

Oregon Child Care Research Partnership
April 9, 2008
Minutes

Attendance: Bobbie Weber, Deana Grobe, Becky Vorpapel, Mary Nemmers, Robi Henifin, Art Emlen, Kim Cardona, Tom Olsen, David Mandell, Kathy Seubert, Sonja Worcel, Beverly Briggs, Shannon Williams

I. Oregon Employment Department Survey of Oregon employers

The group reviewed Art's questions for the Oregon Employment Department Survey of Oregon employers. Attached to these minutes are the changes the group made (blue text reflects the changes).

Next Steps:

- Dawn – check to see if 'Health Care Insurance' is asked as an employee benefit somewhere else on the survey. If so, then it can be removed from the list for Q3.

II. Early Childhood Assessment System

Bobbie shared a summary of the group's thoughts on EC Assessment (from our March meeting) [see handout], and David shared a summary on standards assessments should meet [see handout]. David indicates in his summary that: (1) Early Childhood Assessments should be clear about what question they are answering and for whom they are answering it. (2) Assessments need to be imbedded in and supported by broader early childhood systems. The group talked a bit about the EC assessment history and concerns with assessments, but then concluded that Bobbie should send her one-page response to PSU and we should move on from this discussion.

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will send the one-page response she drafted to PSU.

III. 2008 Researchers Roundtable

Even though Region X is interested and planning on doing a possible fall researchers' roundtable, we decided this year to go ahead and plan our usual Oregon Researchers' Roundtable. Here were some of the things we decided on:

- Date – either Wednesday October 1 or October 8 [we are having it earlier in October because Bobbie is going to Ireland on October 13 for a few weeks]
- Have at Edgefield again
- Have 2 presentations with a discussant for each presentation that will help guide the discussion
- Have someone provide a summary at the end of the day that ties the presentation and sharing together
- Be careful not to cheat time out for sharing, and have people bring a short summary of what they plan to share with a website link, if available.

Next Steps:

- Mary will have Mimi check into the availability of Edgefield on October 1 and October 8
- Mary will have Mimi create a list of those who have been invited and those who have attended for our May meeting
- Bobbie will add to the May OCCRP agenda: (a) brainstorm topics, presenters, and discussants, and (b) update invitation list.

IV. Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) RFP for Child Care State Research Capacity Cooperative Agreements

OPRE have an RFP out for state capacity grants again this year. Bobbie provided the background on Oregon's experience with OPRE funding and the rfp requirements [see handout]. The group came up with a list of possible projects (in no particular order):

- a. Oregon has a natural policy experiment with our maximum subsidy rates going from 26% to 75%. The research question would be structured around repeating the "Why do they leave" study in the context of these dramatic policy changes. This would fit the first specific research question indicated in the rfp.
- b. Data capacity element – Oregon has a vision for a web-based professional development registry. The idea would be to make this vision a reality. The potential outcomes include learning more about the child care workforce, and creating a link with the QI project (information to parents on education and training of providers). This has the potential to fit the second specific research question indicated in the rfp.
- c. Effect of unionization on CCDF and regulatory policy
- d. An extension to (a) above to do more of a qualitative study with those who received subsidies in both the old and new environment in year 1.
- e. Parent use of quality indicator data versus a quality rating system.
- f. Evaluate parents' perceptions before and after trainings conducted in other languages for providers.
- g. Indicators parents look at and pay attention to.

We used the following criteria for prioritization: (a) data or research priority for Oregon, (b) needs to fit with OPRE requirements, and (c) even if we don't get the grant, we will still be better off thinking through the process.

The group recommended to CCD to submit the proposal focusing on a, b, and d above.

Next Steps:

- Tom will submit the letter of intent by April 14
- Tom will go to the emergency board sometime after we submit the proposal
- Bobbie will organize a meeting with Tom, Mary Louise and others to talk about b above – do they have a shared vision and can some of the match come from the Community Foundation?
- Tom and Sonja will think through how to meet the 20% match

V. Updates

Oregon Population Survey – the 2008 OPS is currently delayed because of funding issues. They are about \$75,000 short of what they need. They are looking into possibly shortening the survey as one cost savings option. Hopefully there will be a 2008 OPS. The delay will probably mean making calls during the summer. This is a disadvantage for us because they will collect employment information from parents as of the summer, but we would ask for child care arrangements based on the school year (May time frame).

Percent of CCDF eligible served – [waiting for data from Deb Tremmel]

OCCF Evaluation of Family, Friend, and Neighbor project – Kim handed out a log of the orientations, providers attended, pre-surveys received, etc. [see handout]. They currently have 164 pre-surveys and an evaluator (Steve Writer from Pacific Research) on board. Kim says one issue they are coming across is evaluating the toolkits versus the orientation training since the toolkits are given at the end of the orientation training. She will bring this issue up with the Family, Friend, and Neighbor committee.

Measuring turnover in family child care – [on hold]

PATT (system accountability work group) – The work group has come up with a priority system and the next steps are to: (1) reconcile priorities with the plan for the child care system (this will be done by Sonja when she returns), and (2) come up with a way to annually review the system.

Framework for learning from Oregon program evaluations – [on hold]

Child Care Supply Benchmark formula development – [waiting for OPS data from Bobbie]

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 7, 2008 – 9:30am-12:00pm

Employer Survey, some questions for. Draft, Emlen 1/20/06

Flexible work arrangements.

1. As a matter of personnel policy or practice, does your organization provide **employees'** choice of flexible work arrangements?
 - a. Yes, a formal policy authorizing it
 - b. Yes, by informal agreement at discretion of supervisor
 - c. Yes, relying mostly on employee management of their work
 - d. No, ~~with very few exceptions, flexibility in working hours is not possible.~~

2. Are part-time jobs an option for your work force?
 - a. Yes, a frequently-used option
 - b. Yes, but rarely used
 - c. No

Employee Benefits.

3. Does your organization provide any of the following employee benefits? Please check all that apply.	Did you initiate any of these benefits in the past year?	Did you discontinue any of these benefits in the past year?
<input type="checkbox"/> a. Health care insurance [Note: possibly remove if it is asked somewhere else on the survey]	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Paid time off or time-off bank	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> e. Pension	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> d. 401K account	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> e. Dependent-care spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> f. Employee assistance on mental health or personal issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> g. Resource and referral services for child care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> h. Resource and referral services regarding elder care or family disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> i. Financial assistance for dependent care needs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> j. On-site child care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> k. Other work family related benefits? (please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Note: If this format is will not work on the survey, delete the two questions in the far right two columns.

Dependent Care Tax Credit.

- a. Has your organization taken advantage of Oregon's Dependent Care Tax Credit?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

- b. If no, could you please indicate your reason:
 - a. Our tax burden is not sufficient to need a credit.
 - b. We don't have enough eligible employees.
 - c. It would be more trouble than it's worth.
 - d. We don't know enough about it.
 - e. Other. Please tell us: _____