

Oregon Child Care Research Partnership  
May 5, 2010  
Minutes

**Attendance:** Bobbie Weber, Deana Grobe, Mark Anderson, Becky Vorpagel, Dawn Norris, Sonja Worcel, Art Emlen, Robi Henifin, Roni Pham, Andrew Bremner, Beverly Briggs, Rhonda Prodzinski, Shannon Williams (by phone)

### **I. 2010 Researchers Roundtable**

- a. **Themes:** Update on EQUIP, Parent Decision-Making, Sharing
- b. **Presenters:** (a) NPC – how extra dollars impact parent decisions in the CCEP evaluation work over the past 5 years, (b) Community Childcare Initiative (CCI) – parent participation presented by Shannon, (c) Bobbie Weber – parent choice literature review and policy relevance, (d) Ellen Scott (UofO) – Subsidy Policy Impact study qualitative findings, (e) David Mandel on findings from parent focus groups.
- c. **Date and Location:** Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Edgefield

### **II. Research Questions for Research Partnership Proposal**

There were a few thoughts on policy relevant questions of interest. They included:

- Continuity or stability remains a high interest for Oregon policy makers. Policy alignment between food stamps and child care subsidies should be improving stability of subsidy use and subsidized arrangements.. DHS started budget alignment for Food Stamps and ERDC in April '09, with simplified reporting beginning June '09. It would be interesting to see what effect this has on stability of subsidy use and child care arrangements.
- Explore odd hours of care issue and what policy changes could be made to help out these parents.
- Tease out the distinctions between family, friend and neighbor care.

#### Next Steps:

- Bobbie will send updates on the progress of the proposal.

### **III. Definition of Child Care Workforce for TED/Oregon Registry Online**

The task during the meeting was to develop a recommendation on variables to be collected in TED/Oregon Registry Online to answer policy questions about important subgroups (for example, persons who work directly with children). A subgroup of the Partnerships had done a lot of work prior to the meeting and Bobbie led the group through a series of handouts (see attached). Below are suggested changes and/or feedback from the group:

- Split “work setting or Type of employment” into three variables: type, regulatory status, full day/part day employment
- Ask about “main job”
- Possibly add the following questions to the enrollment form: pay status (hourly wage) and hours worked directly with children (20 or greater hours, <20 hours)
- Relationship to child in care is not currently on enrollment form

#### Next Steps:

- CCD will come up with a position definition – list of positions on enrollment form
- Ask Shannon if she is asking what year they entered the field

- CCD will add education level back on the enrollment form

#### **IV. Descriptive Data on Family, Friend and Neighbor Caregivers: Overviews and TED**

Since the inception of the Literacy Toolkit Evaluation conducted by Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE), R&Rs have been collecting data from FFN caregivers who participate in the voluntary Orientations. One of the products of the PRE evaluation was a description of the FFN caregivers receiving a subsidy. The Orientations become mandatory as of July 1, 2010. It will be important to know if the descriptive data collected from participants in voluntary orientations accurately describes the universe of subsidized FFN caregivers. Continuing to collect basic data at the Orientation sessions will allow us to accurately describe this group until TED/Oregon Registry Online is fully operating. The question to the group was what data should be collected when conducting family, friend and neighbor caregiver orientations.. The group went through the survey instrument used in the past to decide what information was essential and what information will be collected from the TED enrollment form.

- Keep all descriptive questions
- #4, #7, #8, #16 are not captured on the current TED enrollment form
- Remove #9-14; keep #15, #16 (adjust with ones they collect for parents), #17
- Consider expanding #8 similar to how it is used in the SPI telephone survey.

DHS will input and analyze the data collected from FFN providers at Orientations. DHS and CCD will review the forms that FFN caregivers will complete when listed to be sure that all the data the group believes is needed to accurately describe this part of the workforce is captured.

#### **IV. Comparison of Where They Work: Parents Who Use a Subsidy and Representative Sample of Oregon Families that Use Paid Care**

Bobbie provided a handout (see attached) that displays the work sectors in which a representative sample of Oregon families that use paid care are employed. Rhonda shared similar information for parents enrolled in the subsidy program. The group noted differences, the main one being that the sample of all parents is dispersed across work sectors whereas about two-thirds of parents receiving a subsidy are clustered in three sectors, ones that have a large number of low-wage jobs with nontraditional work schedules. The methodology used in the two analyses differed in important ways so comparisons must be made with caution.

#### **VI. Agenda Items for May meeting**

- Updates: (a) Market Price Study, (b) Quality Indicator Program, (b) Subsidy Policy Impact Study

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 2, 2010,  
9:30am – 12pm, Oregon Child Care Resource and Referral Network