

Oregon Child Care Research Partnership
September 2, 2009
Minutes

Attendance: Bobbie Weber, Deana Grobe, Becky Vorpagel, Art Emlen, Tom Olsen, Bev Briggs, Dawn Norris, Diana Kruse, Robi Henifin, Mark Anderson, Sonja Worcel, Shannon Williams, Kathy Seubert, Sheila Carter, David Mandell

I. 2009 Oregon's Child Care Researcher's Roundtable

The group spent some time discussing the agenda for the Researcher's Roundtable. The group landed on the following changes:

- Title the day "Oregon Investment in Quality: Taking Research to Policy and Practice"
- After welcome and introductions, begin with an introduction to EQUIP, provide context on the genesis of EQUIP and how the national agenda compares with what Oregon is doing, and talk about the two goals for EQUIP – (a) generate research questions as EQUIP unfolds, and (b) identify strategies that are being used to strengthen EQUIP.
- Have Billie provide a background piece on the both the tracking of quality (QRS) and registry based initiative. Ideas for what to talk about include:
 - List of things Bobbie had already emailed to Billie (see handout).
 - Basic information on what a registry is, how do people get in it, what can registries tell us
 - Research behind the importance of education and training
 - Purposes of registry – ability to describe the workforce; professional development
- Shorten lunch to a half hour.
- Have sharing time prior to lunch.
- Put the panel discussion right after lunch. The panel will now include four presenters, not five. David will do the context piece earlier in the day.
- End with a pulling together session that may help build the preliminary framework for evaluating EQUIP.

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will send the group an updated agenda for review.
- Bobbie will contact all the presenters with presenter instructions and focus.
- Becky will bring the equipment for power point presentations.

II. Definition of child care workforce for Training and Education Database (TED)

The group talked about the definition of the child care workforce and what variables/fields would be useful to have in TED in order to meet the needs of researchers. Here were the main thoughts:

- We are defining workforce to mean "directly working with children"
- Make sure to include position(s) and facility and to report these two fields together.
- Have these fields be forced choices (no fill in the blank or other options).

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will send the group the iceberg graphic from the STAM conference this past summer.
- Bobbie will see if Erin Oldham's group has materials on how they defined the childcare workforce in their work.

III. TED questions from PES (Participant Enrollment Survey) – an introduction

A workgroup was formed to decide which of the PES intentionality questions (why did you get in the child care field, how long do you plan to stay, etc.) should be included on TED. The group will decide on a limited number of questions from the PES based on which ones have been found to work well in previous work.

The group consists of: Sonja Worcel (NPC), Bobbie Weber (OSU), Shannon Williams (Independent Consultant).

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will begin the discussion via email with the workgroup.

IV. DHS Child Care Program Key Performance Measure

The group brainstormed again about a possible key performance measure for DHS. A performance measure needs to be something the agency can affect. Tom also emphasized that you want it to be something policy can affect, and not something that depends on the legislature (for example, what % of slots can be purchased at the market rate? This measure would be directly influenced by what the legislature does with funding). In addition, the performance measure should help families, and not just look good as a performance measure. Given all that, the group came up with the following idea:

Staying on the subsidy program – a measure that relates to how long they continue to use the subsidy (the research shows that people who stay on longer tend to be employed longer).

Next Steps:

- Sheila will bring this idea back to DHS.

V. OCCRP data product calendar

Bobbie recently worked with Deana and Becky to revise the OCCRP data product calendar (see handout). The following changes were made:

- Estimating supply will now be completed earlier than usual (April – June, 2010) and the county profiles will be posted by June 2010, in order for agencies to start preparing for the 2011 legislative session.
- The Market Price Survey is on the same timeline as in previous years. The data will be downloaded early April, provided to OSU in May, with the final report being completed by the end of June/July.
- Quality Indicator Project reports will be produced in the beginning of the year. The advisory committee decided to publish annual reports as soon after the New Year as possible.

This schedule will be a challenge for the network as they will need to produce three big databases continuously the first 6 months of 2010. However, we did not see too many other options considering the QI project facility needs and legislative session needs.

VI. Market Price Study – creation of work group

A workgroup was created to apply the standards recommended in the national market price study with what we are doing in Oregon. The workgroup consists of: Sheila Carter (DHS), Deana Grobe and Bobbie Weber (OSU), Becky Vorpapel and Mark Anderson (Network).

Next Steps:

- Deana will organize a meeting with the workgroup.
- Deana will provide a crosswalk between the national study recommendations and Oregon's current practices in preparation for the meeting.

VII. State/county profile distribution to legislators – mailing from whom?

The group decided that the stat-county profile mailing to legislators should come from the Commission, but should indicate the work of OSU and the Network. All legislators will receive a state profile, as well as the county or counties (for Senators) they represent.

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will draft the letter to legislators and work with Heidi and Rosetta to get the profiles mailed off.

VIII. Subsidy Policy Impact Study

Bobbie provided an update of the current status of the subsidy policy impact study:

- Qualitative study – (a) Ellen has completed the initial 25 families and received permission from around 12-15 of these parents to talk with their provider and obtain their administrative data. They have talked with 5 of the parents' providers thus far, and all five knew of the policy change. (b) UofO has received additional funding from CCD to interview 25 more parents and they will be asking for permission to talk with their providers and obtain administrative data at the initial interview.
- Parent survey – we are in the process of designing and developing the survey for the telephone survey that will be administered to parents early in 2010. One of the decisions we are struggling with is which sample to use for the survey – representative or purposeful. Art indicated that comparison groups (purposeful samples) can be more helpful than representative. We will be coming back to this group for more input in the near future.
- Secondary data – Chances are good that OSU will be funded by OPRE to conduct the third part of the Subsidy Policy Impact study. This study will be further exploring the findings from the qualitative and telephone parent survey with administrative data. If this project is funded, it will begin October 1.

IX. Updates

Quality Indicator Project – the 2008 reports were sent to facilities and the rfp for marketing is out. The team is getting better at doing the quality improvement work. Child Trends is currently doing a national study on quality rating systems and included Oregon in the survey.

Next Steps:

- Bobbie will ask Heidi to keep a log of calls she receives regarding the recently sent reports.

Child Care Tax Credit projects evaluation – A draft of the year 2 evaluation report was recently reviewed by the advisory committee. The findings will be finalized and presented to the advisory committee mid-October. Sonja will provide a brief summary of the findings to the OCCRP in November.

Next Meeting: Oregon Child Care Researchers Roundtable, Wednesday, October 7, 2009,
10am – 4pm, McMenemy's Edgefield Manor