

EO Early Learning Hub Board Meeting Report:  
Rural Home Visiting System Coordination (HVSC) Project  
Tammie Dockter, HVSC Coordinator  
6-15-26

**Baker County:**

Baker HVN meeting was 4-22-26 with 7 members present. Guest Speaker, Holly Sorensen, from NEON (Northeast Oregon Network) updated the group about resources available for families, available trainings for professionals, and Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) for OHP members. Karla Macy provided information about an opportunity to adopt resource families through ODHS, and provide them with some “our favorite things” gift baskets, etc. The 5-20-26 Baker HVN meeting had 6 members in attendance. During this meeting two special needs children’s referrals were discussed by two home visitors, and they made plans to follow up on the children, who have significant medical diagnoses and will automatically qualify for both Early Intervention and Babies First Home Visiting programs, based on their medical diagnoses alone. The group made plans to be present on 8-3-26 at Baker School District’s in person registration event, where many agencies will have tables for families to check out their information. New member from New Directions North West, Sarah Haskell attended the 5-20-26 Baker HVN Meeting—she let us know about her job/home visiting services provided, and the group welcomed her to the network. At the 5-20-26 Baker HVN meeting it was noted by a member, that when the EOMA medical providers refer to their “in house” PT, OT, ST, and then those professions eventually refer to Early Intervention, this can cause a valuable loss of service time for kids who are only eligible for EI up until age 36 months. The HVSC Coordinator’s 4-17-26 meeting with Huntington school staff was very productive—they had six families in mind who would be good candidates for home visitors to connect with them and provide them valuable resources. I have made connections between home visitors and those school staff. Also, a Baker Home Visitor had been searching for a connection into that school and the teachers were willing to be her point of contact going forward. Tammie connected them all, via email recently.

**Malheur County:**

\*Malheur HV network meeting was 5-5-26 with 7 attending. We welcomed Erica Trinidad-Teran, Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant from Malheur ESD as our guest speaker. Erica’s presentation sparked an in-depth conversation with the home visitors. They have already identified several situations in which they would be utilizing Erica’s expertise and professional services to help home visited families with their children. Also, during that meeting, an MCHD home visitor case-managed and strategized with an MCCDC home visitor about a mother who has a disability, who has a young child, and another newborn child, who thought her kids were on the wait list at MCCDC but hadn’t heard anything about their placements. They were to follow up together later to clarify with the mother.

\*In a 5-26-26 email, it was announced, by Malheur County Health Department, that they will be discontinuing the Family Connects Oregon (FCO) program in Malheur County effective 6-30-26. They cite significant challenges in balancing the staffing and operational demands required to effectively manage both FCO and Babies First home visiting programs. They would need to hire an additional RN, and they stated in the announcement that the county has made it clear that hiring additional staff, particularly nursing staff, is not an available option. The email was sent to FCO Community Advisory Board members, of which I am one. I responded with sadness, disappointment, and also with pride in the accomplishments that the home visitors have been able to accomplish in the two years the program has

been in existence. I am very supportive of MCHD, and have many strong relationships with their staff. I offered ongoing and continued support to them and their home visitors and home visiting programs. I will be supporting them at a Community Baby Shower on 7-14-26.

**Wallowa County:**

At the 4-16-26 Wallowa HVN meeting, final preparations were made for that evening's Spring HVN Family Outreach event which was combined with the Preschool Resource Fair; and again on the morning of 4-17-26. The Wallowa HVN had a designated room/area for HV info/table handouts. HVSC provided food for everyone attending the Preschool Resource Fair, as well as early literacy materials such as activity books, crayons, pencils, and other books for the children in families we connected with. In total there were 10 parents, 15 children, that received HV Individualized Family Supports postcards in their bags and early literacy materials. In debrief mode: The location of our Home Visiting section of the event was at the very end of the hall, after the families had been to all the other tables, and completed assessments. It was difficult to have conversations about home visiting when they were trying to leave—the best I could do was offer them the early literacy materials, and mention the HV postcard in the bag. Families and kids were thrilled to receive these materials, as well as books that were available for kids to take home with them. In total there were 5 Wallowa HVN professionals present—all also working to help families with assessments, or in other capacities. In March, the Wallowa HVN members agreed to our 5-21-26 meeting being held by zoom, due to HVSC Coordinator wanting to attend the ESD's last day in-service in person that day. The 5-21-26 zoom meeting opened at 12 noon PDT/1pm MDT, and 12 minutes later it was ended, due to no other members logging on/attending. HVSC Coordinator will carry over any agenda items to the Wallowa HVN July meeting.

**Other HVSC Program Work:**

\*National Home Visiting Week was 4-20-26 through 4-24-26. HVSC Coordinator composed an article describing and honoring our regional home visiting system, programs, and home visitors themselves. The article was shared on our Malheur ESD Facebook page, along with the proclamation about National Home Visiting Week by Governor Kotek. I emailed all the home visitors to let them know the article and proclamation would be on FB and to look for the post. I received many thanks for the article, and for honoring them.

\*Regular monthly meetings with Heidi East McGowan—currently focusing on planning for the upcoming 6-24-26 In Person Regional HVSC Gathering.

\*Did not attend the 5-1-26 CCOHVS-lead Oregon HV System Workforce Workgroup virtual meeting due to illness.

\*Attended the 5-6-26 CCOHVS-lead Home Visiting Community Awareness Work Group.

\*Attended CCOHVS-lead Regional Home Visiting System Coordination Community of Practice meeting on 5-19-26 with a Community of Practice Leadership Training Part 1.

\*Continued monthly check ins with Ron Joseph from CCOHVS/PSU. Currently focusing on the 6-24-26 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual HVSC Regional Gathering.

\*I continue to attend LCHP and C2C Meetings in all three counties, monthly, unless my schedule does not permit.

\*HVSC Coordinator has created a google sheet, "Impact Documentation for HVSC Eastern Oregon Region" to help capture qualitative data that will be very helpful and valuable, in the future as HVSC Coordination hopefully spreads to other regions within the state. A recent example of this, from Malheur HVN's 5-5-26 meeting, is: Jennifer, a MIECHV HVR said that she is home visiting a child whose dad is a 17-year-old. Dad was very thin due to not having enough food to eat. Jennifer guided him in signing up for the food pantry, and now he is eating better and gaining some weight.

\*I also continue to attend Malheur Community Services meeting monthly; Healthy Families Oregon Community Advisory Board, which is quarterly; also attend the Steering Committee Meeting for Hving at TFP Therapeutics quarterly. Next HVSC Regional Quarterly Zoom meeting, convened by HVSC Coordinator, is scheduled for 9-23-26.

\*Tanya Faughn designed an "Eastern Oregon Home Visiting Network Individualized Family Supports" logo that we will have applied to a tablecloth for use at events; it will be available for use in any of the three counties, by any of the HVNs or if we are all together as a region at events. A suggestion was made for T shirts with the logo eventually, to wear at events. The design is consistent with our EO EL Hub/eokidsandcare.org branding.