



**SOELS Governance Council**  
**January 16, 2024**  
**2:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**In Person at SOELS' office:**  
**918 Chevy Way, Medford, OR**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://soesd.zoom.us/j/91042667714>  
Meeting ID: 910 4266 7714

**Attendees:** Katherine Clayton, Sara Hollingworth, Laura McKeane, Sam Watson, Scott Beveridge, Cynthia Anderson, Bridey Mendoza-Moore, Brittain Zimmerman, Stacy Inman, Norma Pantoja, Kimberlee Whitney, Jessica Durrant, Mary Hough.

**Hub Staff:** Rene' Brandon, Jordan Rogers, Sydney Wing, Teresa Slater, Molly McLaughlin, Vicki Risner

**Call to Order:** 2:33 pm

**Welcome to the new council member Norma Pantoja.**

Announcements from Sara Hollingworth with Kairos. They are working on their Spring Break Camp, open to any community members ages 4-17. Working with JCC on a new respite house in Central Point. Looking to repurpose the house in Josephine County into a 9-bedroom respite house.

**Additions or changes to the agenda:** Added Early Literacy Update

**Approval of minutes from 11-21-23,**  
Will wait until next meeting.

**Child Care Expansion Fund Kick-Off Update & Next Steps**

Rene' presented slides. Updates to the Child Care Expansion Fund:

- Rural – Cynthia and Rene' are working with RCC and SOU's small business development center. They are writing a grant to Business Oregon to better support start up child care in rural communities.
- Heard from Brad Russell at RV YMCA. They are getting some subsidized slots

from JCC. Per Sam, they are surveying the need and interest. Up to 120 slots between the RV YMCA and the Museum. JCC is investing \$600k in that program. JCC also made an investment in the Ashland YMCA for some child care needs there as well.

- The Hub set aside through Preschool Promise dollars \$65k to provide more slots as well. Possibility of receiving from the Providence Foundation \$72k. Number of slots depends on the need for infant/toddler vs preschool.
- Expanding the Internship model. Providence is earmarking just under \$10k. The Hub has \$2k for a total of about \$11.6k. Could be launched this spring.
- Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants. DELC announced that they have a RFA that Family Nurturing Center was awarded. This is the planning year.
- Qualified Mental Health associate credentialing. JO Co. System Of Care has offered \$30k, the Hub \$70k. Expect to launch the cohort by March or April.

Jordan: Josie Molloy with the Josephine Chamber of Commerce. She was able to connect us to 2 different sub-committees. Hopeful to present to both. She is making February the Child Care Awareness Month. We will be hosting the greeters meeting.

Rene': If anyone knows of a connection to Medford Chamber of Commerce, please let us know. We are willing to follow any lead to see where it goes.

### **Early Literacy Update**

Jordan shared slides: How Partners can engage with Read Play Talk (Early Literacy Initiatives). Updates were made directly to those slides. Great discussion.

### **Raise Up Oregon 2.0 Introduction**

Rene' presented slides of the 2024-2028 booklet. Our hub was part of the housing listening sessions. We will be launching strategic planning soon. See booklet for references. Let Vicki know if you would like a book sent to you or pick one up at our next meeting.

Page 2: At-A-Glance: 3 overarching System Goals (they have been changed a bit).

Page 7: Progress to Date. Highlights of Key Wins 2019-2023. Acknowledged that some things have changed from the first version due to the upheaval of the past five years.

- The Early Learning Council has established a Home Visiting System Committee
- Continuous Oregon Health Plan Enrollment for children birth to six.
- CCO's and DELC have cocreated a CCO level metric for improving the children's social-emotional health for children under the age of six.
- Passing on a ban on suspension and expulsion in early learning. Takes effect in 2026. This is problematic without support. We are identifying where those supports are needed.
- Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) was expanded to increase eligibility and

lower copays. Families can now participate in both ERDC and TANF at the same time. Unfortunately, as soon as that expansion happened, a waiting list was created due to not enough funding available to fund the expansion.

Page 9: You can start to see each system goal, each objective and each strategy, and which state agencies are involved in moving the metrics.

Page: Glossary. A good addition when talking about collaboration.

Page 32: Appendix C: List of more wins that really moved the needle.

Page 34: Appendix D: Charting the short-term objectives and strategies for 2024. Rene' has created a Jam Board that we will be using with community partners asking for input from our stakeholders so we can see what is already happening, who's involved, what could be happening with a little more funding. Then we can rank these based on where we think there is enough momentum to get started.

Teresa added [https://www.oregon.gov/delc/about-us/RUO\\_Documents/2024-28\\_Raise\\_Up\\_Oregon\\_A\\_Statewide\\_Early\\_Childhood\\_System\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/delc/about-us/RUO_Documents/2024-28_Raise_Up_Oregon_A_Statewide_Early_Childhood_System_Plan.pdf)

#### **Conflict of Interest Forms, By-law revisions**

Vicki will be sending out the annual conflict of interest form. If we are talking about investment funding, and it's funding that would benefit your program, note that conflict, abstain from voting on it and move one.

Will get the By-law revisions out to you soon so you can review them before the March meeting.

#### **Motion to Adjourn:**

Adjourned at 4:18 PM

**Next Meeting: March 19, 2024**      2:30 – 4:30 pm