

Childhood Care and Education Coordinating Council

December 5th, 2013 at Roth's, West Salem

1:00-4:00 PM

Attendees

In attendance: Heidi McGowan, Rita Conrad, Pam Deardorff, Nancey Patten, Merrily Haas, Robin Hill-Dunbar, Melinda Benson, Terry Butler, Sonja Svenson, Melissa Gritz, Kim Cardona, Lisa DeMoe, Rhonda Prodzinski, Lisa Harnisch, Kelli Walker, Beth Unverzagt, Stacey Cowan, Katie Anderson, Shannon Vandehey, Jeanne Lemieux, Collette Brown, Autumn David, Crystal Persi, Meredith Russell, Sandy Gorsage, Brittany Palmer, Kathleen Hynes, Jerri Wolfe

By phone: Karen Henkemeyer, Christa Rude, Sarah Lanius, Agda Burchard, Mary Wolf

Purpose Statement

To maintain a trusted venue for child care and education partners to collaborate, learn from each other and advise the Early Learning Division on child care policies, issues and programs that yield positive outcomes for children.

Agenda Item	Responsible Party	Discussion
Welcome and Introduction	Lisa Harnisch	<p>Since Terry Butler is retiring soon, group members introduced themselves and told a story of something that they will remember about Terry and his work.</p> <p>Lisa updated the group by saying that the Hubs have been officially announced. The Early Learning Council is also in the process of discussing a variety of rules and they are in the process of developing those rules. Two grants will also be discussed. Of those two grants, there is the Kindergarten Innovation grant and the Early Learning Literacy grant. Those are competitive grants that will have an RFP out which can include communities, hubs, etc.</p>
CCECC Purpose & Follow Up Integration of Child Care Resource & Referral Advisory	Kelli Walker	<p>Kelli explained to the group that they have had numerous discussions over the past few weeks to incorporate the feedback that they received from the previous meeting about the Coordinating Council's purpose statement. This feedback included themes of program exchange, connections, learning about new developments, a place to have conversation and examining the overall future of Coordinating Council.</p> <p>Kelli presented a functional chart for the Coordinating Council noting that some of the committees are advisory and some are information. Members of each subcommittee gave a brief overview of their functions as a subcommittee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professional Development Committee (PDC): Lisa DeMoe shared the

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role of the subcommittees of the Professional Development Committee (PDC). Access and Outreach ensures outreach efforts, diverse, and geographic needs are met around training for providers. The Qualifications, Credentials and Pathways subcommittee ensures that ongoing training meets the needs of the diverse workforce. The Quality Assurance subcommittee ensures standards for trainers and Professional Development efforts are established and maintained. Professional Development Leads is a subcommittee that meets throughout the year to discuss work plans of the subcommittees.

- QRIS Advisory: Meredith Russell announced that the new group will be up and running by spring. It will function as a QRIS body. More will be announced in upcoming meetings.
- CCR&R Advisory: The CCR&R Advisory has gone through a lot of transition but continues to be valuable when discussions require drawing input on funding formulas or changes in the system. This group can then do the concentrated work.
- Inclusive Child Care Committee: Terry Butler explained that this committee advises the program as a function of the committee and also looks more broadly at issues around children who have differing types of abilities and needs. This group also closely examines the childcare issues that those families and child care providers are chasing.
- Research Partnership: Sonja Svenson explained to the group that this group has grown to not only being an advisory board for Coordinating Council but also for other states. This group has a large body of work including the marketplace study and assisting the nation with childcare data. Bobbie Weber and her staff are also leaders of this committee.
- Subsidy Coordination Workgroup: This group meets in the morning directly before Coordinating Council. They were previously known as the Childcare Advisory Task Force and it was expanded to include subsidy programs, special populations, and DHS programs.

Kelli read the new Coordinating Council Purpose Statement that was written based on the input from the council in the previous meeting. The council had the following suggestions and comments for the new purpose statement:

- Change the wording to "To maintain a trusted venue for childcare and early learning partners"
- Add the terms "children and families" and "communities" to the statement

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add the phrase, "For all of Oregon's Children" <p>Kelli explained to the group that the given suggestions will be taken into account and a revised purpose statement will be presented soon.</p>
<p>CCDF State Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Age Think Tank 	<p>Rita Conrad</p> <p>Beth Unverzagt, OregonASK</p>	<p>Rita and Beth shared information about the work currently underway around School-Age issues. The school-age children are somewhat marginalized from the Early Learning Council (ELC) perspective because ELC focuses on 0-8 years of age. By contrast, CCDF focuses on children 0-12, and up to 18 if there are special needs. Rita referenced what is in the CCDF State Plan for School-age children and noted that the Office of Child Care wants to do better.</p> <p>The School-Age "Think Tank" will morph into an action-oriented project team once they develop a work plan. They are just now beginning that process, making today a perfect time to get input from this group. Rita read the Think Tank Senior Purpose from the handout and asked for thoughts and feedback. The feedback from the council included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The QRIS should be represented in this. • A CCR&R representative should also be included here as they work with a lot of school-age programs around the QRIS. • The topic of equity is the most difficult issue which includes the difficulty of low-income families being able to access quality services. • There are a lot of unlicensed programs that include after school programs and we are unable to oversee the quality of the program. These programs are important to consider because they make up such a huge portion of after school programs in the state. • Including rural communities is important. There are often less opportunities and resources for kids in rural areas. <p>The group had a discussion about several years ago when the Commission of Child Care had public forums that gathered input about what should be required of programs that are not licensed. The requirements of a program that were agreed upon was that the program must be recorded with the Office of Child Care, all staff in the program must have a background check and the program must notify the parents that there is not the same level of oversight as there is with a licensed program. As a result, there are now recorded programs in the state. The consistency among what those programs do and where they operate has become mushy. Kelli asked the group if they had suggestions for an R&R volunteer to be part of this committee. Shannon Vandehey offered to participate. Some group members agreed that they would like to be made</p>

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		<p>aware of any "report outs".</p> <p>Beth Unverzagt gave a presentation which included a background of Oregon ASK. She explained that there is an interest in the education of after school programs. She noted that there is an issue about licensed programs that operate in public school. She mentioned that since a highly-trained staff makes a huge difference in the quality of these programs, the professional development opportunities must be relevant to the practitioners that work in after school programs.</p>
QRIS- Expanding the Field Test Statewide	Meredith Russell	<p>Meredith reported out to the group about the QRIS Statewide Expansion. The Statewide Rollout team recently met to discuss what changes need to be made so that providers can be successful. She gave an update of the numbers of programs currently involved with the QRIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 479 programs have gone through the Increase Quality Training and out of those, 348 have applied for QRIS.• Children being served in C2Q programs and beyond is over 12,000 at this point.• 30 portfolios have been submitted• There are eleven 3-star programs.• There are two 4-star programs.• There is one 5-star program.• There is one 3-star rated certified center program.• There are seven 3-star rated certified family programs.• There are two 4-star certified family programs.• There is 1 5-star certified family program. <p>Meredith reported that none of the programs currently in the QRIS are OPQ programs and that the crosswalk piece for that has just been completed. There was a comment made that a lot of programs are showing movement in getting their materials completed and there are two NAEYC programs now included. This ties into the Head Start crosswalk which has been done, shared and now receiving feedback. There is a QRIS training coming in February. Recently there has been an addition to the QRIS website that includes video tutorials describing what the reviewers look for on each standard and other general tips for the portfolio process.</p> <p>There was discussion about whether or not Head Start programs need to be licensed to applying to the QRIS. One main goal with the Head Start crosswalk</p>

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		<p>has been to provide a way that the quality that already exists will be recognized in the QRIS. This crosswalk was also closely related to the work that has been done with the NAEYC crosswalk. The foundation of the QRIS is licensing, so it was clarified that Head Start programs must be licensed to participate in the QRIS.</p> <p>Lisa Harnisch reported that at the November Early Learning Council meeting there was a great recognition with sincere appreciation for those programs that achieved a star rating in the QRIS and the work that is being done to support those practitioners and programs.</p>
Promoting Healthy Weight and Development in Early Childhood	Robin Stanton, Registered Dietician; Public Health Division	<p>Robin, who works as a Nutrition Consultant in Maternal Child Health in the Division of Public Health, gave a presentation about Promoting Healthy Weight and Development in Early Childhood. She began by saying that a group of public health nurses and other health professionals were pulled together to figure out how to strengthen the agenda of Obesity prevention in early childhood. They then chaired a group of state and local partners, including committee members that were public health nurses and administrators from around the state including urban and rural counties with varying sizes of programs. The group was formed to help people understand and make sense of what can be done in local communities to prevent obesity, starting in early childhood. The group came up with the following objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Increase collaboration between state and local partners.2. Develop a framework that can be used at a local level.3. Identify within the public health departments and the maternal staff who see themselves as experts in the field.4. Engage actively with partners and policy development.5. Focus on prevention and take a lifespan approach. <p>This group took an intentional approach at looking at the evidence and research on the topic. The foldout document that Robin handed to the group is what her work group came up with to give to different parts of the community.</p> <p>The following website includes the work that Robin and her team did: http://www.healthoregon.org/chc</p> <p>Robin asked the group for feedback. A few group members responded saying that they would like to collaborate and work together on these goals and objectives. Other group members suggested locations in which this information could be posted and made readily available to families. Those suggestions included local libraries and early learning hubs. Other group members</p>

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		<p>mentioned occasions in which they have done work that aligned with the goals of obesity prevention in early childhood including breastfeeding training for targeted providers that work with breastfeeding families. One group member mentioned that this was incredibly important work that was being done as it will impact an enormous amount of lives.</p> <p>To request a copy of the document that Robin handed out to the group during this meeting, contact the Maternal and Child Health Section at 971-673-0252 or Publications and Design Section at 503-378-3486, 711 for TTY, or email: dhs-oha.publicationrequest@state.or.us</p>
myORO Demonstration	Pam Deardorff, Oregon Center for Career Development	<p>Pam gave a demonstration on the new myORO website. She went over the enrollment process with myORO and handed out small cards at the meeting that included the website where a practitioner can get started with myORO.</p>
DHS Update	Rhonda Prodzinski, DHS	<p>Rhonda updated the group by saying that the caseload cap is 8100 for the rest of the biennium. On January 1st, 2014 they will be reactivating the reservation list and it will most likely go through next fall. The people in TANF transitions will still be eligible for the program. If an individual is applying for ERDC and there is less than a 2 month gap after employment loss, they are still able to get on that. There is a policy change coming and the information on that change is as follows:</p> <p>There are exemptions to the reservation list. DHS will continue to accept and process ERDC applications while the reservation list is in place. The exemptions are listed below. Please note the child welfare exemption is new, beginning Jan. 1, 2014. Those that do not meet an exemption will be sent a denial notice and placed on the ERDC reservation list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least one member of the filing group has received TANF benefits in Oregon in the current or last three months;• The caretaker is reapplying for ERDC benefits after a break of less than two calendar months;• A child in the filing group is eligible for a current opening in a Head Start or Oregon Program of Quality contracted child care slot.; or• The caretaker of the child is currently working with Child Welfare (as part of an assessment, open case or transition) and there is an ongoing safety plan in place that states child care is required to keep the child in their home, place the child with a relative or other known adult or when transitioning the child back into the home or out of stranger foster care. Child Welfare will make this determination and refer cases

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		<p>they feel meet this criteria to the branch offices.</p> <p>The OPQ programs can bypass the reservation list. Their department will soon be hiring new staff to assist with call wait times.</p>
Partner Updates as time allows	All	<p>Kathleen Hynes: The complaint website will soon be updated with a reply to complaints from providers. The goal of this is to provide the public, providers, and partners with an accurate portrayal.</p> <p>Kim Cardona: The 3 year wellness grant ended. There will be a full description of this in February. She passed out a handout about another grant opportunity.</p> <p>Pam Dearnorff: There is a Training & Education Coordinator position posted on the web which was left vacant by Michele Jaeger.</p> <p>Merrily Haas: On December 6th and 7th there will be the second meeting of the director certification cohort which includes 22 people in 10 different counties.</p> <p>Terry Butler: He is very excited about what Melinda will bring to her new position.</p>

Next meeting: February 6th from 1:00-4:00 PM