

MINUTES

Early Learning Council



Thursday, September 11, 2025

ATTENDEES: Alejandra Marquez, Amy, Egli, Angie Brown, Ann Stevenson, Christine House, Dan Cushing, DawnDee Walraven, Dorie Vickery, Jeanne McCarty, Jenn Laine, Jenna Sanders, Julia Peralta, Petricia Wright, Sean Cavaghan, Kourtney Ferrua, Lauren Berg, Lindsey Manfrin, Margaret (Peg) Miller, M.D., Maribel Dobbins, Matthew Kintner, Mindy Larson, Odi Campos, Shealyn Wippert, Suey Linzmeier, Tiffany Busby, Tonya Coker, Tonya Hill, Tyler Hartman

ABSENT: Amanda Lamb, Amy Stephens, Kelly Williams

SCRIBE: Petricia Wright

1. Call to Order 5:07 PM

- Welcome and announcements.
 - Head Start is conducting an anonymous community assessment survey with Michelle Bergeron targeting parents of children age six and under. Surveying some parents that are not associated with Head Start to inquire what their needs are is also desirable. Jenn will share out the survey.
 - FamilyCore is hosting a Community Baby Shower on Thursday, Sept. 18, at Sue Buell Elementary School, for families who are expecting or are postpartum.
 - The Banks for the Bank diaper drive is in process through many local banks.
 - The Early Learning Hub is seeking comments from the group on what the Early Learning Hub does for the community which will be listed in the Hub's first annual report.
 - Bags that were supplied by Creating Opportunities for undocumented families who have children with disabilities will be distributed here today.
 - Our fall training is on October 10th at the McMinnville Grand Ballroom with behavioral health providers, childcare providers, and kindergarten through grade three educators to talk about behavioral health supports for children. Our keynote speaker is from the Ballmer Institute, and we will also have an interactive panel with folks from HHS and Lutheran Community Services talking about the process of referring people for support, what to expect, and how you can support families while they are waiting for services. Then we have a lunch speaker from the Oregon Infant Mental Health Association (ORIMHA) talking about how to get mental health certification, and in the afternoon a training session on motivational interviewing.

MINUTES

Early Learning Council



2. SE Metric Update

The discussion focused on behavioral health services for children, particularly those approaching kindergarten age. Data was presented showing the current rate of engagement with BH services at 3.1% against a target of 4.8%, with a benchmark of 11%. The group discussed challenges in tracking and improving these numbers, including the need for billable claims and potential seasonality effects. The importance of referrals and resources for early learning providers and encouraging staff to share this information with their teams was emphasized. While referrals are not mandatory for services, they are crucial for meeting metrics and ensuring proper follow-through. It was clarified that anyone can request services from Health and Human Services (HHS)/Family & Youth without a referral.

3. Charter Review & Approval

The Council discussed Charter updates considering new state rules taking effect October 1st. Changes included increased governance authority, the addition of housing as a required partner, and expanded membership up to 27 members across various sectors. The council reviewed new requirements for officers, decision-making processes, and conflict resolution procedures, with particular attention to the 72-hour contract review period for the Chair/Co-Chair. The group agreed to vote separately on whether to return budget and contract authority to the Community Care Organization (CCO) Board and discussed the need to improve quarterly reporting from committees and work groups.

A motion was made by Lindsey Manfrin to approve the charter as presented with the adoption and amendment that YCCO will allow the chair or co-chair 72 hours to review any Early Learning Hub contract before signing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Peg Miller. The motion passed with all aye votes, except for one abstain.

Another motion was made to approve that the Early Learning Council concedes authority for the budget and contract approvals to the YCCO Board of Directors if the Early Learning Council has an opportunity to review the budget first and if the Chair or Co-Chair are allowed to review any contracts before final approval. A motion was made by Dr. Peg Miller and was seconded by Lindsey Manfrin. The motion passed with all aye votes.

4. New Structure for Service Integration

The group addressed changes to the Service Integration Team, proposing a scaled-down model with reduced funding and modified services, open only to families of children aged 0-

MINUTES

Early Learning Council



18. The model would be funded with System of Care (SOC) funds, possible HHS dollars, and grant writing. There is one funding bucket for the county, not seven different teams, and there will be one meeting either monthly or quarterly for resource sharing and networking. The maximum funding amount would be lowered to \$300. The total funding available would be between \$30,000 and \$60,500 starting out, and all applications would be processed internally. The name of the model would be changed.

The ELC discussed the model and requested that non-emergent requests continue to be reviewed by the team to maintain the collaborative nature of the model. They also requested consideration of the rural communities when scheduling the networking meetings. With those caveats, the ELC approved the model change.

5. Meeting Wrap Up/Next Steps

- The Strategic Plan Update was moved to the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Petricia Wright, Administrative Assistant

Next meeting: Thursday, October 9, 2025, 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM