

Staff Report for April 28, 2025

Hub Director - Rod Belknap

DELC Updates

- All bills that benefit early childhood have made it ways and means.
- Work continues with Hub Directors/BUILD/DELC on realigning grant deliverables and OAR's that will address the requirements of Hubs. This could possibly change the structure of how Hubs are running in the future. Proposed rules have had many listen sessions and are now moving to the RAC (rules advisory committee) which Damiana is a member of.
- The DELC is working on scheduling a "Caring Communities Tour" where DELC administration will be coming out to communities. We are working on coordinating this with our October in-person meeting in Malheur County. (more updates to come)
- There are many funding streams that involve federal funds that are up in the air. It will probably be June

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 in our Hub region are hosting Kinder Transition programs this spring or summer and most have early registration campaigns.

Kindergarten Transition Student Profile

- I contacted all early learning programs and they are all on board to fill out the student profiles this year.

Joint PD

- We hosted a "Positive Solutions for Families", which is a family piece to the Pyramid Model, at the Malheur April PD day.

Pyramid Model Implementation

- Updates will be provided during April 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.
- For coordinated enrollment, our plan is to invest some additional funding to "beef up" our current CRM to better serve parents, programs and staff. This is progressing very well.
- 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.

Every Child Belongs

- We are in discussions with ORIMHA to become an “early adopter” into ECB connects (formerly warm line). The IECMHC position is open and posted with Malheur ESD.

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- The DELC is auditing all Hubs for the quarter January 1st to March 31st of 2024, for the funding streams of Hub Coordination and Title IV B family preservation. They are also wanting to see all MOU's, contracts and mini grants for all funding streams for the whole biennium. We are in the process of gathering all documentation, then it will all be submitted at one time.

Coordinated Enrollment – Tammy Pierce

Coordinated Enrollment

- Brenda Had Her baby!! she will return in June.

March/April Board Report

Coordinated Enrollment Staff Report

CE - helps to ensure that all families are supported to make an informed choice about the care and education for their child through a simplified and coordinated process. Though CE families access publicly funded and private ECE programs in their communities that are responsive to families' needs and preferences, and that experience full 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
 - CE Networks setting dates for placement - set at April Networks
 - Malheur Co - end of May and June
 - Baker Co. - beginning of June
 - Wallowa Co. - June
- Database -
 - Parent and provider portal
 - How much do the providers want to use the system
 - Go live October - wait until we are done with 25/26 enrollment

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
 - Ie. Giggles & Grace, Child Care Oasis, EHS to HS
 - PSP Grantees site reports due 5/20/25
 - One for each site
 - Update and Change Request form - before the 25/26 site information report
- Parent Councils –
 - 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
 - Working on their first project - a 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 our 2-26-25 meeting Audrey Smith, the Regional Food Bank Manager was our guest speaker. She provided resources to the group to share with families they home visit. In this HV Network we are closely following the developments related to medical infrastructure, especially the possibility that some of St. Alphonsus's medical programs might return to the community. I relay concerns of the home visitors to LCHP and C2C meetings as well. During the 3-18-25 HV Network meeting the group began planning an outreach event for families who are currently receiving home visits. The purpose will be to educate the families about all the HV programs in Baker County, encouraging them to spread the word to other families, use their testimonies about what benefits home visiting provides, to help increase referrals, and normalize home visiting and reduce the stigma associated with it. We will have a meal with the families and their children at the event. Date is to be determined, but will likely be an evening event.

Malheur County:

- Continue to facilitate Malheur HV Network's monthly meeting: At our 3-4-24 meeting Ashley Plaza-Watts, RN at St. Alphonsus Ontario Labor & Delivery, guest presented. Main topic "Guidelines for Care of the Newborn." She provided a handout detailing this care. Home visitors are using this guide to educate pregnant moms and families about what to expect in the hospital, and follow up with needed appointments (e.g. failed hearing screenings need repeated)

after they are discharged. Ashley also teaches Lamaze classes and provided information on how families can register for those classes. There was a positive discussion between Ashley and the group regarding Family Connects Oregon home visiting Program, and possible ways for St. Alphonsus to refer families to this program, since it's free to any family regardless of their insurance coverage (or lack of insurance.) I emailed Ashley on 4-9-25 to follow up on and she replied that she gave the information to staff, and will speak with the social worker once they hire a new one as the previous one left St. Al's. At our 4-1-25 HV Network meeting we discussed ODHS Family Coaches and what a positive impact they are having in families on the preventative side, and how much support they give the families on their caseloads. Also, we discussed many of the tax assistance resources various agencies have for families. Numerous roundtable share outs of agency specific events, outreach, and activities for the families such as Building Healthy Families partnering with ACE Hardware to provide a "Planting Love" event for the Mini Mountaineers to decorate flower pots, then take them to the Ashley Manor Nursing Home and share with the residents.

Wallowa County:

- Continue to facilitate Wallowa HV Network's monthly meeting: Our 2-20-25 meeting turned into a Zoom meeting due to weather/roads. At that meeting, Vixen Weeks, Outreach & Enrollment Specialist, and Community Health Worker for Northeast Oregon Network in Wallowa County presented OHP, dental, veterans, energy assistance, non-emergent medical transportation, as well as other, information for home visitors that will be extremely valuable to the people they home visit. At our 3-20-25 meeting we had two new members join the group—a CHW from Winding Waters, and a case manager from ODHS. This group continues to recruit new members. During this meeting we began working on a group project to compile an expansive list of resources that home visitors can utilize during home visits to make sure they offer resources and make referrals as effectively as possible. We are including Union County resources because Building Healthy Families home visitors see families in Union County two days a week, in addition to Wallowa County families the other days. Also, Wallowa County residents sometimes seek services in Union County.

HVSC Program Work:

- I continue to attend monthly LCHP and C2C Meetings in all three counties as much as possible, as my schedule permits.
- I regularly promoted the 4-4-25 PD Day to all HV Networks, which also included a session that home visitors would be interested in: Positive Solutions for Families and the Pyramid Model Back Pack Series and had a total of eight HV Network members attend that session.
- I've also regularly promoted the 4-12-25 Investment in Caregivers Conference to all home visitors. HVSC will pay for their \$35 registration fees. 4-15-25 Update: "Unofficial" count of eight members of HV Networks seen at the Key Note Address at the Caregivers Conference.
- On 3-3-25 We were notified by Meyer Memorial Trust that they were awarding Malheur ESD a one-time project grant of \$25,000 to support our home visiting system coordination work. Potential uses: Developmental/Chronological age appropriate STEM type activity kits for 0-5- year-old children to be shared by home visitors during visits. This was a specific request by HV Network members. Outreach events designed to encourage home visiting among the general population, normalizing HVs. Water based activities (IRCO/Healthy Families Oregon specifically requested this.) More to come.
- On 3-28-25 We were notified by The Ford Family Foundation that our application for an Eastern Oregon Home Visiting Systems Coordination Partner Gatherings grant for \$10,000 had been approved. These monies will be used to fund a Regional HVSC Gathering on 6-26-25, being held in Baker City. This is an all-day event for three HV network members, with PSU/CCOHVS Staff and TFFF invited staff attending. Will also use monies from this grant for three individual HV Network gatherings later in

the year, or early 2026. Baker HV Network is planning an outreach event for parents who already receive HVs—to educate and inform them of other available HV programs, so they can spread the word to family and friends. There will be a meal for families and their children. More to come.

- www.eokidsandcare.org update: I edited the first iteration of the Unite Us Assistance Request Form that they developed. I changed it to better suit families' needs when seeking services on our website, and asked Unite Us to make changes, which they did, then they returned it to me. I learned on 4-10-25 from our web design/development team that they have embedded that form in our website. We instructed them to "go live" with it, which they have. Families can now fill out the form online if they wish to be referred to home visiting.

- 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 (sometimes this is weekly during the legislative session) as schedule permits; Malheur Community Services meeting; Family Connects Oregon Community Advisory Board; and the Healthy Families Oregon Community Advisory Board.

- 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. Rod and I meet with them regularly and have provided all materials they have requested to facilitate this transition. 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.

- Supported Tammy Pierce's Coordinated Enrollment Program on 4-17-25 and 4-18-25 at the Wallowa County Parent Resource & Assessment Fair events.

Other – Tanya Faughn

- All Qtrly reports are complete and ready for submission, we are still on track to spend down all grants by June 30th.
- Helped Tammy support the Wallowa County Resource Fair in April
- Supporting Tammie in HVN Meetings and the regional June 26th Event in Baker
- Working with Local community partners on the June 28th Stronger Together Event at Four River Cultural Center.
- Contracting with 4RHC again this year to support the Four Rivers Healthy Community Conference (Formally Known as the "Equity Conference")
- 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.
- Completed all requirements to reach ORO Step 10, Just waiting on OCCD to finalize and make it official.

– Marshall Hooker no report to date: