

Childhood Care and Education Coordinating Council
Meeting Summary
December 3, 2009

Attendees: Mark Anderson (CCR&R), Terry Butler (Inclusive CC), Lillie Carillo (Head Start), Lzady Culver (Region X), Pam Deardorf (OCCD/PSU), Pam Dunn (LBCC), Pam Everitt (Dept of Ed), Merrily Haas (OAEYC), Kathleen Hynes (CCD), Donna Lewelling (Parent Voice), Heidi McGowan (Comm for Child Care), Dawn Norris (CCD), Dianna Pickett (DHS), Janet Price (CCD), Rhonda Prodzinski (DHS), Sonja Svenson (CCD), Beth Unverzagt (OregonASK), Rosetta Wangerin (Comm for Child Care) Bobbie Weber (OSU/CC Research).

Introductions/Announcements

- Parent Voice – Donna Lewelling – lives in Sweet Home where the recession has impacted the entire community. The local Boys & Girls Club is viewed as child care even though it is really an after school program and not regulated. It seems to be a safe place for kids even with the very high adult to child ratio. Average daily attendance is 900 kids per month (bodies in the door, duplicated head count). Out of town of 12,000, approximately 3,077 families with child care needs are members of the Boys & Girls Club, which serves children from 2 to 5:30. Please don't forget after school care when talking about child care; there are many kids that need care after school from ages 5 to 12.

Affordability Workgroup, Commission for Child Care

The Affordability Workgroup last met in 2005-06 – result of their work was gains in the subsidy system. With current recession, the Workgroup was reconstituted to look at recommendations for cuts in ERDC to be imposed July 1, 2010. Complete recommendations are in one document with alternatives for what is being proposed by DHS/CAF. Options include: freezing enrollment in ERDC, create a wait list, increase copays, and explore changes in eligibility. Bobbie – what is going to happen for sure is that only people who have been on TANF for the last 24 months will be eligible for ERDC. What came out of the workgroup is an amazing consensus that changing the program from one that serves the working poor to only TANF-leaving families is a profound policy change that is very negative. The Workgroup recommend if the worst cuts are going to happen that the legislature and DHS consider alternatives that are less damaging to families. Freezing the enrollment period will make it harder to get a subsidy and lose it than to not get one to begin with. Donna – families learn to get by if they don't have it; families that have it yanked out from under them have real problems. It really affects the stability of care. Under the current reduction plan, once families leave or eligibility is cut off will not be able to get back on the subsidy.

Heidi – there was remarkable and powerful consensus on maintaining the core structure and policies of the ERDC program so that it can recover when the recession recedes. It will be very, very hard for the program to recover if the proposed DHS changes are made. There are 17 states with waiting lists – Arizona has 10,000 families currently on their wait list.

Rhonda - Alternatives to TANF levers, if they are imposed and there is a freeze, begs the question of how to prioritize families when they come back on ERDC. We will need to do some planning for this. Donna – for states that have waiting lists, how do they plan to get families back on the subsidy? Rhonda – we are looking at the impacts to families in those states; will need to research a website for the waiting list. There will be additional administrative costs. We do have experience with waiting lists, for example, student child care. But, the student care waiting list gave them a false sense of hope – they

called all the time and there were no openings. Heidi – the Workgroup talked about the advantage of a waiting list – we will get info from other states. Bobbie – Sheridan is looking for stories for the Governor’s Interim Report – don’t know what will go into the report as alternatives. Heidi – politically, we can only put the recommendations – we can’t really take a stand as that is not our role. Merrily – Rep. Tina Kotek said at the Funder’s Circle meeting last month said that she is looking at the waiting list so no need to hold that information back. Rhonda – first, we need to get the word out to families on the proposed cuts. Mark – it doesn’t mean that One Voice and the two unions won’t be working to make sure the cuts don’t happen in the first place.

State Child Care and Development Fund Plan for 2010-11 – Program Accountability Tracking Tool Review and Discussion – Sonja Svenson

CCECC members broke into groups of five tables to review and rate the seven high-level outcomes of the child care system logic model. Gaps in services/programs identified in the logic model have been used to develop the Program and Accountability Tracking Tool. This is the third year that CCECC partners have rated Oregon’s performance in addressing these gaps. The complete rating assessment is available at: http://www.employment.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/CCD/state_plan.shtml

Outcome 1: Child care is safe and healthy

Shows Improvement:

- 1.2 Number of child development and health and safety training hours and content areas required for certified and registered providers are below national standards. Moved from 1 to 6 for Registered Family; 3 to 5 for Certified Family.
- 1.5 Oregon center care regulations do not meet national standards. Moved from 4 to 5.

Shows Decline:

- 1.1 Department of Human Services policies limit low-income families’ access to child care in the market. Continues to be Red Flagged at 4 after a high of 7 in 2007; in danger of moving to 3 after 2009 special session.

Outcome 2: Children experience high quality child care

Shows Improvement:

- 2.1 Parents lack access to comparative information to help them distinguish levels of child care quality in regulated facilities. Moved from 6 to 7.5
- 2.2 Parents have limited awareness of consumer education. Moved from 3 to 4.
- 2.3 Providers have limited awareness of child care program standards (In addition to the minimal standards set by licensing). Moved from 6 to 7 for centers. Moved from 3 to 4 for Registered and Certified Family.
- 2.4 Limited access to improvement funds for providers whose quality is measured through the Quality Indicators, Child Care Contribution Tax Credit, or Oregon Program of Quality funded initiatives. Moved from 3 to 4.

Outcome 3: Child care is affordable for all families

Shows Improvement:

- 3.6 Inadequate state and federal investments on subsidies for targeted populations (Teen parents, MSFW, A&D, children with disabilities, student parents). Moved from 7 to 8 for Teen parents. Moved from 6 to 7 for inclusive child care. Red Flag for A&D programs pending February 2010 special session.

Outcome 4: Child care is accessible for all families

Shows Improvement:

- 4.4 Providers lack training and supports to care for children with broad range of special needs. Moved from 4 to 5.
- 4.5 Providers unable to meet needs of all children due to lack of access to consultations (health, mental health). Was Red Flagged at 3; moved to 4.

Shows Decline:

- 4.1 Throughout the state, parents have difficulty accessing child care for infants and toddlers, school-age, children with special needs, or those needing care in nontraditional hours. Red Flagged at 2 – Remains Red Flagged at 2.
- 4.3 Providers lack resources and supports to care for children with social/emotional issues. Moved from 4 to 3 due to cuts in funding for programs addressing mental health. Red Flagged at 4 and moved to Red Flagged at 3.

Outcome 5: Oregon's child care system is efficient and collaborative

Shows Improvement:

- 5.1 Local and state planning for child care and education not systemically linked. For state planning only, moved from 6 to 6.5.
- 5.3 Lack of coordination and collaboration between tribal and nontribal child care. Moved from 3 to 4.
- 5.4 Collaborations to ensure accessible and high quality provider training opportunities. Moved from 7 to 8.

Shows Decline:

- 5.1 Local and state planning for child care and education not systemically linked. For local planning only, moved from 6 to 5.
- 5.2 Lack of clear roles and responsibilities for planning and delivery of coordination and support for the child care system at the local level. Moved from 4 and Red Flagged at 3.

Outcome 6: Oregon's child care system is innovative and effect

Shows Improvement

- 6.1 High turnover (in providers) due to low compensation. Moved from 2 to 3.
- 6.3 Proven pilots continue only in original areas or are dropped altogether even when effectiveness of the intervention has been documented. Moved from 1 to 2.
- 6.4 Funding adequate for providers to deliver quality child care and education. Moved from 1 to 2.
- 6.5 Developmental needs of children are a lower priority in setting child care policy. Moved from 2 to 3.

Shows Decline

- 6.2 State and federal funding is not adequate to produce system infrastructure able to unsure quality child care and education. Moved from 2 and Red Flagged at 1 for state funding.

Outcome 7: Broad support exists for Oregon's child care system

Shows Improvement

- 7.1 Inadequate data on costs of improving child care and education. Moved from 3 to 3.5.
- 7.2 Statewide advocacy limited; child care and education on agenda of champions for children and families. Moved from 5 to 6.
- 7.3 Public does not understand child care and education system. Moved from 2 to 3.
- 7.4 Oregon four-year education system demonstrate little interest in child care and education. Moved from 1 to 2.

7.6 Policy makers paying attention to outcomes produced by child care and education system. Moved from 2 to 3.

A more detailed report on the PATT review will be discussed at the February 2010 CCECC meeting.

Measures 66 and 67 and General Fund forecast – Merrily Haas

The latest revenue forecast is less than when we adjourned in June 2009. The economy is continuing to slow down. Whether or not the Measures pass, there will still be some significant General Fund cuts. The biggest implication is the 10 percent cuts to all agency budgets; cut lists are on the Governor's website. There are huge devastating cuts and no revenue anticipated; 90 percent of the cuts are in health care, education, and public safety as there is no other place for the cuts to occur. We have a worst case scenario that isn't going to get better, it can only get worse. She shared a county by county breakdown of the cuts that will occur. Example of impacts: In Benton County, there are 2,500 people on Unemployment Insurance that will get a tax credit with the passage of Measures 66 and 67. In contrast, there are 932 people with taxable income over \$125,000; those individuals will get a small increase in taxes.

Merrily – years ago when we had Measures 46 and 48, they got about a 48 percent 'yes' vote for a tax increase that affected everyone. We just need to get about six percent more of people voting 'yes' to get these measures passed. There have been lots of letters to the editors that these are job cutting measures – not factual. There are placards available for personal use in home window, yards, offices, etc. Oregon AEYC and One Voice for Child Care are in support of Measures 66 and 67. If you sign up on the website then the literature mailings stop to you; support organizations can then use those funds to target people that are on the fence or possible 'no's.' Heidi – can you clarify what the taxes are? Measure 66 is the personal income tax increase – \$125,000 of taxable income /\$250,000 for couples. Measure 67 affects businesses; 82 percent of small businesses would not pay more than \$150 year in additional taxes. If your business is a C corporation and has Oregon sales of over \$500,000 to \$1 million, you will pay \$500. All measure information is described in the tax flyers and on the website.

Child Care Division/Macro-level Budget – Sonja Svenson

A high level budget for division general, federal, and other fund expenditures was shared. Discussions have been occurring with the Legislative Fiscal Office on general fund reductions. Because the \$3.3 million in general funds received by the division is used to meet Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements for the federal Child Care and Development Fund, any further cuts may affect Oregon's ability to draw down some of these funds for the ERDC subsidy program. Since 2003, the division's allocation of general fund has been reduced from \$5.2 to \$3.3 million – any further cuts may impact the division's ability to fund some quality investments and programs. In 2009, quality investments were reduced by \$3.8 million with the movement discretionary funds from the Oregon Commission on Children and Families to the ERDC program.

EQUIP Initiatives

- Training & Education Database (TED) – software programmers are working on the actual database at this time. TED leads are developing policies and procedures for their agencies on how TED will be implemented, as changes in one agency may affect policy in another agency and we need to coordinate efforts. CCD has three groups working on different aspects of TED implementation – being very proactive. They are also working on the types of reports that will be needed for providers as part of the licensing component. May have this component ready for field testing in March 2010. Many of the changes are in business practices; how we do our jobs in licensing. Pam – are calling

Oregon Registry online reports ‘baby TED.’ Dawn – we call the database TED, but we really need to talk about how we label these components for the general public. TED is really the online training and education enhancement of the Oregon Registry.

- Oregon’s Registry Campaign – Mark – High level of interest with CCR&Rs to get providers on the Oregon Registry; local offices are getting many calls because of the Education Awards. We would like to know how many providers are currently at Step 1 vs Step 3 – anecdotally, we know the numbers have increased quite a bit. Pam – will have numbers for this at next CCECC meeting. CCR&Rs attended *My Program, My Quality* training of trainers in November, which helped them understand quality indicators and the QIP. The Oregon Registry online is available through TED and will roll out this week; has providers by county that are on the Oregon Registry.
- Oregon Program of Quality (OPQ) – this project is the facilities side of EQUIP; it is a state designation for quality programs that meet standards. Six standards with demonstration criteria have been identified. Currently, there are seven programs in the pilot project – all types of programs represented: family-based, center-based, school age, Head Start, and private non-profit. Portfolio review will be December 14; will then incorporate feedback from the pilot and start rolling the program out in late spring or early summer 2010.
- Education Awards – from 9/30 to December 2, education award checks were issued to 791 providers for \$261,000. Milestone 1: \$100 – 158; milestone 2 – 228; milestone 3 – 405. Bobbie – so the majority of the workforce is in the lower steps; are they less motivated to get on the Oregon Registry or just less motivated overall? Pam Dunn – most of the effort has been with centers where the bulk of the educated workforce is located. Pam Deardorf – the first round of awards went to people already on the registry; the new numbers don’t reflect ‘new’ people on the registry. Next quarter numbers will be more reflective of new people on the registry. Another factor: lower steps also take longer to organize and submit because of the paperwork – providers in higher steps often just submit their degree transcription.
- Infant/Toddler Mental Health Certificate program/PSU – ARRA funds have been targeted for 10 full scholarships for this graduate level two-year program. Requirements to get the scholarship are: Bachelor’s degree, Step 10 or above, working at least 20 hours/week directly with infants and/or toddlers. John and Betty Gray scholarships are most often used for undergraduate work or community based training; this scholarship targets higher level training. Hope to have the application up on the OCCD/PSU website end of next week – working out coordination between the graduate program and OCCD. April 1 is deadline for scholarship applications; will have approvals by May 1. Program starts in September 2010.
- Director’s Series training – There were 33 applicants – selected 21 for Cohort 6, which has already met. Unduplicated numbers, participants are caring for 1,380 children. 10 counties are represented; it is now truly a statewide program. Some of participants are making contributions toward the cost of the program. Types of programs are Teen parent, for-profit, non-profit, school age care; tiny and really large programs. 18 participants are site or program directors. 9 of the 21 applicants are on the Oregon Registry; tomorrow’s meeting will include a work session on Oregon Registry applications. All applicants have had community-based or college degree classes; five have Bachelor’s and four have a Masters degree. The diversity of the applicants statewide has really enriched the program. Additionally, two participants are from each of the tax credit programs in Lane and Multnomah counties.

- Family Child Care Management Series – After five years of interest and discussion, getting ready to launch the curriculum for the Family Child Care Management Series. Seven people are participating in the curriculum development and have begun the discussion on the format and what works for FCC. Bev Briggs will write the draft curriculum and hopefully the child care system will have a coordinator and cadre of trainers ready to go fall of 2010.
- Quality Indicators – OCCRRN contracted with marketing firm, Curiosity Group, to develop and add QI information to the new QI website. The company really understands how to communicate with parents and will assist OCCRRN staff on a redesign of the online services; this includes parent access to information on quality of facilities.

School Age Task Force – Beth Unverzagt

The Task Force has three schedule meetings between now and the February Commission for Child Care meeting. We are looking at school age regulations in Oregon and other states; will look at current statutes, administrative rules, and make recommendations to the Commission. Task Force members are:

Beth Unverzagt, OregonASK
 Nancy Hauth, Portland Public Schools
 Vicki Wodarczyk, Parkrose SD
 Julie Petrokubi, Camp Fire USA/Portland
 Regan Gray, Children First
 Joanne Fuller, Multnomah Co Human Services

Michelle Fleener, YMCA/Salem
 Cass Templeton, Afterschool Program/Albany
 Linda Perry, Salem Child Development Center
 Jeanne Kotsakis, Oregon Child Care Division
 Bonnie Baird, Oregon Child Care Division

Updates from Committees

- Health Links – white paper will be completed by January or February of 2010 on the health consultation program – really good discussions on kinds of strategies to make the program available statewide and find funding support.

Every year, there has been a campaign called TV Turnoff Week; will be in April 2010 this year. Dianna brought copies of information regarding TV viewing by toddlers and preschool children. When we talk about child care quality, we don't talk about health as a component. A study has been done on screen time and child care health; the study also includes information on video games and educational videos. Children in child care watch a great deal of TV. The type of care influences the hours of TV viewing; there is a big difference between family and center-based care. Education levels of the providers also influenced the hours of viewing. Hours of TV viewing is tied to serious problems with obesity and cognitive delays, sleep disorders. Much more information on health issues is available from Office of Family Health.

- Inclusive Child Care – the committee is about to embark on revising *Open Hearts, Open Doors* – currently exploring options for different formats. The Committee is also looking to expand representation around the state – not so much to attend meetings, but commenting on materials and other inclusion issues.
- Child Care Research Partnership – the impact of subsidy policy on parent decision for child care is a research project with three different components. Initial findings: interviews with parents on subsidy policies – parents didn't notice the changes even though they were huge. On the other hand, 100 percent of the providers noticed the subsidy changes. This information generated questions:

How come the parents didn't notice that the providers were receiving more money? What they paid the provider was important – the amounts received by providers. The providers carry the cost burden even with increased subsidies. What is the amount that parents pay out of pocket and why does it change all the time? Parents don't know how much they earn and how much they are going to pay for child care. This study will find qualitative info on how parents manage the cost of care and child care arrangements. Where does the fluctuation come from and how it affects their employment and child care decisions? We will have employment data – subsidy, food stamps, and participation in medical assistance. Will compare parents in the subsidy program with parents getting assistance, but not child care subsidies. Will see if there are differences in behavior. Merrily – is part of the fluctuation varying work hours – subsidy doesn't cover time they aren't working. Bobbie – we have a list of about 27 things that affect the cost burden, i.e., extra work hours, DHS authorization for paid subsidy hours, sick kids. Some of it is provider fees for registration, food, transportation for field trips, etc. Parents lose a lot of wages because of sick children or other reasons they have to provide the child care and not a provider. Their income fluctuates terribly.

Bobbie – one of the ERDC clients interviewed was a single mother who had been offered a lot of overtime at her job one month. She took it and her subsidy copay went from \$40 to \$300; now she is stuck with a \$300 copay for the duration of her eligibility because she reported the income. If this mother had known to report that this was a one time occurrence of overtime and wasn't expected to continue, she would not have had her eligibility determination changed. Through this study, we want to know if this situation is a common occurrence; we will be able to show this for some families. From the interviews we know that the people we serve in the subsidy program work hard to make life different for their kids and are very thankful for the help they receive. They never say a critical thing about DHS/ERDC. “Without this program, I couldn't work” is a universal response.

- Family, Friends, and Neighbors – did meet in November, but will have another meeting in January 2010. Would like to report out in February rather than today.
- PSU/OCCD – have introductory flyers on the Oregon Registry, which contain changes based on feedback from local CCR&R staff; will start being used next week in the CCR&R system. Infant/toddler curriculum work is progressing. The system currently has 34 First Connections trainers; they need updated materials, particularly materials for Spanish. Planning for another First Connections TOT in the second year of the biennium. Facilitating a workgroup on increasing Relationship-Based Professional Development opportunities. First Connections is the first curriculum to be revised into RBPD. Director and Infant/Toddler Credential materials will be up on the website this month.

Updates from Partners

- OAEYC – will be moving to share office space with Campfire USA in Gladstone in January or February after nine years at the current location.
- Commission for Child Care – very busy this past fall with community forums on recorded preschool programs. Commission members shaped legislation for last legislative system through community forums on school-age care. Rep Boone liked the concept, introduced and got passed legislation on recording preschools. We are going out after the fact to get input from preschool programs. Interim Governor's Report will be going out prior to the legislative session in February. Will continue to work on tax credit legislative changes with the Child Care Division. Strategic planning session end

of January 2010. Commission slots are full with only two openings, have great legislator representation, very active and fully participating in discussions.

- Head Start – Lillie Carillo – just completed mid-level managers training for Head Start programs. There was 97 percent participation online for the series and on the conference calls. Specifically focusing this month on collaborative leadership. There is great mentoring and support network. There is also a PBS cohort which includes a couple of child care programs. Both cohorts are credit-based, so they can receive 1, 2, or 3 college credits. Regional conference put on by federal Region X staff a couple of weeks ago; talked about priorities as a Region. Paul Noski talked about a workplan he put together for Joan Lombardi. Dell Ford participated and talked about the Early Learning Council.
- OAEYC – Merrily – online discussion on going to the NAEYC professional development conference in June – need a proposal in by tomorrow (December 4); need to know what we are presenting and who is on board.
- Oregon ASK – Oregon Afterschool Conference in November had 150 people attendance with over 70 on the waiting list. Evaluations were very positive on all session; overwhelming consensus from participants that a 2010 conference was needed. Conference was planned and delivered in partnership with Oregon Recreation and Parks Association, who are very interested in continuing this partnership in the future. More partners and/or sponsors will be on board for the 2010 conference tentatively scheduled for late October, early November in Wilsonville.

Supporting Student Success (S3) Initiative – school age database now contains records on over 1,200 programs; huge increase from the 240 records entered from the school age survey done in 2008. Added licensed school age programs; OED has also released school data. Taking all community association grants and over 100 private foundation grants and looking at the money spent to support afterschool programs in Oregon and SW Washington. All this information will be compiled for the Oregon Afterschool Report to be released prior to the 2011 legislative session.

Next Meeting – February 4, 2010; Roth’s West Salem; 1 to 4:30 p.m.