

**Childhood Care and Education Coordinating Council**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**August 12, 2010**

**Attendees:** Alex Burt, Barbara Carranza, Pam Deardorf, Brent DeMoe, Marilyn Goodman, Merrily Haas, Rep. Tina Kotek, Courtney Kron (PSU intern), Dawn Norris, Karen Gorton, Janet Price, Rhonda Prodzinski, Heidi McGowan, Donna Lewelling, Kitty Lake, Kathleen Hynes, Shannon Lipscomb, Diane Ponder, Terry Butler, Diana Pickett, Nancy Lowery, Lilly Carillo, Shannon Lipscomb, Sandra Potter-Marquardt, Susan Robinet, Kathy Seubert, Dr. Mary Shea, Teresa Stevenson, Diana Stotz, Sonja Svenson, Beth Unverzagt, Shannon Vandehey, Kara Waddell,

**Introductions and Announcements**

Kara gave a brief bio and background prior to coming to the Child Care Division. Background in child welfare with degrees in Elementary Education and Public Administration Will be meeting partners one on one over the next two months.

**Parent Voice – Donna Lewelling**

For parents that receive Employment Related Day Care (ERDC), the reality of the loss has not yet hit them. They are consumed with keeping their jobs and loss of child care comes later. Stories from Linn County:

- Parent makes \$2200/mo – losing ERDC in December. Her 12-year-old is staying home after school to take care of a six-year-old sibling rather than participating in an afterschool program. She has no other choice.
- Unintended consequence – one parent is creatively considering how to ‘lose’ her job. Thinks losing her job and ERDC will make her eligible for TANF and TANF child care. She can also get money to go to school. She can’t afford to work and pay her child care costs and sees this as the only solution.
- For rural Oregon, the jobs are very tight and employers can get employees that are very highly educated with high skill levels. This leaves single parents with little education out of the job market.
- Some families losing ERDC will get creative from January to June; mostly sibling and neighbor care. But, as soon as school is out the picture will change. She will be watching the juvenile crime rates as many children will be unsupervised during the summer as compared to past years.

Rep. Kotek - How many families know there is a website for ERDC cut job stories? There are also advocacy organizations and websites to gather stories; Children First that would like to hear about cut impacts. With the changes happening in Congress, the legislature fully expects we will have another Emergency Board in December to talk about some restorations. There is a lot of support for ERDC: trying to restore about \$7.5 million, cutting off all new enrollment, establish a waiting list, maintaining the families currently on ERDC until the end of biennium. It will be challenging to fully restore the full program. It is important for legislators to hear all the stories from their districts. However, state revenue is a moving target and there are no promises.

Other comments:

- A majority of ERDC families have young children and the problem of older sibling care is across the board.
- Head Start – many of these families will start placing their kids in care where they shouldn’t be with the loss of ERDC.

- When the economy gets better, Oregon will have a child care supply issue because many providers will leave the business.
- ERDC also affects after school programs; loss of child care creates higher unemployment, huge circular piece.
- Oregon PreKindergarten programs that are partnering with child care will lose families losing ERDC. Many programs are planning for reductions to their preschool programs.
- Rhonda – Head Start contracts are an important service; we have heard from some programs that may not be able to continue.
- Dawn Bonder, Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council, asked for stories that could be passed to the Governor’s office. Information and data should be passed on to Kara who will compile and pass on to the Governor’s office.

Brent DeMoe - the Child Care and Development Fund dollars that came to the Commission system were used to backfill ERDC for this biennium. Will that money come back to the Commission or stay at the Department of Human Services for ERDC? Rep. Kotek – the funds are currently in the OCCF budget for 2011-13. The transfer was supposed to be a one-time movement, was one time decision. To be honest, the funds will probably stay at DHS – but they will have to be for quality investments, for training or for enhanced ERDC rates. I know there are folks that want it to stay in the Commission system. Karen Gorton – putting on my R&R hat, we are choosing either child care or quality and we need to keep both. We cannot lose the quality piece. As a community advocate, we need to make sure that the consultation models are kept or somewhat in place; quality, safe environments are in those models. Rep. Kotek – if you want the quality dollars to be kept for quality investments, then the ask needs to be made. If there is a desire from the child care system to keep those funds in quality, then you need to make a good case for why those quality dollars should be kept and not go to ERDC. I am not sure that case has been made.

### **EQUIP Evaluation Focus Group – Shannon Lipscomb**

Overview from Shannon – The evaluation of the Education and Quality Investment Partnership (EQUIP) initiative is both a process and an outcomes evaluation; not just what the dollars are doing, but the process of how they are allocated and used for projects. Looking at effectiveness and the implementation of EQUIP – how is it working so far? Meeting with many groups affected or working on EQUIP in a variety of ways. For the questions asked, it is okay to disagree. Please speak up.

Question: From your perspective of EQUIP, what do you think it is trying to achieve?

- Kathy Seubert – my sense is that we want to raise the quality of child care so they can begin to meet the standards for head start – this is part of the process to make that happen.
- Marilyn Goodman – for our providers, we promote getting on the Oregon Registry – in the past they didn’t understand what it would do for them. If they can translate increased professional development to higher rates, then they understand.
- Susan Robinet – outside of Head Start, the providers that do care get good training and understand good developmentally appropriate practices for children.
- Shannon Vandehey – nationally, we are trying to make child care a more visible profession. That it is more than just taking care of kids.
- Diana Stotz – like that EQUIP is a systems approach, pulling the whole system together that makes a difference. Incentives for individuals and for businesses; that the system works better.

Question: How do you feel how the strengths and limitations? Not just the rosy picture, but what you are experiencing.

- Terry Butler – excited because it really looks at capacity for children at risk in care – much needed. Think the challenging part is maintaining a sense in our day to day work of where it is going and being a little impatient. Good vision around the public / private part. People have done a good job of keeping us informed.
- Kathy Suebert – like that there is a focus on improving quality; health will now be under Oregon Health Authority. The whole vision of what makes a healthy child and community – we often don't grasp that it is larger than health services. Don't always see that EQUIP and the vision for child care have grabbed onto the bigger vision of health.
  - Question – Not sure that quality strategies are focusing enough on health?
  - Kathy – No, that there is a bigger vision and that quality and child care are part of a bigger vision.
- Diana Pickett – what I see missing is the prevention that needs to be part of everything for kids including their families. Prevention in child care doesn't always show up because getting ready for school is the focus – having playgrounds, good food are important, but there are places where health/mental health and safety must fit.
- Diana Ponder – the acronym EQUIP is a process – there are ways to start given the parameters of our resources – pieces that need to be incorporated. We won't have a good system until everyone takes responsibility.
  - Question: So others that are involved with health/mental health – not seeing it integrated?
  - Dianna Pickett – it is there but it takes a lot of work to make it happen – there are very few of us to do the work and we can't be everywhere. There is room for it.
- Diana Stotz – I am peripherally involved – but there are a lot of people in the community that could be allies and they don't know what it is – don't know how to help. EQUIP is a new initiative and need to get people outside of child care committed to help. People that could help.
- Karen Gorton – have been out of R&R many years, but realize that many initiatives going on in counties and this could really connect and integrate many of those initiatives with EQUIP – could tap and complement what is happening.
- Dianna Pickett – it is shocking to see how little the health community understands child care in general.
- Rhonda Prodzinski – what is happening at the federal level with agencies, hopefully that will happen and filter down.
- Terry Butler – another very important reason to engage the health community – prevention is important – but there are children that have issues they were born with or developed later in life – important to make sure those children are kept in mind. They need to be in quality care.

Question: Any other general thoughts?

- Marilyn Goodman – will EQUIP be measured – how child care providers themselves find pre- and post what changed in the level and quality of care.
  - Shannon Lipscomb – in an ideal world we would be giving assessments – we have done an attitudes survey. But the budget for assessment is not there. The other hat I am taking on is a researcher for OSU and hope that we can apply for a large grant to do the assessment work.
- Nancy Lowery – did the increase in quality lead to an increase in the comfort level of taking care of kids with disabilities – would be good to know.

Shannon – has EQUIP affected your world yet; has it changed your workload? R&Rs? Head Start? Does it now or will it affect your work?

- Shannon Vandehey – There is more work, but we do darn good with the money we have. More one to one home visiting and phone work to get providers on the Oregon Registry. Hard to tell the future without what Oregon Registry Online will be like. Initially will be more work, but think in the long run it will be wonderful.
- Lillie Carillo – I am with Head Start. From a training and technical assistance perspective, the Head Start community needs to be more connected to child care. Head Start needs to do a better job of helping programs understand the relevance of the Oregon Registry and EQUIP; what is in it for them? When we look at funding and what is available, I am excited about the new training and the children transitioning to child care after being served by Head Start. It isn't widespread, but we have made some good steps. We have to keep moving forward, establishing new goals and keeping connected.
  - Question: Where better connected?
  - Lilly – it doesn't stop at one meeting or presentation but is always present at all levels.
- Diana Ponder – Some of the training for Head Start is different than training for licensing requirements. But, things that could be better aligned. Also, for partnering and full-day, full-year or pick up the rest of the day, this will help with more continuity and quality of care – huge benefit.
- Sue Robinet – The Head Start workload is very heavy, mega-regulations, but I see that parts of EQUIP can be utilized. The most important piece is the community connection. The quality of care of the provider base needs to improve. We can't put a child with someone that doesn't understand child development. Can do more harm than good.
- Lilly Carillo – Inclusivity of all children is important. For the migrant and seasonal farmworker population, we have an opportunity to strengthen family child care programs. For children receiving Head Start services in those settings, we need to keep bridging the gaps between the Head Start day and child care.
- Karen Gorton – We always look at it as either Head Start or child care. What we need to focus on is comprehensive services rather than siloing them.

Question: Are you confident that EQUIP is the vehicle to make that happen? Any anxiety, frustration?

- Sue Robinet – EQUIP can help in communities where collaborations are already taking place. However, for other areas it depends on how many other partners are on board and working together to make it happen.
- Diana Stotz – When I looked at the Oregon Registry, most providers were at Step 1 and 2. Head Start staff are at Steps 5, 6, and 7. Make the Oregon Registry viable for providers to reach those higher levels, a way that feels realistic, viable and doable. Advocate for providers to reach those levels. Get from Steps 1 and 2 to higher levels. But, with thousands of providers, how realistic is it?
- Sue Robinet – All our training dollars are going to meet the federal requirements. Being pulled away for EQUIP initiatives may not get the attention as far as getting on the Oregon Registry. All our teachers must have Bachelor's degree by a certain point in time with specific trainings required every year.
- Shannon Vandehey – It is hard for CCR&Rs to get into the door of Head Start. Some places have been great about sending staff to training, but many Head Start programs don't because they have their own trainings to attend. Trying to work between child care providers and Head Start staff is hard.

- Diana Ponder – For Early Head Start, the standards are probably more aligned. Have to look at Head Start and child care as a much larger system. There are many parts to child care that Head Start is not aware. Most child care is paid for by parents, child care for low-income, child care for at risk, child care for each separate group rather than one large system.
- Beth Unverzagt – We have identified 250 afterschool programs that are connected to schools. There is real value to working with the Oregon Registry system and developing a School Age Certificate. The school age system is not well connected to the child care system. It is a very diverse group of people – parks and recreation, churches, non-profits; and the workforce is everything from a high school student to someone with a Masters. We are trying to help them see themselves as part of a system of care. The value of the Oregon Registry as a professional development system for school age providers is there, but it isn't connected to EQUIP.
  - Question: Does the Oregon Registry campaign touch school age providers?
  - Beth – Any training OregonASK delivers is connected to the Oregon Registry, but for someone with a BA, where is the value to them in the Oregon Registry system? There isn't a lot of knowledge out there about the Oregon Registry for the school age workforce.
- Shannon Vandehey – we do try to connect with the afterschool programs, but their day is different than a family provider or the school day. It is hard to get into center programs and get buy-in. We try to promote the Education Awards, but they think there is too much paperwork to get one.
- Diana Stotz – It is a culture shift; we are still working with the child care workforce and only within the last year or so are we being intentional about the Oregon Registry.
- Lilly Carillo – For certification of programs, we need to get people on the same page because not all Head Start programs are licensed. They don't go over four hours a day and it is a choice for them to be licensed. For them to be part of the Oregon Registry as an unlicensed program, the benefit is not there. Licensing Specialists also encourage them not to be licensed if they don't have to be. With Head Start reauthorization, there are opportunities for alignment with the Infant/Toddler Credential and a Child Development Associate (CDA) certificate. For people with a Bachelor's, if we can show through training hours the benefit of the Oregon Registry, then people will move that direction.

Question: Oregon Program of Quality (OPQ) will provide some incentives for facilities, not just individuals. Do you see this as a natural incentive?

- Marilyn Goodman – we understood that OPQ is not implemented, so we haven't been promoting it to providers.
- Diana Ponder – The strength of EQUIP is that is just isn't for individuals but also affects the infrastructure, facilities. They also require support. It is a major strength.
- Dianna Pickett – For health/mental health, there is very little incentives for systems people. Very little for indirect services to work with providers. Serious barrier – very little money that says health/mental health and child care, and very little to support child care.
- Shannon Vandehey – The local commission money helped with that in our county.
- Dianna Pickett – The federal maternal health grant does not address child care, and that is a problem.
- Diane Ponder – The major funding source for health/mental health is Medicaid. There is something we could learn from other states on how we use administrative funds to support services in child care. We need to look at it overall for this state.
- Terry Butler – Direct services related funding – How do we connect to use as support services in child care settings?

Question: How do you see communication or alignment of the statewide agenda with local initiatives? How consistent or inconsistent is it with the local focus?

- Shannon Vandehey – There have been some discrepancies. CCR&R has a wealth of information, have those brains been picked for information and our involvement? Not just me, but we hear something that is going on and we didn't know. Don't know where the lack of communication comes from, but it is there. It has been wonderful working with CCD and PSU on communicating EQUIP. Trying hard to increase the communication. Information does seem to keep changing and sometimes we don't know about decisions until after they are already made – we don't know until a Network meeting occurs.
  - Question: Are there any others that don't feel the communication is there? My role is not to judge but help the process evolve and get better.
  - Diana Stotz – Don't know if the connections with local partners have been made - in terms of ongoing communication.
  - Beth Unverzagt – Whenever a system changes, there is a period of three to five years where there is a lot of flux and everyone not understanding what is going on perfectly.
- Lilly Carillo – We do have an opportunity to involve higher education, not just Western Oregon University and Oregon State University, but look at the statewide higher education system. There is a lot of opportunity to bring in higher education and build the quality of programs by building the partnerships between CCR&R, higher education, and (get off tape).

Question: How are the scholarships integrated into EQUIP – what do you see?

- Shannon Vandehey – a lot of people in our area use them.
- Lilly Carillo – If you are looking at Portland Community College, Clackamas or Rogue that might be the case, but if you go to Blue Mountain you may not see that partnership happening.
- Diane Ponder – Those connections also influence coursework. We don't see enough infant/toddler coursework in general across community college systems.
- Mary Shea – I teach classes online; the whole issue of distance learning should be raised. The discussion is good, the instruction is good; the writing levels of class participants are not there. Scholarships for distance learning should be available. The materials we gave in class were very deep and rich. It is a whole missed piece of professional development.
- Shannon Vandehey – We can buy into an E-learning system through NACCRRRA and are looking at that. There are a lot of providers that are only Step 1 and 2. We have finally reached the point where training needs to be at Set 2, but we don't have the trainers. It does take money, which creates a lack of trainers and Training of Trainers for Set 2. There may be one in certain areas of the state, but it may be hard to get a Master trainer in your county. We only provided 11 Set 2 trainings last year. We love it when more Set 2
  - Question: There might be more movement in the Oregon Registry if those trainings were available?
  - Shannon Vandehey –Yes, I think so.
- Merrily Haas – Want to end on a high note. Have heard a lot of the suggestions about Set 2, but providers don't need Set 2 until after Step 7 on the Oregon Registry. There is a misconception among providers and R&R staff that providers need Set 2 from Step 2 to Step 7. We do have a lot of Set 2 training and the sessions are not filled to capacity. The community colleges are offering a lot of online training. We have articulation of Oregon Registry steps to community college credit. We also have an online two-year Early Childhood Degree that is almost statewide. The word just needs to get out. Keep the vision because we have built the infrastructure, but providers don't know it exists. We have underused much of the capacity that is available.

- Donna Lewelling – There are online classes and some partnerships available and articulation agreements with community colleges – but it isn't being used. Do you increase supply when the demand is low? Community colleges want to play, but need to have the demand before they will spend the time and dollars to schedule classes.
- Dianna Pickett – We do need to raise the floor for licensing standards. We need to increase training requirements for registered and certified child care. Nationally, we are very low.

Partners were asked to contact Shannon directly if they have more information to offer at:  
[Shannon\\_tw@yahoo.com](mailto:Shannon_tw@yahoo.com)

### **Legislative Concepts for 2011-13**

#### Department of Human Services – Rhonda Prodzinski

- Planning for 2011-13 and current services level. Hoping to restore the TANF level reductions. Instead of ERDC being limited to families leaving TANF, we are hoping to restore the program to serve low-income working families up to 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). In April of 2009, we took two reductions: eliminated the reduced copay for the first month and made families that were self-employed (about 200 families) ineligible for ERDC. Would like to restore both of those.
- We are also looking at automation of the child care billing and attendance tracking system; paperless with more accurate payments. Even though we are looking at program reductions, providers really want this system in place. It is a one time investment that results in cost savings in the long term. It will really help us understand the true costs of the ERDC program.

#### Child Care Division - Child Care Contribution Tax Credit – Sonja Svenson

The tax credit legislation as it is currently written is targeted to three specific areas: gap funding for child care costs, quality improvements of facilities, and provider compensation. The current cap on the credit is \$500,000 per year.

- Gap funding pays the costs of care between what is covered by ERDC and what the provider charges. What we have learned from both the Lane Community College and Neighborhood House models is that gap funding cannot be sustained statewide with just this small tax credit program. Estimates for one year of gap funding for all low-income working families in Oregon would exceed \$50 million annually.
- Provider compensation and facility improvements – these components of the tax credit program have been modified under the EQUIP initiative. We used what we learned from the two pilot programs to develop Education Awards and Oregon Program of Quality.
  - Education Awards – if the cap on the tax credit can be raised in the future, Oregon will be able to make Education Awards to providers on an annual basis. As long as providers meet the criteria, they will receive an annual check that reflects their step on the Oregon Registry.
  - Oregon Program of Quality – the federal regulations require that low-income working families must meet the state's eligibility requirements to quality for subsidies. In order for OPQ designated facilities to receive slot payments on a monthly basis, we need to find a way for the program to fit the federal regulations. CCD staff have done research on how other states run their subsidy programs and are requesting technical assistance from our Region X representatives to work on a solution for the eligibility determination issue. If we only use tax credit funds for OPQ the maximum number of facilities we could support is around 25 per year. We can use federal funds for facility improvements and provider compensation, so the solution will include a mixture of both tax credit and federal CCDF.

- The revised legislation will also eliminate the need to pass the funds through a community agency and conduct lengthy proposal processes. State agencies will disburse funds directly to providers for facility improvements, provider compensation, and subsidy payments.
- When you talk about eligibility determination for slot payments, does that mean the family will need to meet the 185 percent state median income?
  - We want to support OPQ designated facilities through possibly a two-year contract that purchases a monthly slot for X amount of dollars, must be filled by an ERDC eligible family, must be filled at least X percent of the month (and/or other criteria). We are still working through the logistics of how this will work under federal guidelines. This concept provides income stability for a high quality facility, provides a quality slot for a low-income family, and aligns with the federal movement toward high quality for subsidized care. We can show OPQ as a national model that works.
- So you have to provide the funds as a slot payment rather than calling it a quality improvement grant? Is there a way to frame it as something else other than a subsidy?
  - Western Oregon has been contracted to provide technical assistance and funding for quality improvement of facilities. Those funds will be available to facilities selected for movement toward OPQ designation (NOTE: based on an application process).
  - We can't call subsidies 'quality investments;' the purchase of a slot is subsidy and we can't call it something else to get around federal guidelines.
- Does this mean that the networks in Lane and Multnomah counties will no longer be funded with the tax credit program?
  - We don't know. We will discuss this with the current programs as there is no final decision as yet on how they will be transitioned to the new models. Providers in the current networks are still eligible for Education Awards and can apply for OPQ designation. We know that networks are a proven model for quality improvements. One thought is that current networks could apply for OPQ as a cohort, because those facilities have been working together for a long time on quality improvements.
- There isn't that much money in the tax credit program and it isn't likely that it will be raised in the next biennium. We should leverage as much CCDF as we can. Is it possible for Oregon to ask for waivers on eligibility – is the eligibility determination strictly a legal interpretation of the regulations?
  - Regulations state that eligibility and determination must be done for subsidies; this is to ensure that only qualified families receive services.
- Could we ask for waivers if we purchased slots only in areas where there was at least 50 percent free and reduced lunch? Are there other criteria that could be used?
  - We can certainly pose these questions to our Region X representatives. All avenues will be explored so we can get the most flexible use of funds possible.

### **General Fund Reductions for 2009-11 – FFY 2011 CCDF Appropriations – Kara Waddell**

General overview of the powerpoint presentation (available upon request).

- Overview is our timeline for the next three months regarding General Fund cuts to the Child Care Division. The next state revenue forecast is slated for August 26 and more General Fund reductions are expected.
- A partner survey regarding General Fund reductions will go out at the end of August, similar to the one that Tom Olsen sent out in 2007 prior to the 07-09 biennium.
- Please answer from the perspective of your constituency, not from your personal opinion. Will give you plenty of time to talk with your staff or partner organizations and get their feedback prior to

submitting your answers. The list will be used from the CCDF state plan for 2010-11. We will not put funding amounts with organizations on the survey – but your organization’s philosophy on cuts will be asked. Information will only go to Kara.

- Potentially CCD could lose up to \$800,000 total General Fund for 2009-11. There is a tipping point within our General Fund allocation where the ability to draw down federal funds will be impaired.
- Good news – both the House and Senate have passed budget line items at the federal level ranging from \$700 million to \$1 billion in additional CCDF starting October 1, 2010. Oregon’s share could be \$7 to 11 million. We will have more solid information with the October 1, 2010 CCDF award letter and will pass on information to partners as soon as possible.

### **Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council (ECMAC) – Heidi McGowan**

The ECMAC in Oregon is the result of the Head Start Act reauthorization of 2007. The Act told states they could draw down federal funds if 1) the Governors appoint an early learning council and 2) they submit an application to draw down funding to fulfill seven mandated requirements. The council is to coordinate the work across five agencies (Dept of Education, Employment Department, Commission on Children and Families, Oregon Health Authority, and Dept of Human Services) and develop a fully coordinated early childhood system. Oregon has built on an infrastructure that is currently in place. The state has also included both family and health services so there are three committees doing the work: Family Matters, Early Learning Matters, and Health Matters. Oregon’s application covers this triad even though it seems a little heavy on early learning. Public forums were done for input before the application was submitted last week.

Although the Head Start Act focuses on zero to five, Oregon’s system covers 0 to 8. CCECC is connected to ECMAC through the implementation work that happens through child care system partners. Oregon has also received a grant from the National Governor’s Association because the EQUIP initiative is working to align standards across Head Start and child care. The grant provides technical assistance to develop policies that promote partnerships between Early Head Start, Head Start, Early Intervention, inclusion, and child care. There are six Oregon members on the technical assistance team.

Next steps: the work of the three committees is being compiled into workplans – there are five prioritized areas for each committee. They will now break down activities: what is scaleable statewide, what are the costs, who does the work, what steps to move forward. There will be a retreat in the Fall to continue this work.

### **EQUIP Initiatives – Updates and Progress Report = Dawn Norris**

Dawn presented a one-page handout and updated on EQUIP initiatives: Oregon Registry Online (ORO), Education Awards, Oregon’s Registry Campaign, Oregon Program of Quality (OPQ), and Quality Indicators (QI), Scholarships. The division has been making presentations across the state to CCD and local resource and referral staff on ORO, QI and OPQ. 1,678 education awards in the amount of \$567,600 have been distributed directly to child care providers.

### **PATT and Performance-based Contracts – Pam Deardorf and Terry Butler**

The Performance and Accountability Tracking Tool (PATT) has been used since 2007 to access the gaps in services or programs for the child care system. Pam and Terry presented information on how their current Interagency Agreements and required deliverables (statement of work) align with the elements

of the PATT. They illustrated how the work on the ground is moving the child care system forward to address gaps in services and programs. A powerpoint of the entire presentation is available upon request from the Child Care Division.

### **Updates from Committees**

Professional Development Committee – the revamp of the Training/Quality Committee to PDC has been completed.

Health Consultation – Health Child Care Oregon – update of the Health and Safety Curriculum has been a terrific collaboration with an excellent handbook for providers.

Inclusive Child Care – exploring how we can work with R&R specialists on how to do referrals for inclusion. Will be sending out a survey to the local R&Rs to see what type of technical assistance they need for inclusion referrals. Opening Doors has been moved to Western Oregon University as of August 1.

### **Updates from Partners**

Oregon After School for Kids (OregonASK) – On October 20, 2010 the Supporting Student Success report will be released at a morning event at the Oregon Zoo. Have a new partnership with the OAEYC as OregonASK is now the state affiliate for the National Afterschool Association. Publication of the after school program standards and workforce competencies will happen in September. November 6 is the statewide Afterschool Conference in partnership with Oregon Recreation and Parks Association; 250 participants are expected.

Commission for Child Care – Sept 24 is next meeting in Salem.

Commission on Children and Families (OCCF) – the commission is experiencing reductions in staff and Barbara Carranza will be the representative to the child care system.

Oregon Child Care Resource & Referral Network (OCCRRN) – A Transition Committee has been formed to hire a new director and look at the overall work of the OCCRRN office.

Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (OAEYC) – Fall conference is scheduled for October 8 and 9. Have an infant/toddler track and an introduction to NAEYC accreditation. The Building a Business: Certified Family Management Series curriculum and applications are due August 24. Two coordinator/coaches and seven trainers have been selected for the series. Have already received 16 completed applications, lots of phone calls and interest, and will screen down to the 20 best from across the state. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds are providing program costs and scholarships for applicants for cohorts in 2010 and 2011.

Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education (OCCD) – Patsy Kohout has asked to move to another position at OCCD; Pam will be posting a job announcement for coordinator of the Oregon Registry program.

Head Start – Training and Technical Assistance – A transition was put into place this past Spring for T&TA – current contracts for Lilly Carillo and Diane Ponder will end September 30. Still waiting for the new award process that will start October 1. T&TA staff involvement with child care over the past two years was really good, especially the systems and coordination work. Have worked with several child care partners which has meant more improvement in the Head Start system as a whole. Really

appreciate being invited into so many different committees to get Head Start connected to child care; it is about connecting quality child care to children and families.

#### Meeting Wrap-up - Kara

What were the positive aspects of the meeting today? What did you like about today?

- Very stimulating to have Shannon Lipscomb here today to solicit input directly from partners; thought that was a great opportunity.
- Seems like more of a partnership – people are listening to each other and caring about what you say. Conversations are about ‘working it out.’
- Really see great progress from the days I used to attend. It is depressing sometimes, but the team is still together and this meeting allows us to talk it through.
- I sit in a lot of agency meetings and want to confirm that this group is very different and really talks to each other.
- Like the updates, but also like the in-depth discussions beyond that
- Really hard to hear in here – need a different arrangement of tables so everyone can participate.
- Sometimes the acronyms are unclear and I don’t know what they are – would be good if we could use less of them.
- Have the meeting from 1 to 4.
- Have a resource table where partners can share information.

#### October Agenda Items

CCDF for FFY 2011 – funding levels

Update on ERDC from September Emergency Board

Review Child Care Contribution Tax Credit legislative concept

EQUIP Initiatives – Progress Report