the intent of their program is to mirror the school districts. There were questions about whether the longer day would prohibit the number of classes but Karen indicated the funding will still be based on slots.
  - **First Annual Early Learning Summit** - Cassie shared briefly about the funding for this summit. She doesn't know what the budget is looking like for the next school year, but they weren't able to fill a position in the 2016-17 school year, so ultimately there was an amount of \$\$ left over that had to be spent by the end of the school year. So Cassie approached the HUB, Child Care Partners and Wasco CO EI/ECES. The money is going through the HUB to provide this summit. They are hoping for home visitors, mental health

staff, and anyone who provides direct services to early childhood. They can provide participation hours. Finding the day was difficult, but it will be offered on a Friday and Saturday making it easier for more people to take advantage. There are 120 slots each day. Registration INFO ATTACHED

- **HVC** -Terri shared the work that is being done through the HUB and weekly planning meetings being held at the CGESD. They are working on rebranding the name and most likely it will be Our Kid's Network. It provides a single referral rather than agency by agency and there is a plan to have a website specific to our HUB through Vista Logic. An example of a site they have already developed is: [pollywogfamily.org](http://pollywogfamily.org) and it shares Lincoln, Linn and Benton Counties. It is worth checking out this website. There will be more information coming from these meetings.
- **Four Rivers Early Learning HUB** - Mike shared that the website is up and running. Check it out! It is on the Columbia Gorge ESD website.
- **Future Meeting Dates** - We generally skip July, but we have the Children's Fair coming up in October so will need time to plan. We decided on the following:
  - July 5 - No meeting
  - August 1 - Regular meeting and we will spend most of the meeting planning for the Children's Fair to be held October 7th.
  - September 11 - NEW MEETING DATE since the regular date, September 5th, is the first day of school.
  - October 3 - Regular meeting (just before our Children's Fair)
- **Upcoming Meeting** - Regional ECC, Monday, June 12th at 12:00, CGESD