

Staff Report for June 09, 2025

Hub Director - Rod Belknap

- DELC has announced that there will be reductions in the Early Childhood equity fund, Healthy Families Oregon, Parenting Education, Preschool Promise, Professional Learning and Program Supports. As of the time of creating this report, no details have been shared as to what these cuts will look like.
- New Hub OAR's will be voted on by the Early Learning Council in late June. If these rules are approved, they will go into effect on October 1st. We were told that there would be some grace period to align with these new rules as it may pertain to
- The DELC is working on scheduling a "Caring Communities Tour" where DELC administration will be coming out to communities. We have confirmation that they will be coming to our in-person Hub Board meeting in October (Malheur) with plans to tour some programs in Baker and Wallowa counties the day following.
- There are many funding streams that involve federal funds that are up in the air. It will probably be late June before we get clarity.

Transition Committees

- **Wallowa**- Meeting on an as needed basis.
- **Baker**-Meeting on an as needed basis
- **Malheur**- This group met in March and requested the center page of the Kindergarten Playbooks be enlarged poster size and distributed to early learning programs. This has been accomplished and we included Baker and Wallowa counties.

Kindergarten Transition Programs KPI mini grants

- All school districts that received mini-grants have completed their programs and have completed the surveys that were required.

Kindergarten Transition Student Profile

- I don't have final numbers from school districts yet on how many profiles were captured, but most Early Learning programs have shared with me that they all completed them for each child they have transitioning to Kindergarten.

Joint PD

- We are working on PM training in late summer and fall.

Pyramid Model Implementation

- Updates will be provided during June meeting.

Eokidsandcare.org website

- Major updates have been happening behind the scenes and the new format of our website is live. I am getting many good comments about how much more user friendly it is.
- The Home Visiting system referral form, through Unite Us, is now up and running.
- Updates have been made to the PM page, with links to the ELSI training calendar and the free training modules.

Early Literacy

- We are in the planning stages for our early literacy funds for the next biennium. We still do not have an amount that we will be receiving for the next biennium, but we were notified that we

will not receive funds until October 1st. So that will affect the time lines for the investments that were approved in our budget.

Every Child Belongs

- We will not be an ECB connects (formerly warm line) early adopter since we have not hired yet. The IECMHC position is open and posted with Malheur ESD. Our region and south coast were invited to be contributors to the process and design. I have been attending those meetings and giving input.

Elementary Principals Community of Practice

- Marshall and a couple of members for the ESD have started a monthly community of practice. I have been attending all of these. This is really helping to strengthen the relationships with these key people involving Kindergarten Transition.

Fiscal Audit from DELC- All documentation was submitted for our fiscal audit and we were the first Hub to submit all of our documentation. I am being told at this point that no news is good news as far as the results of the audit. So far I have no news:)

Coordinated Enrollment – Tammy Pierce

Coordinated Enrollment

- *Key strategy is facilitated by EOELHub*
 - *System convener: Includes all early childhood partners*
 - *Programs and systems to support an aligned, family-centered, and coordinated early learning system*
 - *Coordinated Enrollment Closed Loop Referral system*
 - *Support for Networks (Coordinated Enrollment, Home Visiting)*
 - *Identify support services in the community to support all parents*
 - *Develop system to include all 0-5 ECE programs and supports*

Coordinated Enrollment Plans -Recruitment/Selection and Placement

- Currently accepting applications - region
 - Working on first round of placement this month
 - Getting eligibility paperwork from parents to complete placement
- Database -
 - Parent and provider portal
 - Providers have their own systems - will be given their placements only
 - Go live October - wait until we are done with 25/26 enrollment
 - Paperless
 - Parent can update and download documents to portal - password
- Wallowa ESD is moving to a mixed funded model to include private pay - sliding scale according to the federal poverty level - \$300-500/month for private pay

PSP total slots:

- A regional [slot tracker](#) is kept current by CE Staff and openings are reported to DELC weekly
- 20 sites in our region have PSP slots totally 192 slots
- Identified continuation #'s and openings for each program
 - Overall about ½ & ½ transitioning to K
 - “Feeder” programs successful in filling their preschools
 - 0-3 programs to preschool programs
 - Summer programming
- Most programs done for the school year - ended with 5 PSP openings

- A provider in Wallowa County, The Learning Tree is closing their doors - owner is retiring
 - 6 PSP slots will be reallocated to Wallowa Cougar Cubs
 - Wallowa ESD is working to accommodate the 17 families that will be displaced
- UMHS
 - Officially sent a letter out stating that they will no longer be providing Head Start and Early Head Start in Wallowa County
 - 6 EHS slots - served 2 families at time of closure
 - 16 HS slots - did not serve families 24/25 school year
 - 1 EHS position lost
- Parent Councils – Building Healthy Families is the lead agency
 - Parent Guild
 - Parent resource website, please take a moment to check it out at www.parentguildwc.org.
 - Parent Guild [Newsletter](#)
 - Provided input on the ECE Priorities document
 - Baby Changing station project - identifying which businesses in Wallowa Co have changing tables
 - Baby Carrier Library - *Building Healthy Families has agreed to be the landing spot for our baby carrier library! We will have a medium sized tote to house baby carriers in the Caring Closet. Joanie is working on getting a liability waiver finalized with use with the draft that Jessie sent. Then we will work on the logistics of the check out process and getting it added to our website and advertising!*
 - Rotating Toy Library - they did a review for TFFF and received many toys - were able to pick what they wanted - received them at the last meeting
 - Malheur Parent Council's
 - F.A.C.E. - Family Advocates for Community Encouragement
 - Baby Essentials Drive
 - Connected with community resources
 - CARES for Parents with children with disabilities
 - Working on outreach and recruitment
 - Sign up list at events
 - Connecting with BHF for parent council support, Malheur EI/ECSE, Home Visiting Network, Inclusion Specialist, CE Network

Home Visiting Systems Coordination – Tammie Dockter

Baker County:

- Continue to facilitate Baker HV Network's monthly meeting: During the 4-23-25 HV Network meeting the six attendees began planning an outreach event for families who are currently receiving home visits. The group decided to have the event in the Fall of 2025. The event will be held at Baker County Health Department in their kitchen/dining room area. The group decided on providing individual prepared meals, local vendor TBD. The group also recognized that there is a cohort within the home visited families that prefers not come together with others for group events; the HVrs wanted to recognize and honor these participating families as well, even though they will not attend group events. The group voiced concerns about diminishing availability of pharmacies in Baker, due to the impending closure of the Safeway store and loss of the pharmacy within. At our 5-14-25 HV Network meeting, there were seven attendees. There was a very productive case management session among members who all home visit some incredibly complex families. One family has three different home visitors that all provide different services to support that family. I demonstrated the eokidsandcare.org Home Visiting sections and the Unite Us referral platform for the group. I've been encouraging all to register

for the 6-26-25 HVSC Regional Gathering in Baker. Thus far, seven members, excluding the HVSC Coordinator have registered for that.

Malheur County:

- Continue to facilitate Malheur HV Network's monthly meeting: At our 5-6-25 meeting there were seven attendees. I demonstrated the eokidsandcare.org Home Visiting sections for parents/other community members, and Unite Us where referrals through the eokidsandcare.org will "land." I updated the group about my follow up communication with SAMCO Labor & Delivery RN regarding referrals from that L&D department to Family Connects Oregon (FCO) HV program: that the social worker for that department had left, and that when they hire a new social worker, that RN will communicate with the new social worker about making referrals to FCO. One HVr at that meeting had a family they home visit who had "messed up" on their taxes leading to a loss of SNAP benefits. During our meeting the home visitor and ODHS employee problem solved to determine the best action for the family to take to get a review of their case to determine how/if possible to reinstate the SNAP benefits for the family. I've been encouraging all to register for the 6-26-25 HVSC Regional Gathering and thus far have 18 Malheur HV Network members registered.

Wallowa County:

- Continue to facilitate Wallowa HV Network's monthly meeting: During our 4-17-25 HV Network meeting the six attendees focused on a recent training that one member had attended, after I sent out the notification to all HVrs about the training: "Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Academy 101: Developing Foundational Knowledge," which she attended in Pendleton on 4-14 and 4-15. This training yielded a wealth of information which she shared with the group. She wants/plans to take action locally in the Wallowa County community based on actionable steps she learned about. I've been encouraging all to register for the 6-26-25 HVSC Regional Gathering and thus far four have registered. Two new members to the HV network were recruited in May. One, Sheila Orr, RN is the newly hired public health RN at Winding Waters Clinic. She joined our 5-15-25 meeting, totaling five people, and updated the group about all the programs she works in. One other new member, Misty McNall from Morrison Child & Family Services has joined the group, but wasn't able to attend in May. Prior to the May meeting I received notification that Umatilla Morrow Head Start has made the decision to longer provide services in Wallowa County, and that Jennifer Naughton, the Home Base Teacher/Family Advocate would not be attending our network meetings any longer, as her position is set to dissolve on 6-1-25 email—Jennifer had emailed me about this. I let the HV Network know at the meeting, and then followed up with the group's response, that they were saddened about her loss of employment, and asked if there were any families she needed any of the remaining home visitors to support after she is unable to home visit them any longer.

HVSC Program Work:

- I continue to attend monthly LCHP and C2C Meetings in all three counties, monthly, unless my schedule does not permit.
- Planning for the 6-26-25 HVSC Regional Gathering continues and is on track.
- I will be working at/assisting with the Community Baby Shower on 6-7-25 in Ontario.
- www.eokidsandcare.org update. Families can now fill out the contact form online if they wish to be referred to home visiting. Community partners can refer through this mechanism as well. I've begun meeting with community partners to show them the process and this will be ongoing. No referrals received thus far.
- I continue to meet monthly with Heidi East McGowan, who is the consultant from TFFF to all four of the regional HVSC Coordinators. We continue to plan for the regional HV gathering on 6-26-25 in Baker City.

- I also continue to attend monthly meetings with the Early Childhood Coalition as schedule permits; Monthly attendance at Malheur Community Services meeting; Family Connects Oregon Community Advisory Board every other month; and the Healthy Families Oregon Community Advisory Board, which is quarterly.
- Ongoing collaboration and meeting with the CCOHVS (Center for Coordinating Oregon Home Visiting Systems) regarding transition of the Home Visiting Initiative from The Ford Family Foundation to CCOHVS. TFFF continues to provide funding for HVSC and it will be administered through CCOHVS/PSU. Current HVSC Coordinators are helping to give feedback/help shape the CCOHVS' work.
- HVSC Coordinator will be attending the 2025 Home Visiting System Summit on 8-21-25, likely in Salem but the location is still being finalized.

Other – Tanya Faughn

- All Qtrly reports are complete & submitted.
- Supporting Tammie in HVN Meetings and the regional June 26th Event in Baker
- Contracting with 4RHC again this year to support the Four Rivers Healthy Community Conference Sept 25th
- Working with Local community partners to help host a Malheur County poverty Simulation
- have been invited by The Ford Family Foundation to attend the Rural Community Building Summit in October.
- Officially Received ORO Step 10 Certificate!!
- Completed MIECHV Site visit with Drew Strayer, He is completing the reports.
- Attended the OECI End of Year (virtual) Celebration, Local community has a good turn out.
- StORytime Planning, and Volunteer search. This year we are focusing volunteers on Uniformed Community workers (DR, Nurse, Dentist, Fire, Police, EMT, Judge, Military....)
- Working with local DPIL affiliate, be Parent Point of contact for Malheur County.

– Marshall Hooker no report to date: