

EARLY LEARNING WASHINGTON COUNTY (ELWC)

Early Learning Washington County Steering Committee Meeting: January 24, 2018 Minutes

In Attendance: Amy Shea-Reyes, Suzanne Rocheleau, Donalada Dodson, Annie Walsh, Mimi Orozco, LaRue Williams, Luis Nava, Marilyn Harrison, Megan Irwin, Nancy Ford, Peg King, Renee Bruce, Rolanda Garcia, Stephanie Lind, Kristina Kurtz, Cate Drinan, Sabi Velasco, Katie Anderson

Staff: Adam Freer, Leslie Moguil, Rebecca Collett, Evan Weaver, Genevieve Ellis, Brittany Geertsen, Janet Avila-Medina

What was discussed:

Welcome & Introductions

- **Welcome Adam! Introductions & open-ended questions dialogue:** Adam welcomed and thanked Steering Committee members for their participation in the interview process. He provided a brief overview about himself. He is 43 years-old, has two daughters (ages four-years-old and nine months old). He grew up in Arkansas and lived on the east coast in Washington D.C. and most recently lived in Los Angeles (LA). His career started in engineering, divinity and social work. Most recently, he completed his doctorate in public policy and public administration with an emphasis on community and organizational development. At First 5 LA, he worked with 14 different communities across LA County.

INPUT: Steering Committee members suggesting and asked the following to Adam.

- Members recommended Adam contact the partners around the table.
- Learn about Early Intervention in Oregon since it is different from other states because they provide services prenatal through kindergarten.
- Learn and understand the early learning system since systems are different in Oregon vs. California.
- In your role with First 5 LA did you deal with Medicaid or health care? No, because First 5 LA ran more like a philanthropy. They tended to not collaborate closely and it was more about opportunities to braid funding etc.
- Some members were excited about Adam's experience with on the groundwork with families. Adam agreed that targeting parents can address a wide range of social issues.

Approvals:

1. **Preschool Promise RFP Process Proposal:** ELWC explained to the Steering Committee members that through contract negotiations with all providers, ELWC was able to leverage \$100K funds, which will allow ELWC to open one new classroom. ELWC decided to follow Washington County process, which states that when funds are more than \$90K an RFP process is necessary. *Please see estimated RFP process timeline in Steering Committee packet, 1/24, page 4.*

INPUT:

- \$110K is about half of what a classroom costs. Is \$100K the total amount that could be awarded? Yes.
- Can a provider submit the RFP in Spanish? Currently no, but Brittany will follow up with purchasing to see what the system has available. She will also figure out what other resource applicants could use to get support.

ELWC's recommendation: That Beaverton area applicants that will serve children in Beaverton school district will receive additional points.

MOTION: To move forward with giving preferential points to providers in Beaverton area that serve children in the Beaverton School District area. Stephanie motions to move forward with ELWC's recommendation and to work with purchasing to work out the details.

8 people voted yes.

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Recommendations for the RFP criteria:

- It is a relatively small amount of money, so applicants should know they have to have other funding sources.
- Stress that mixed delivery/mixed incomes are positive.
- There needs to be built in social/emotional time such as a behavioral specialist to support the teachers.
- An equity concern was raised asking what ELWC is doing in the criteria and process to raise the opportunity for people who would be serving underserved communities and how that will be prioritized in the RFP process.

- 2. Draft Legislative Session Priorities:** ELWC Steering Committee Chair Support Signature. Members were asked to ignore page 5 & 6 in the Steering Committee packet, 1/24 and to reference the new attached document. Members were asked to approve having ELWC logo on the document and supporting the 2018 early childhood legislative priorities. The deadline to finalize signatures/logos is on Jan. 30.

MOTION by Megan: Move to support the legislative priorities, but recommend that moving forward priorities should include a prenatal to three focus and should highlight the importance of collaboration with health and mental health. Motion was second and passed.

12, majority votes.

Committee Reports: *Please see committee reports in Steering Committee packet, 1/24, pages 7-15.*

- Steering Committee: Nov. 29, 2017
- Parent Advisory Council, East: Dec. 11, 2017
- Parent Advisory Council, West: Jan. 9, 2017
- Operations Team: Jan. 11, 2018

Discussion

- School Readiness Family Friendly Guide: Communication/customization: ELWC is in the licensing agreement.

INPUT:

- Maybe put the school district logos at the top.
- Having school district logos will be powerful.
- Add sponsored by early learning Washington County at the bottom of the guide.
- Include a contact number with school districts.
- Adding more logos makes it clear to the community that their local district supports it. It creates brand awareness and comfortability for the parents.

ACTION: The guide should have no logos and only include school district names and phone numbers with a line at the bottom stating: sponsored by ELWC (logo included).

Headlines & Highlights

- **Status of Self-Assessment Team Work Groups:** Work groups are in the process of being scheduled. The aim is to have work groups meet in Feb. and will be reporting out to various bodies. The primary focus is to develop a game plan and work plan for the year.
- **Tri-County CCO/Regional Hub Kindergarten Sign-up Campaign:** All materials are ready.
- **Lobby Day:** Monday, Feb. 12 from 12-4 p.m.
- **Grant Updates**
 - **African-American Black Student Success Plan:** Award TBD.
 - **Care Oregon:** Application was denied.
 - **Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative (Parenting Together Washington County):** Applying for year four, which is due Feb. 1. ELWC will only be eligible to receive \$84,500.