

Oregon Child Care Research Partnership  
February 3, 2010  
Minutes

**Attendance:** Bobbie Weber, Deana Grobe, Shiela Carter, Mark Anderson, Becky Vorpagel, Dawn Norris, Rhonda Prodzinski, Robi Henifin, Art Emlen, Shannon Williams (by phone), Diane Pickett (by phone)

## **I. Definition of child care workforce for Training and Education Database**

OCCRP had a request from CCD to define the workforce for TED. Bobbie did some background reading of the literature, but did not come up with a workable definition of the workforce. She also talked with experts on this topic (Marcy Whitebook, Marty Zaslow, Iveliesse Martinez-Beck, Beth R. from Kentucky). They all concurred that there is a lack of consensus on defining the workforce. Bobbie got an idea from her work with the National Child Care Supply and Demand project. Instead of trying to come up with definitions of type of care, they identified the key elements that would allow researchers to create type of care variables during the analysis stage.

Bobbie provided a handout with some initial work on the key elements to describe the workforce. The group worked through these elements and came up with the following list:

- Employment Type (include all including Healthy Start, Relief Nurseries, Trainers, Center for Career Development, Health and Mental Health Consultants, etc.)
- Primary Position
- Secondary Position
- Pay status (paid, unpaid)
- Hours Worked
- How many hours worked directly with children
- Work Directed or Supervised

One element - whether the organization received funding through parent fees, public grants/contracts, or public school budgets – is a facility versus individual level variable. Dawn indicated that this information should come from CCRIS given TED and CCRIS will be linked. However, an issue to be addressed is researcher access to CCRIS data.

### Next Steps:

- Becky will send the North Carolina workforce paper to Bobbie.
- Deana will send Becky the match results between Head Start Centers and the R&R database.
- Bobbie will go back to the experts listed above and get feedback on the key elements the group listed above.
- Dawn will bring up the issue of making CCRIS data more accessible to researchers.

## **II. 2008 Workforce Size Estimate – Economic Impact of Child Care Study**

Bobbie presented a handout that provides three different estimates of the child care workforce in Oregon. These estimates are being used in IMPLAN to estimate the economic impact of child care. For one of the estimates, Bobbie used information on providers in the R&R database, as well as through the OPS data. She had four questions for the group to discuss:

1. What is an educated guess on the average number of employees per facility who work in exempt centers? *The group was thinking either 3 or 4, but decided Becky would give additional data to Bobbie in order to come up with a more data driven number.*
2. This estimate counts everyone in the workforce including cooks. Were people okay with this? *YES; Bobbie will add a footnote that indicates who was excluded from the estimates (e.g., early intervention, infrastructure).*
3. The estimate also includes children that are being cared for by relatives. Were people okay with this? *YES*
4. SEIU wanted all DHS subsidy providers included. *NO; concern with over counting and duplication.*

Next Steps:

- Becky will send Bobbie additional data to estimate 1 above.
- Bobbie will send the numbers to Mallory at OSU to input into IMPLAN.

### **III. Measure of Professional Attitudes – EQUIP evaluation and TED**

Shannon Williams requested feedback on a few questions to measure professional attitudes for both the EQUIP evaluation and TED (see handout). The group gave the following feedback:

- Q1\_e – remove “hood” from childhood
- Q2 – change the question to say “Do you consider your work in child care and/or education (not necessarily in this same position or setting) to be short-term or long-term?” Remove “job” for all response categories.
- Q3 – Add “in” after mark in the question. Change (a) to “A step in the Oregon Registry”. Change “through” to “from” in (c); consistent with (b). Delete the commas and or from the response categories and reformat with column lines or shading so that the response categories are easier to read.

### **IV. Role of ERDC and What Information to Share with Legislature**

The group was given two tasks related to a handout on measuring ERDC Impact. The first task was to make sure everyone understood what the results meant, and the second task was to come up with 1 or 2 things to say to the legislature. The group came up with the following story to present to the legislature:

- The child care industry operates on a 1-2% profit margin
- 1417 (out of 5597 or 25%) of facilities have 10% or more children enrolled on subsidy (indicating that a loss of subsidy recipients influences the viability of these facilities)
- 517 (out of 5597 or 9%) of facilities that have 50% or more children enrolled on subsidy
- In addition, X number of FFN that rely on the subsidy program.

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will draft the above story.
- Deana will revise the document to include 0% category numbers for all tables

## **V. Where Do They Work – Study of Employment of Child Care Subsidy Recipients**

DHS is working on a project to determine where subsidy recipients work. Robi has sent a list of June 2009 subsidy recipient data to the Employment Department to match with UI Wage data and industry codes. Bobbie has emailed to Rhonda and Robi a guidebook on how this study was analyzed in the past. Several groups have asked for this information including the Hunger Relief Taskforce, Unions, and Employment. No specific date is currently set for completion of this project.

## **VI. Announcement – Art’s Book**

Art’s book *In Defense of Parents: How Working Parents Make the Best Decisions Possible When They Gain Enough Flexibility From Family, Job, and Childcare; and What That Discovery Means for Public Policy* will be available soon. Congratulations Art!

### Next Steps:

- Anyone interested in receiving a copy should send their email to Art. He will let you know when it is available.

## **VII. Agenda Items for March meeting**

- Market Price Study Subcommittee Report
- Professional Development System Framework Paper
- Updates: (a) Quality Indicator Program, (b) Subsidy Policy Impact Study

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 3, 2010,  
9:30am – 12pm, Oregon Child Care Resource and Referral Network