

**Commission for Child Care
Roth's
January 22nd, 2010**

Attendees: Deborah Murray, Rosetta Wangerin, Janice O'Malley, Carla McQuillan, Katie Larive, Rep. Van Orman, Kitty Piercy, Russ Crawmer, Patricia Angland Marshall, Randy Fishfader,

Guests: Kitty Lake, Teresa Stevenson, Heidi McGowan, Ruth Crawmer, Pam Deardorff, Bill Fink, Mark Anderson, Kathleen Hynes, Rhonda Prodzinski, Dawn Norris, Sonja Svenson, Beth Unverzagt, Billie Young, Faye Zepeda, Autumn David, Shanna Aldis, Karen VanTassel, Dawn Bonder, Merrilee Haas

Introductions

Business

Motion to accept October minutes – Kitty Piercy, Second – Katie Larive

Approved

Rosetta expressed that she is elated we have our interim Governor's Report. Sheridan McCarthy has done an outstanding job and they are hot off the press. It includes the recent work from the Affordability Workgroup. In addition, there are quotes from Sen. Ron Wyden and Sen. Jeff Merkley about use of funds for the EQUIP initiative. Janice noted that this is fantastic and will be a great tool to give to legislators and asked if there is a plan to distribute it to legislators. Teresa said we will send a hard mailing with a cover letter. Rep. VanOrman suggested that we put a sticky note on page 11 to highlight the ERDC for legislators. Billie said the last page is amazing in that it shows what is lost if funding is cut – which is breathtaking to see visually.

Next Step: Kitty P asked if we could send a letter to Sheridan expressing our appreciation for the terrific work and resource she is to the Commission. Heidi will draft a letter for Sheridan.

Teresa said beginning in February the Commission will post the application for the 2010 Lynne Angland Award and would like Commissioner's to let her know if they would like to be on the selection committee. Randy Fishfader volunteered.

Administrator Recruitment:

Bill Fink said we are back on schedule after December for the Administrator recruitment. It is an open recruitment until we receive enough applications. Feb. 1st will be the first screening and as of today 30 applications have been submitted. They have not yet been screened to see if they meet the minimum qualifications. This number of applicants is encouraging and the screening will begin next week. Hopefully there will be a reasonable size of a pool to move forward. Ruth asked where recruitment process is and Bill said they have sent the recruitment out through several entities. We asked the Commission staff to put it out in several venues in addition to the references they received from the Commission including Billie Young who has assisted in getting the word out.

Kitty P noted that there was a lot of interviewing and feedback that Bill sought for what the position needs and she appreciated it.

Celebration of 2009 Accomplishments:

See Grid reflecting accomplishments.

It was recommended that it would be useful to create a 1 page document with information/graph that demonstrates impact of the public private partnership. EQUIP is a credible product that people have the confidence to invest in. That is a significant accomplishment.

In a significantly challenging time, there have been accomplishments related to access and affordability.

Rep. VanOrman noted that child care businesses are closing leaving communities with no available child care.

Context

Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council – Dawn Bonder

Dawn Bonder is the Senior Policy Advisory for the Governor's office and has previously worked in policy positions for the Office of Health Policy and Oregon Business Association.

The first item of business was the need to form an advisory council as a result of the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. Dawn made a compelling argument that the Governor's leadership was required which is a reason the feds have asked the Governor to appoint the Council.

The Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council (ECMAC) will be housed in the Governor's office and will be required to submit an application with a strategic report to acquire the 1 million in AARA funds to support the activities of the plan. The strategic report will be taken to the public for input. The benefit of the Council is that it can pull pieces together and builds upon each other's work and accomplishments. We have a strong infrastructure in place and building upon the Early Childhood Framework that was a result of the Governor's summit that included work from three steering committees: Health Matters, Early Learning Matters, and Family Matters.

Dawn expressed that Oregon is already far along in the areas of the federal plan. Oregon is positioned well to achieve further funding through the Health and Human Services and Dept. of Education. There is a significant message from high level leadership that programs need to work together.

Carla asked if this will only focus on children in Head Start. Dawn said it will focus beyond Head Start and that we are required to cover specific Head Start issues but it our intention to use it as a jumping off piece to extend across agencies and other issues. Rep. VanOrman noted that it took them four years to reauthorize Head Start. She reflected that Oregon is a model nationally for creating Oregon Pre-K in collaboration with Head Start because it was built upon the federal standards of Head Start.

How does the Commission for Child Care fit within this? EQUIP is a workgroup partner and the Commission Chair or designee will sit on the Steering Committee which is an essential committee to distill priorities for the Council.

Deborah asked what the timeline is. Dawn said the deadline for the application is Aug. 1st and likely mid-June and early July. So much work has already been done in the three committees. Dawn's priority is that we have some items that provide quick actionable wins to demonstrate results.

Rosetta asked if it is correct that the AARA funding will be through grants, which means it can not be used to backfill programs? Dawn said that is correct.

The Governor is drafting an executive order for the Council and the committees and the council will all be open meetings. Ruth asked how long the Council will be intact. The Council will be set up five years and the executive order will function indefinitely. An issue we're facing is how to set up a Council in the Governor's office with a change in a Governor next year. Our goal is to get the Council up and running with enough momentum so that whomever succeeds Governor Kulongoski will choose to continue it in the Governor's office or move it somewhere. Dawn said she believes some of this will be shaped by federal action. Dawn is seeking something that will be sustained over time.

Rep. VanOrman said that the intent is to get Head Start more involved in the community and child care. I think this is a result of the discussion about disconnection and is a deliberate attempt to make Head Start part of the community. There is a focus from the feds that will ask how we're incorporating child care.

Karen noted that they are in the process of expanding membership in the Family Matters Committee so if there are folks here at the table or others interested to let her know.

Billie facilitated a discussion about similarities and differences between the Commission and ECMAC.

ECMAC	OCCC
Governor appointed	Governor appointed
Facilitate the development and enhancement of high quality systems of early childhood education and care designed to improve school readiness. To work at state level coordination and collaboration cross sector and settings. Family Matters Health Matters See specific statute for tasks.	Advise Governor and legislature on issues related to child care. Advise, advocate, policy. Advise ECMAC

Shared Values between ECMAC and OCCC:

Rosetta noted there is a focus that all partners work together

Build upon what exists

Supporting each other enables small pots of money to go along way

We can make things happen

We put kids 1st

We don't say "you can't do that."

Intersections:

1. data
2. Professional development and registry
3. Oregon Programs of Quality - EQUIP
4. Common membership at all levels
5. Shared staff
6. Understanding of the critical nature of 0-5
7. Share each other products/reports
8. Share the burden/work

CCDF funding 101: Sonja Svenson

See attached PPT

To draw down Matching funds Oregon is required to spend 46.8 million of state funds to draw down 38.9 million.

Kitty P. noted that once the outcome of measure 66 and 67 is determined, this Commission can be the voice that tells the story about what will happen to children and families in Oregon. Rep. VanOrman said there is a high reluctance from the legislature to do across the board cuts so cuts will likely be targeted.

Priority A:

Expand OPQ * & explore rate enhancements - 6 votes

Restoration of OCCF & R&R 3.8M - 4 votes

EQUIP: build sustainability

More professional development in ed awards 6 votes (2 OCCC)

Support/encourage as needed in QI

Assess what we have and keep framework in place for EQUIP: QI, tax credits, public private partnerships - EQUIP: build sustainability (7 OCCC) 15 total

Priority B:

Assess why facilities close/look for simple remedies

Strengthen head start contracts for slot availability – 3 votes

Employer support child care (50%) – 1 vote

Odd hour care at enhanced rate – 2 votes

Univ. pre-kindergarten: get ahead of this issue, huge economic impact to family and center based care (5 OCCC) 11

Increase awareness marketing of inclusive child care

Maintain inclusive cc practices for providers - 1occc

OPQ community places ensure – (1 OCCC) 13 votes

Priority C:

Monitor loss of training/education programs at community colleges - 2occc 4 votes

Support families in unemployment

Look at implications of 12 month eligibility for ERDC – 2 votes

Maintain and identify needed improvements for 2011 ERDC - 5 votes

Support plan b for ERDC

TANF leaver's – stop or minimize - 2occc 6 votes

Do research nationally around waiting list for ERDC before recommending - 5 OCCC

Priority D:

Clean box – (8 OCCC) 16 votes

Examine impact of recorded programs on system – track implementation 6 total (3 OCCC)

RRCAN renewal every 5 years level 2 required

Strengthen communication between providers and LS on roles and how to inform about EQUIP

Business regulation training

Priority E:

Push meme that child care is a critical component of econ development and enables a productive workforce - (3 OCCC), 11 total

Work with ECMAC so they are advancing our priorities and build data gathering system and connections 5 (1 OCCC)

Provider relationships with agencies - (2 OCCC), 4 votes

Evaluation:

Send out priorities in advance

Send out reports in advance to spend more time on group time

More time in a discussion

Time for better understanding of why some of the items were on the priority list