



Building the Supply of Early Care and Education in Central Oregon



Brenda Comini, Early Learning Hub
Karen Prow, NeighborImpact Child Care Resources

Early Care and Education Strategic Planning

- ▶ Raise Up Oregon: A Statewide Early Learning System Plan 2019 <https://oregonearlylearning.com/raise-up-oregon>
- ▶ Role of Early Learning Hub and Child Care Resource and Referral
- ▶ Regional Early Care and Education Sector Plans - Published Fall 2019, 2021 - inform public funds investment
 - Regional Data on Supply by location, type and capacity
 - Parent survey results
 - Strategies to link public funding to highest need

2019 Sector Plan Stakeholder Contributions

- ▶ Business Identification of Workforce Child Care needs/Community campaign and conversations - 2018
- ▶ US Chamber Road Show in Central Oregon - 2019
- ▶ Development and hiring - Child Care Accelerator -2019
- ▶ **Early Care and Education Sector Plan - 2019 (Biennial Updates)**
- ▶ Bend and Redmond Task Force work

Stakeholders:

Chambers of Commerce/Businesses - initiated by Bend Chamber Director

Governor's Community Solutions Office - Regional Coordinator

Higher Education - Central Oregon Community College, OSU Cascades

Workforce Investment Board - EC Works (East Cascades)

County and City Planning and Building Departments, Fire Marshal's Office, Child Care Licensing

Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) - Central Oregon Health Council

Child Care Supply - Deschutes Pre-Covid/Current

- ▶ Data update in process - will include in Aug 16 presentation

Three Regional Focus Areas for Capacity Building for Early Care and Education

► Workforce

Enhancements to CCR Core Services:

- Building pathways for formal education and credentialing
- Business Consultation and Coaching

► Aligning Regulatory Agency Practice

- Policy guidance across agencies
- Lead contacts for Child Care in Building Authorities
- Joint reviews/inspections

► Facilities

- Repurposed or partnership spaces
- Exploration of Micro-Center Model
- Leveraging ARPA financial support for new facilities

Workforce Capacity Building Initiatives

► Partners in Practice

- Pathways to Certificates and AA Degree with tuition, book and peer support;
- focus on non-traditional students
- Blended, braided funding - ODE/ELD, Hub, CCR, Foundations, leverage/navigate

► Business Consultation and Coaching

- Financial Modeling and access to resources
- Blended funding and Resources - Hub pilot, CCR, Shared Service Alliance

► Certified Apprenticeship Program

In Development

- Paid apprenticeship placements in high quality care centers
- Pursuing state and federal funding partnerships

Aligning Regulatory Agency Practice

Multiple Regulatory oversight for Facility Siting, Building and Renovation

- ▶ Regional Solutions Agency Convening
 - Leveraging coordination/partnerships with state agencies
 - Leading ARPA fund conversations with Regional governments
- ▶ Advocating for Code and Fee Adjustments to reduce barriers for child care
- ▶ Joint Regulatory Review/Inspections
 - Minimize conflicting guidance
 - Reduced review timelines and expense
- ▶ Designated Child Care Expertise/Advocacy
 - City of Bend - Business Advocate with navigation for providers
 - City of Redmond - Predevelopment Team - Regulatory & provider

In Development

Maximizing Relief Funds

- ▶ COVID-19 Recovery Grants: Licensed or License-exempt programs providing care during Feb 2020, suspended care between March 2020 and June 2021
- ▶ ARPA Child Care Stabilization: Designed to stabilize existing child care businesses (not start-up) \$248,908,466
Eligible providers - license-exempt receiving subsidy, registered or certified family, certified centers. Bonus \$\$ for infant/toddler, extended hours, serving families receiving subsidy, providing care in language other than English
- ▶ ARPA Local and State Funds: State Legislator Support - \$1M OSU-Cascades Little Kits
\$200,000 Redmond Learning Center/REACH

Facilities Capacity Building Initiatives

► Repurposed and Partnership Siting

- Churches - Westside Church site for Expanded Head Start Program; Presbyterian Church and faith partners siting ReVillage - a Cooperative Care Program; OSU Cascades COVID Response Pilot - now Little Kits

► Micro-Center Model Paused

- Modeling Opportunities Exchange - recruiting a Program Provider to manage administrative support and staffing for multiple small sites
- Child Care Accelerator - inventory potential sites, child care needs
- RFQ developed for operator - none available

► Leveraging Facilities Funds

- Expanded Little Kits Care and Early Learning Lab - OSU-Cascades/COCC partnership; ARPA Funding - Senator Knopp, Deschutes County - \$2m combined
- Requested - outlying area child care project support (Redmond, Sisters, La Pine); Deschutes ARPA Funding, additional opportunities

Capacity Opportunities in Redmond and Rural Deschutes

- Redmond: Little Kits Expansion, leverage both child care capacity and workforce development
MountainStar Relief Nursery - expanded preschool
- Sisters: Parks and Recreation and School District Partnerships
- La Pine/Sunriver: MountainStar Relief Nursery - La Pine preschool and Relief Nursery 0-3 capacity building

► Questions?

Contact Information:

Brenda Comini, Director, Early Learning Hub

brenda.comini@hdesd.org

541-480-8993

Karen Prow, Director, NeighborImpact Child
Care Resources

karenp@neighborimpact.org

541-323-6557

