

**Commission for Child Care
Roth's IGA, Salem Oregon
June 24th, 2011**

Attendees: Deborah Murray, Randy Fishfader, Nina Roll, Meghan Moyer, Rosetta Wangerin, Jan East, Russ Crawmer, Kitty Piercy, Katie Larive,

Guests: Kara Waddell, Heidi McGowan, Rhonda Prodzinski, Andrea Utz, Helen Visarraga, Autumn David, Sue Mackey, Pamela Deardorff, Eve Rippateau, Beth Unverzagt, Teresa Waite, Brent DeMoe, Ruth Crawmer, Macey Crawmer, Bobbie Weber

Introductions

Commission Business

Teresa provided a draft calendar for 2012 meetings and will post it on the web site.

Legislative Update

Heidi informed the Commission that the Governor's bill, SB 909 passed on Tuesday evening. This will create the Oregon Investment Board and the Early Learning Council.

HB 5055 allocated additional revenue for ERDC that will increase the caseload from 9,000 to 10,000 in January 2013 through the end of the biennium. The caseload is starting to increase and DHS will pull people from the waiting list. Last month the caseload was 9,200. Rhonda reflected that while there is good news, there is still limited funding so we have to manage the caseload.

Discussion occurred about the unknown impact to the ERDC program as a result of cuts in the TANF Jobs program.

Discussion occurred about the priority to sustain subsidy for teen parents given the cuts in education.

Randy acknowledged Kara for her leadership and collaboration with other agencies to ensure prevention.

Rhonda will provide additional information that Heidi will email the Commission.

Brent provided a Commission on Children and Families update. Yesterday a meeting occurred with the local and State Commission. The State Commission has been reduced to 14FTE and a reduction of 2M. Some of the local impacts is that a task force will be convened to identify a permanent home for CASA. Healthy Start will receive some cuts and Relief Nursery will maintain existing funding. Runaway and Homeless Youth will be moved to DHS. Local counties will experience an 11% reduction for Commission staff. Two funding streams will impact young children: Great Start for 0-8 received a 17.64% reduction, and Children Youth and Families will be cut 18%.

HB 3086 – Rep Kotek's bill, if it receives a work session today will likely be the last day it could would transition the the State Commission into the ELC next week.

The license plate bill - a child abuse and prevention funding strategy – passed and will return funding to the local counties. A private donor put up the initial start up costs to develop the license plate.

April and May Meeting Minutes

April Minutes approved as written moved by Kitty, second by Deborah.

May minutes moved by Randy, second by Nina.

Early Learning Council Design Team Update

Duke Shepard is unfortunately not able to attend this morning due to illness. Heidi provided a brief overview of the process to date, the goal and purpose of the ELDT, and next steps.

Kitty reflected that the Commission for Child Care use forums to focus on child care and ensure child care issues are looked at.

Kitty reflected that if Duke were here, she would recommend using the OCCC for it's expertise in consensus building and can be a resource for the Early Learning Council. In addition, the target population that identifies communities of color is a concern because it does not necessarily mean that there is a need for public services. Rosetta added that concern has been expressed about when measurements occur for outcomes such as happened in the Leave No Child Behind that does not measure accomplishments.

Kitty reflected that the language used at the beginning is essential to building support.

Discussion occurred about parent involvement and choice. Our goal is to improve quality with choice. Megan concurred that she hopes we can play a role in moving towards these goals while empowering parents.

Additional discussions occurred about cultural sensitivity. Katie added that new language being used is service coordinator rather than family services manager.

Heidi also informed the Commission that the Governor's asked her to pull together a small team to begin work on the Early Learning Challenge Grant.

ERDC Client Work Schedules Research – Bobbie Weber

Bobbie reviewed major findings from the last report the Commission heard regarding a qualitative study of parents receiving subsidy.

Part of the study was to understand why people leave the subsidy program in contrast to the food stamp program (SNAP).

The people who left typically had lower income, were living with friends or families, has less education, much less likely to be employed, more likely to be in school only, less likely to be Hispanic. Previous studies had found that those who left remained income eligible following 6-12 months.

The primary findings are: 62% left for employment related reasons - 41% because of job loss. Additional groups experienced temporary leaves such as pregnancy, medical

leave, or quit to go back to school. Income and provider changes led to about 25% of exits. Few left because of increased earnings that caused ineligibility.

Work schedules are a big piece of the story – there is a trend of moving from one low wage job to another. Some schedules constrain child care options - 5% of child care centers care offer odd hour care while 45% family child care does.

The reason people lose their jobs is because America has perfected “just in time” staffing.

Majority of children with special needs are in centers or with relatives.

The type of primary provider varied based on who paid the provider. Compared to unsubsidized providers, the subsidy providers were 2 times more likely to be a center, 5 times regulated care, and half as likely a relative.

The top reasons for selecting a provider: location & family relationships were top.

What parents want for their child: trustworthy caregiver in a safe, clean environment. Education and skill of provider and helping children in school was only in the top five for children receiving a subsidy.

This is evidence that the subsidy is enabling parents to seek higher quality providers

Majority of parents have child care costs in addition to co-pays. Subsidy parents spend 17% of their income on child care while those not receiving a subsidy spend 40% of their income.

Families manage child care costs by reducing medical care, less on entertainment; they barter for services and increase debt.

Two thirds of families reported that, without the subsidy, they would not be able to work.

Employment is a key driver for the impact on child care.

Heidi will send Kara’s presentation regarding where children are to the Commission.

One of the significant discussions is how will we achieve our early learning goals without considering the link to employment. Things like the policy decisions that let parents have 2 months to look for a job. CCDF has two goals for ERDC: supporting employment and supporting development. If employment is driving people to leave the program, how do we balance this?

An additional policy discussion is if we are measuring reading outcomes do we limit access to programs or go to programs where children are and assist improve outcomes. Bobbie highlighted an initiative in Chicago that works with FFN providers to help children in their care attend a pre-kindergarten program while FFN providers still receive their subsidies.

The affordability workgroup will meet this summer.

The Commission requested to have Bobbie back in March, 2012 for an update on the study results.

Questions for Bobbie:

Were participants on TANF in the last 6mo-year? Is there a cultural background that cause people to not want to use the system? Half of the ERDC users have been on TANF in the last year.

There is an interest in factors that impact choice such as the number of hours available in the subsidy, where on the poverty level a family is.

OCCRRN Vision – Helen Vissaraga

Schedule CCRR advisory committee

See PPT presentation.

Helen identified that there are 2 board member openings. In July, the OCCRRN will start a self assessment for the NACCRRRA standards.

Heidi added that Helel's vision is a good foundation for the Commission to hear prior to our next CCRR Advisory Committee.

Members acknowledged Helen's leadership and expressed appreciation for her work during this important time.

Oregon Ask Update – Beth Unverzagt

The strategic plan came out of the data collection for the report: Oregon's Vission for Supporting Student Success through Expanded Learning Opportunities.

SB 480 provides provides funding for Dept. of Education through USDA to provide mini grants that bridge between snacks and dinner for children.

SB 291 did not pass.

The Finance Project that works with non-profits for sustainability will be in Oregon to conduct a one day training for 21st century teams on sustainability. AIR will conduct an evaluation on 21st century programs. National School Alliance offered 2 positions in Oregon to work on sustainability with 21st century programs in Woodburn, Salem/Keizer and Springfield area. The Vista will conduct a needs assessment and collect data on the program workforce and parents.

Oregon Ask has received a Gates grant to meet the Mott match. Oregon has a grant from the state library to develop a science curriculum that can be offered in the libraries.

Oregon Ask received a Mayoral Summit grant and will share data and information at the summit in July, 2012.

Next meeting, Friday, September 23.

Meeting adjourned.