



Meeting Summary
Childhood Care and Education Coordinating Council
Thursday, October 7, 2010 1:00 - 4:00p.m.
Roth's Hospitality Center, Santiam Room
1130 Wallace Road NW
Salem, OR 97304

In Attendance:

Kara Waddell, Bobbie Weber, Karen Gorton, Nancy Lowry, Karen Henkemeyer, Melissa Gritz, Diana Stotz, Rhonda Prodzinski, Dawn Norris, Dianna Pickett, Roni Pham, Sandra Potter-Marquardt, Lorraine Day-Reynolds, Lilli Carrillo, Heidi McGowan, Pam Everitt, Eva, Kim Cardona, Lorine Day-Reynolds, Eva Rippeteau, Anne Rothert,

Introductions and Announcements were made

Researcher's Round Table: *Bobbie Weber*

- 13th of October.
- The Researcher's Round table brings practitioners, policy makers and researchers together.
- A great sharing time of anyone doing research in Oregon.
- We also hear about issues or topics that folks wish there were research for.
- There is a lot of brand new research on parents. Findings from the Child Care Contribution tax credits. Finding from the qualitative interviews of subsidy parents. We'll be talking about 3 of the studies which have looked at the impact of the quality improvement initiatives and impacts.
- Afternoon: EQUIP from a research type of perspective.

The Oregon Public Health Conference. *Diana Pickett*

- Oct. 18 & 19th. There will be lots about child care and research in health.
- Prams (pregnancy, risk assessment management) data: Statewide survey. takes a relative sample across the state and ask questions about pregnancy, birth, and childhood, nursing, etc. We can look at this data by child care and child care type.

Maternal Depression Conference.

- Nov. 10th. Red Lion Inn

Head Start information was shared by Lilli:

- ICF international was awarded the contract for all of region 10 to provide technical assistance. Lilli is the Center manager & ECE Specialist. Leslie Mansfield is based in Klamath Falls.
- Two priorities are: school readiness and professional development.
- Will also work with Early Head Start.
- Close linkages to the state collaborative offices, CCD, and the Head Start folks.
- Provide training to child care providers; however it is secondary to Head Start. Will do clusters of training. More intensive and focus don individual grantee support. Lilli will be focused on infant and toddler support. Was given many spaces for infant and toddler.
- Diane Ponder and Myra Classen are not with this new contract.
- Health and safety is a strong focus, which quick timelines to correct items.
- Preschool teachers to obtain their AA by 2011
- 50% of the teachers have to have a BA in EA or be working on it.

- Sometimes it's hard to get the CDA in a timely manner. Calif. has a state awarded credential.
- Putting down profiles on each of the grantees.
- Providing one on one support with grantees around how CLASS is being implemented and used.

Dept of Human Services –

Rhonda Prodzinski

- Rhonda gave an update on ERDC.
- DHS was planning on severe cuts. The advocates rallied and cuts didn't have to happen.
- Clients that are currently on the ERDC program can stay on the program as long as they don't have a break in service.
- There are currently 12,000 families served. The program is capped at 10,000. When it drops under 10,000 DHS will pull from a random list of individuals from the reservation list. It could take about two months to get down to 10,000. Working with forecasting unit.
- When E board meets in December, there will be a discussion about what will happen at March 1st and at the end of the biennium.
- The plan is: Cynthia Hurkes is putting together some talking points for CCR&R staff who are getting calls about DHS/ERDC. These talking points would be helpful for other agencies to use. They should be sent out to other programs and agencies. Requested everyone to send out. A glossary would be helpful.
- If families were pulled randomly, they may never get on the list to get services. In spring 2011 we may have to pull folks off the list.
- There was a management reduction at DHS. Eight management positions were lost.
- If you have any questions around DHS/subsidies or TANF, give Rhonda or Sheila a call and we try to get back to you within 25 hours.
- Have \$5.9 million of General Fund for Maintenance of Effort (MOE).
- When there is a change in the TANF-JOBS programs, this impacts providers too.

Comments were:

- This is a crisis type of response.
- We need to help the CCR&R get scripted information to guide parents. It might also be helpful for DHS workers to have the same message.
- A system that works best is for the local CCR&R and the local case manager work together.
- It's important to manage family's expectations.
- The Inclusive Child Care program has subsidy funds and has already identified families they can transition to help make it go smoothly. If there is a big gap for special needs rate we actually have subsidy money and will be able to transition those families onto the ICC supplemental subsidy. We have already identified the at-risk families. But there are probably others that will be applying. If a parent loses their job, we put their subsidy on hold; if within two months the parent gets a job, the subsidy will just resume.
- Once the public health nurses know the right things to say, they may also be able to help identify other families and children.
- The real trick is communicating. Connecting to those providers who work with the subsidy families. We talked to 44 parents in depth at one time and none of them heard about ERDC policy changes.

- Think about how we can broaden the communication to families.
- Head Start is already caring for children who receive ERDC funds. Head Start is not going to remove a child in mid-year, so we're not sure how to absorb this cost if their funds get cut in the middle of the year.
- The great unifier is whether you earn \$5K, \$50K, \$500K, you want to know that your child is in good quality care. We don't want to have an either/or, we want it to be an "and".
- In a recent conference, there were many family child care providers who were afraid of the losing subsidy dollars, especially if they care for several families with subsidy. 20–22 percent of the population has children under the age of 13. Bobbie did a subsidy penetration study. Providers are much more dependent on children with subsidy than expected.

Kara's report:

- In the past three months, in an attempt to meet most CCDF grant recipients, she has met with OCCD, the network, three local CCR&R's, Inclusive Child Care, Commission on Children and Families, DHS, the Unions, Oregon AEYC, Oregon ASK, Health with Kathryn, Dawn Bonder, three types of child care facilities, Representative Kotek, Senator Winters, and the list goes on.
- Will be focusing now on health, Head Start, DOE, and moving outside of the child care community more.
- Listening, and learning and getting direct feedback.

The new office of Child Care

- Child Care Bureau has a new name – it is now the Office of Child Care.
- Historically as a system we did not put money into the child care system until 1990. Never had a design for a system or a plan. 1995 federal government created the Child Care Bureau which was parallel to the Head Start Bureau. Head Start has since moved from being a Bureau to an Office. Now the Child Care Bureau has moved from being a Bureau to an Office.

EQUIP Initiative Updates and Progress

Dawn Norris:

- Follow up on the evaluation done by Shannon Lipscomb. Shannon interviewed groups to evaluate the evolution of EQUIP and this piece was really around process evaluation.
 1. Key strengths: small group focused on a common vision; it was efficient, timely developed, and things moved quickly. The group was very committed to the initiatives. Worked to unify all the quality initiatives in the state and to target efforts.
 2. Recommendations: Develop and distribute a strategic and long term vision. Design a project implementation plan. Develop and implement a communication outreach plan. Look at the governance and leadership and accountability.
- The EQUIP steering committee has looked at these recommendations. The first steps are to lay out the governance structures and to see how EQUIP fits within the greater system as well as looking at the communication plans.
- The EQUIP report is not final; Part One of the process evaluation will soon be completed.
- Shannon will be at the Researcher's roundtable. Some of these findings will be presented. She'll go more into the logic model and the outcomes that the actual projects are look at for the next steps.

Budget topics: *Kara Waddell*

- Federal fiscal year 2011. An increase is expected but not final. We should have an award letter soon but nothing is final until the federal budget is approved. There may be around an additional \$8 million, maybe a little higher or a little less.
- Any federal increase is subject to the CCDF requirements so 70 percent must be spent on subsidy. There is a hope on the ERDC side that the federal funds could be used to help (don't use this word) the funds shortfall in ERDC.
- CCD has three main sources of revenues: a child care contribution tax credits (could be removed), the CCDF grant, and general funds from the State. There is a small amount from licensing fees.
- It's a challenge moving forward, because we don't have a lot of information from the federal government. Will work closely with DHS. Will keep the CCECC posted.
- We'll also look to the Commission for Child Care during these times as a resource that can give input on values that should guide tiering priorities during an economic shortfall period.
- There are federal guidelines to the dollars. Minimum percentage for quality is 4 percent. There's pressure on defining and verifying what is the federally-approved use of quality dollars. 70 percent is to be spent on subsidy piece. Maximum of 5 percent for administration fees. We spend about 12.5 percent on quality in Oregon.
- The new state plan template (pre-print) is very different from the way it has been in the past. It has a tremendous emphasis on quality and performance measures. It's very positive new development for state planning. As we get to contracts time, the contract templates could look different. We will have to align the contracts with the data. It's encouraging that there is more information required for quality placements and an emphasis on health (beyond health & safety for licensing).
- Let's re-educate ourselves so that we know what the processes are and how the funds can be used.
- In November we'll have the next revenue forecast so we'll find out if there are additional cuts to our General Fund allocation. So far CCD has received a \$311,608 cut reduction in February, a \$138,125 cut in May, and a \$90,057 cut in the August/September period. The health consultant contract was reduced and the rest has been internal to CCD. There is not a lot else to cut within the CCD because the vast majority of CCDF is contracted out. Doing current analysis of Licensing Specialist work load. Verify that we are carrying our weight in workload and be able so show credibility for the number of staff needed. We don't want to move to fewer licensing visits.

Comments:

- Lets look at three periods (2007 & 2009, 2011,) so that we can see all the trends for the three periods so we can look back and forward at the same time.

Bobbie asked Shannon what was meant by quality dollars.

Updates from Committees

Professional Development Committee:

Access and outreach: Working on a resource guide that combines several resources for providers in one spot.

Qualifications, Credentials, & Pathways: Working on issue briefs addressing licensing standards. The Commission on Child Care will hear the issue briefs in November.

Quality assurance: Looking at the Starting Points training; may update that training.

Health Consultation

- Two large projects: Updating the health and safety manual and the training that goes with that. Chapters are really good that are completed
- The priority action work group for Health and Mental Health Consultation has done its work and their report is coming out soon. The report is going to the Health Matters Committee of ECMAC soon. It is not a full blown model of health and mental consultation, but will consist of steps that we need to get to there. We're keeping the vision alive of what we want to do and where we want to go.

Inclusive Child Care

Work plan is for seven years. Working on a process to work with child care resource and referral system. Survey of staff and their needs. We'll be doing a presentation on a topic at the OCCR&RN conference. We'll keep developing some pieces of information that would be helpful to CCR&R. A new co-chair is needed as Dawn has retired.

Child Care Contribution Tax Credit

There is a legislative concept that changes some of the enabling language; make it more efficient to distribute funding. Finances that are coming from the tax credit are going to projects that are no longer going to continue in the same manner. There' have been discussions at EQUIP and at the tax credit advisory about how to use these funds effectively. Both groups want to broaden the use of the funds. One of the key phrases is "community agency" And how broad the definition is regarding what qualifies. The goals of the tax credit funding are; affordability for parents, quality for parents, enhancements for quality.

Oct. 18th 10a – 12p. Child Care tax credit advisory meeting.

Child Care Research Partnership

Trying to understand the forces that shape the economic of child care. Does it grow or shrink? Tracking data from Emp. Dept and from CCR&R network, and other market studies. Looking where recessions hit. Prices went up 6 percent during the last recession period (2008 – 2010). The number of centers went up. We're asking, "Do we understand what makes this system work and what the forces are that affect it."

Working with Early Learning Matters and helping develop their early learning indicators: 3 studies going on regarding the policy impact on subsidy parents. Looking at subsidy penetration.

Shannon Ruddisell, federal Office of Child Care Administrator, said, "We're spending millions of dollars and can't show what we're buying. We want to know more about what we're buying."

Family, Friends, and Neighbors

Shannon Vandehey offered to help with the FFN committee that was held at the network. The majority of child care providers are FFN. Only 16- 18 percent of the subsidy children are in centers; a small percent is in family child care, but the majority are in FFN. We now track the number of children in different type of facility. Trying to determine "what is the quality indicator for FFN?" Enhanced rate and participation of the food program may be quality indicators. With the low copays in the past it was a real barrier for parents to afford center-based care. It is slowly going up in numbers at this time. We need to get at information on, "Do parents feel that FFN is best for their child or they can afford something else." Preliminary findings say that "trust" is the biggest factor is choosing child care.

Updates From Partners

OregonASK (After School for Kids) –Beth Unverzagt – Sent an update by e-mail

- Just received a new NASA grant to train two trainers for a training titled, "Afterschool Universe.
- Please join us for the preliminary release of the Oregon Supporting Student Success Report: The Promise of Expanded Learning Opportunities.

Date: October 20th, 2010 Time: 8 am to 11 am
Location: Oregon Zoo, 4001 SW Canyon Rd. Portland, Oregon 97221

Commission on Children and Families

- In the last session, \$3.8 million in CCDF quality funds moved by the Legislature to the DHS/ERDC program, which meant a loss to the CCR&R system. I think that it is a disservice to not capture what other child care dollars got lost. Reports went to Sonja regularly. We need to state how state dollars were being used. It would be nice to understand what's happening and affecting child care. It's probably a reality that it is not coming back.

Oregon Commission for Child Care – Heidi McGowan

- Focus on the 5 priority areas. Will hear a report on School Age Care barriers. They serve in advisory role of how to use the CCDF dollars, and help to understand how those dollars are being used (accountability).

CCR&R Network

- Board met on Monday. Marcia Mulvey will be interim director. Transition team has been doing a lot of work and has been very honest around the table.

Center for Career Development – Pam Deardorff

- Co hosting the Friday Oregon AEYC event. Mini-Oregon Registry Online is up and running; CCR&R point people can access when providers get enhanced rates. Scholarship recipients must have a step on the Oregon Registry.

Final comments: Things you liked in the meeting / Things you would like to change

Appreciated the healthier food options

Conversation was strong this time and the meeting was more interactive

Seating is closer together and that helped everyone hear better

