

RECC Meeting

August 15, 2016

Columbia Gorge ESD

Present

Nancy Patten, Child Care Partners

Kristen Richelderfer, Child Care Partners

Amber DeGrange, Juvenile – Sherman County

Lori McCanna, DHS – SSP

Jen Heredia, OCDC

Brooke Ansotegui, NCESD EE

Grace Parson, TNDI

Shellie Campbell, NCPHD

Terri Vann, KFT – HUB

Debby Jones, YouthThink

Christa Rude, 4RELH

Candy Armstrong, NWCSD

Teri Thalhofer, NCPHD

Cindy Johnson, CGESD – 4RELH

Jennifer Bold, Business Director 4RELH - by phone

Introductions and Welcome

The Coordinator welcomed the group and introductions were made around the room. The Coordinator noted a change to the Agenda; item 6 was removed.

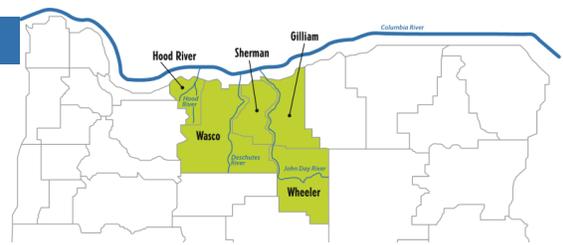
Call for Additions to the Agenda

No additions were made to the Agenda, however, there were several announcements:

Wasco County EI/ECSE will be holding a public screening and flyers were passed around

Hood River will be holding a Children's Fair

OCDC is recruiting for a Family Health Service Coordinator



Announcement of Early Childhood Communications Specialist

Applications for this position produced three (3) top candidates. The position was offered to Mike Goris who accepted the position and will start with us on September 1. She is bilingual, has good energy, she is good with technology and should be able to create a presence for us.

Strategy for Introduction and Engagement

The Coordinator asked the group what they felt was the right way to introduce Mike to the Early Childhood Committees.

It was determined that Christa should bring Mike to the ECC meetings and introduce her.

Vroom Grant

The Coordinator handed out a summary of the Vroom participation survey and asked for thoughts on what Mike should do with Vroom.

It was agreed that Mike should meet with Brooke's Vroom group to coordinate efforts and that Mike should attend the early childhood events being held in the various counties. Some members of the group would like to have some training.

Responsive Funding Concept

What does Responsive Funding look like? What might be the role for each Early Childhood Committee?

Requests go to the ECC → ECC refers to RECC → RECC refers to Governance Board

A collaborative process will need to be used and a tally kept of where the resources are going.

Data and Elementary School Zones (tabled)

Our Kids Network

We were hoping to link to an existing database, but there isn't one ready and available to us yet.

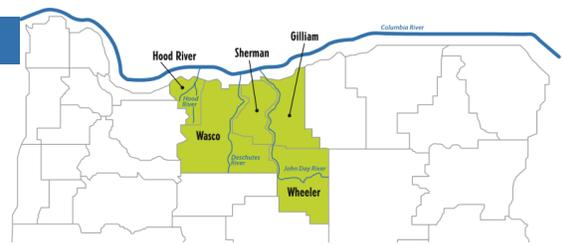
Our Kids Network is designed to be a framework for achieving multiple objectives. Families could agree to what they want to receive. The goal is that every pregnant mom and parent with children 5 and under is registered in Our Kids network. And a software system that allows families to participate by either self-registering or being registered by a community partner.

Mobile Preschool

The Coordinator would like to think about creating a contract with someone to run the Mobile Preschool.

The Mobile Preschool could begin in three locations. Top priorities would be:

- 1) Cascade Locks
- 2) Celilo Village
- 3) Arlington



Preschool would be once a week in each location and Monday and Friday would be staff prep days.

A caregiver and child would attend preschool together.

There was a discussion about missing the birth to 3 year old population, gaps in services and how location is determined.

The Mobile Preschool model is for children birth to 5 years old. Action and movement is happening.

Regional Training – Making the Most of Classroom Interactions (MMCI) with Melissa

It has been determined that KPI is good for small districts, but not larger ones and we need to make a change for the so we are looking into what opportunities are available for us; what works for child care, preschool and transition into K-3.

Melissa Kelley-Knutsen explained the structure, process and outcomes. MMCI: Instructor and teacher training.

Instructors attend a three (3) day training. They would then provide 10, two (2) hour sessions to teachers.

The Coordinator asked who we have in this area who can be a trained observer and trainer. She also wonders if this fits with existing structures in our communities.

There are already child care providers using MMCI training. Having trained child care providers at trainings help hone in on how it can work. Focus on interactions.

Using this model would be an investment and while it seems to work well for Head Start, OCDC and Child Care providers, it is unclear how it would align for schools. In order to get school districts on board, we may need to offer a presentation. It was suggested that we focus on preschools since there are still so many students who are not ready for kindergarten.

If we decide to move forward with this, it will go to the Governance Board in October.

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