

## CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

### Study Session Worksheet

**Presentation Date:** April 23, 2013 **Approximate Start Time:** 10:30AM **Length:** 45 minutes

**Presentation Title:** Early Learning Council

**Department:** H3S/ Children, Youth & Families Division

**Presenters:** Cindy Becker, Rodney Cook

**Other Invitees:** n/a

### WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

The purpose of this study session is twofold:

- Provide the Board with an overview of the Early Learning Council proposed by the Governor, the status of the Council in the Legislature, and the impact on Clackamas County.
- Seek approval from the Board to apply to become the lead agent for the Clackamas County Hub to integrate and purchase contract for local supports to positively impact kindergarten readiness for at-risk children.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

#### Early Learning Council Background

The Early Learning Council - part of the Governor's overarching education initiative- is focused on integrating and streamlining existing state programs for at-risk youth and ensure all children are ready to learn when they enter kindergarten.

The Early Learning Council (ELC) was established in SB 909 in 2011, and was further defined in HB 4165 in 2012. As a result of this legislation and the legislatively approved budget in 2012, funding for local commissions on children and families will be eliminated June 30, 2013.

In place of county commissions on children and families, the current bill before the legislature calls for creating a pilot "community-based coordinators of early learning services," also called regional hubs. The idea is that different groups or agencies will step up in different parts of the state to coordinate local early childhood services. These hubs will focus on children, ages 0-6, who are at risk of not being ready for kindergarten due to poverty and adverse childhood experiences. Hubs must develop strategies to identify, reach and support these children.

The Early Learning Council service delivery system will involve the implementation and oversight of early learning services in communities throughout the state. Programming and services will be provided through a wide array of stakeholders including social service providers; schools; churches; businesses; tribes; civic groups; parents; regional and local human, health and juvenile justice service governmental entities; youth; and general community members.

Services include screening all Oregon babies at birth, 9 months, 18 months and age 3 to detect whether they are reaching milestones; making it easy for families to navigate programs; evaluating every kindergartner's readiness to find the gaps; and having every state-funded program, including health, nutrition and parenting programs, focus on and report school-readiness results.

The delivery system of Community-based Coordinators of Early Learning Services are designed to ensure that providers of early learning services are accountable, that services are provided in a cost-efficient manner, and that they are focused on outcomes.

(Note: Related to, but separate from, the ELC legislation is the creation of the Youth Development Council to oversee services to children and youth from 6-18 in a manner that supports academic success and reduces criminal involvement. Both the Juvenile Department and H3S are closely tracking this legislation.)

### CYF's Transition from Commission on Children & Families model to the Hub model

For the last two years, CYF has led a process to transition from the Commission on Children Families model and to align Clackamas County as the preferred applicant to become the Community –based Coordinators of Early Learning Services Hub.

### Work to-date

To-date, CYF has led the Clackamas regional effort to ensure that Clackamas County residents would benefit from the new Hub model as early as possible. To this end we have brought together school districts, social service providers, community members, early intervention, childcare and early learning professionals, health care practitioners, educators and others to align collective assets towards the common goal of kindergarten readiness.

Leadership from the stakeholder groups all agreed to be become part of what is being called the Advisory Committee for the Clackamas Early Learning Collaborative (ACCEL). The ACCEL charter document focuses the work to be accomplished leading to the submission of a Request for Application (RFA) to the State Early Learning Council. Our intent is to use the charter as guiding principles for future work of the group if awarded a Hub certification.

Although Hubs will look different throughout the state, each Hub will have the following five characteristics:

- Family Centricity
- Reaching the highest risk children
- Coordinated and transparent budgeting
- Accountability
- Flexibility

The Hub administrative functions align with current CYF administrative functions. Operational functions include:

- 1) Conduct system and service assessments focused on increased efficiency, reduced duplication of efforts and decreased burden on families. Determine existing resources and gaps, and coordinate cross-sector strategies;

- 2) Map and coordinate funding and resource allocation to maximize efficiency, effectiveness and return on investment;
- 3) Integrate and coordinate outcome-based service delivery and funding streams;
- 4) Contract and collaborate with providers, targeted at high-risk children and families; and
- 5) Report kindergarten readiness and developmental milestone outcomes at a child-level from pre-natal through kindergarten for children in our service area.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):**

As of the writing of this report, specific funding arrangements are still being debated at the legislature. The estimate for base funding for the Hub is \$200,000. There is also the opportunity for incentives based upon achieving local targets for system level outcomes. This is in addition to the service contracts themselves that would be administered by the Hub.

**LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

- 2011 - SB 909
- 2012 – HB 4165
- 2013 – Pending HB 2013 (also in Governor's Budget)

**PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:**

Current membership of the Advisory Committee for Clackamas Early Learning Collaborative (ACCEL) is (we are continuing to recruit additional members):

1. Superintendent of the Clackamas Education Service District – Milt Dennison
2. Superintendent of North Clackamas School District – Matt Utterback
3. Superintendent of Gladstone School District – Bob Stewart
4. Superintendent of Canby School District – John Steach
5. District Manager of Oregon Department of Human Services – Jerry Buzzard
6. Director of local Migrant Head Start – Donaldda Dodson
7. Director of local Head Start – Sue Elder
8. Director of local Relief Nursery – Brenda Suteu
9. Director of local Healthy Start – Erin Deahn
10. Director Clackamas Community Corrections – Chris Hoy
11. Director Clackamas Health, Housing and Humans Services – Cindy Becker
12. Director Clackamas – Public Health – Dana Lord
13. Director Clackamas – Behavioral Health – Mary Rumbaugh
14. Chair Clackamas Commission on Children & Families – Vickie Olson
15. Providence Nurse – Elizabeth Lien
16. Physician/Parent – Cigdem Bytnar
17. Childhood Specialist – Diane Meisenheimer
18. Local Non-profit – Andrew Grover

In addition, ACCEL sub-committee membership totals over 30 early childhood practitioners.

**OPTIONS:**

- H3S/CYF apply for designation as an early adopter/pilot Early Learning Council Hub

- Do not apply to be an early adopter/pilot Hub.
- Do not apply to be a Hub at all.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Apply to be an early adopter/pilot:

Based on the work CYF's work as the local Commission on Children and Families, designation as the Early Learning Hub is a natural evolution. CYF has earned a reputation as a collaborator that brings folks together to get the work done. To that end, staff has convened numerous stakeholders at the policy and operations levels to develop a model that works for the county. Because of this groundwork over the past couple of years, Clackamas is viewed as a leader in getting this off the ground. Additionally, CYF works together within the department to collaborate on mutual projects and outcomes.

Helping at-risk families and children – through community partners - is what we do best. And we believe that being part of the solution early on will put us in a position to help shape the policies and related activities in the future.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

ACCEL Charter  
PowerPoint Presentation

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Division Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Director/Head Approval *R. Cook*  
County Administrator Approval \_\_\_\_\_

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact  
Rodney A. Cook@ 503-5677

**Fiscal Impact Form**

**RESOURCES:**

Is this item in your current work plan and budget?

YES

NO

**START-UP EXPENSES AND STAFFING (if applicable):**

Our FY13-14 budget reflects elimination of 1.5 FTE assuming no Hub. The addition of the Hub function would add back the 1.5FTE.

**ONGOING OPERATING EXPENSES/SAVINGS AND STAFFING (if applicable):**

Cost of 1.5FTE would be charged to Hub contract between Clackamas County and Oregon Education Investment Board.

**ANTICIPATED RESULTS:**

At this point in time, we anticipate a minimum of \$200,000 to fund the Hub infrastructure. It is very difficult to determine the full funding package, but based on the current Clackamas contract for Commission on Children and Families early childhood services we anticipate upwards to \$1million for services funded through the Hub structure.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES DIVISION  
**Advisory Committee for the Clackamas Early Learning Collaborative (ACCEL)**  
Adopted 3-7-13

**Organization and Affiliation**

This organization is the Advisory Committee for the Clackamas Early Learning Collaborative, also known as "ACCEL". It is convened by the Clackamas County Children, Youth & Families Division to design an Early Learning Hub, (Community-Based Coordinator of Early Learning Services), and submit an application for the Clackamas Region.

**Purpose**

The Advisory Committee for the Clackamas Early Learning Collaborative (ACCEL) makes recommendations on the design of a Clackamas region Early Learning Hub. The ACCEL Collaborative will advise on policy, resource and design system priorities to create a high quality early childhood learning system that integrates and coordinates resources and efforts to ensure all children are ready for kindergarten, ready to read in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and reading at grade-level by end of the 3rd grade. The Advisory Committee's focus will be on services for children and families from prenatal to 8 years of age.

**Charges of the Advisory Committee for the Clackamas Early Learning Collaborative (Need to Prioritize)**

- Acknowledging families as central to the early learning system, develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation of children in programs and ensure families are served in a timely manner.
- Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination with the services provided by Clackamas region public schools.
- Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination with the services provided by Clackamas region system of public health care and services available through county health department.
- Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among federally funded, state funded and county programs.
- Make recommendations on the most efficient and effective ways to braid state and federal funding streams for early childhood and child care programs to ensure there is no overlap or duplication of services and to increase cost efficiencies.
- Develop recommendations for contracted services, required fiscal and program outcome reports.
- Review program evaluations regarding high-quality early childhood programs
- Develop recommendations regarding the establishment of a unified data collection system.
- Review periodic countywide needs assessment.
- Make recommendations to the Oregon Early Learning Council on how to most effectively create a high-quality early childhood system.
- Develop an inventory of early childhood services and a care delivery model to integrate the identified services.
- Make recommendations on how to screen early and comprehensively assess children for school readiness in order to provide increased early interventions and increase the number of children ready for kindergarten.

- Develop recommendations regarding region-wide early childhood, family support and education professional development and career advancement.
- Ensure that Clackamas County early learning services are effectively integrated as new programming is developed.
- Identify where gaps in services are and develop collaborative ways to alleviate those gaps.

### **Membership**

The ACCEL Collaborative consists of up to 25 members. Members for the ACCEL will be recruited to represent leadership from partner organizations, community organizations and leaders, and consumers for the HUB. ACCEL will include a combination of the following:

- Clackamas Commission on Children & Families
- Clackamas Community College
- Clackamas Community Health Divisions (Public Health Division, Health Centers, Behavioral Health)
- Clackamas County Healthy Start ~ Healthy Families
- Clackamas County Housing Representative
- Clackamas County Libraries
- Clackamas County Relief Nursery
- Clackamas Education Service District
- Clackamas School Superintendent(s)
- Hispanic Interagency Networking Team Representative
- Local Alcohol & Drug Representative
- Local Business Representative
- Local Coordinated Care Organization (CCO)
- Local Corrections Representative
- Local Domestic Violence Representative
- Local Early Childhood Provider
- Local Early Childhood Specialist
- Local Faith Representative
- Local Family Court Judge
- Local Head Start
- Local Migrant Head Start
- Local Nurse/Physician
- Local Parent
- Local Work Force Representative
- State Department of Human Services, Clackamas Branch

### **System Engagement**

The ACCEL Collaborative will utilize the Clackamas County Early Childhood Committee as the primary group to obtain recommendations regarding system partner services.

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