



Washington State Department of
Early Learning

Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) Meeting
June 2nd, 2015 – 9:30 am to 4:00 pm – Girl Scout Center

Regional Coalition Updates

Regional Coalition Update

First 5 FUNdamentals of Pierce County

For more information please contact: Susan Barbeau, Executive Director, Susanb@uwpc.org

- As part of our collective impact efforts First 5 FUNdamentals has re-named the early learning movement in Pierce County, Project Child Success. The change was a decision made by partners, in an effort to broaden and strengthen community support for early learning. The name is meant to reflect the outcome that we wish to achieve. First 5 FUNdamentals will remain as the non-profit organization that provides staffing, communications, and data support for Project Child Success.
- In May, Project Child Success hosted a PLAY Café for families in the Hilltop Neighborhood of Tacoma. The event was part of a STEAM project that focuses on increasing science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) skills of child care providers, and families living in the area. The event was planned and hosted in partnership with childcare providers. Kids and families played with STEAM materials together, and then the adults had discussions about their experiences and thoughts about STEAM learning. The next step in the project will be individual coaching with childcare providers on how to enhance their environments, in order to increase STEAM learning in the classroom.

Inland Northwest Early Learning Alliance, Northeast

For more information please contact: Sandra Szambelan, SSzambelan@esd101.net

- No updates to share at this time.

Investing in Children: Coalition Central

For more information please contact: Karri Jo Livingston, 509-895-6439

- We recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated solely to health. The "Roadmaps to Health Action Award" is one of 20 across the country and one of just two on the West Coast. The award includes a \$10,000 grant and up to one year of consultation and coaching with health experts at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute to build a culture of health in the Yakima Valley. We will utilize the award for strategic planning and focus for our Wellness Committee. See link [here](#)

North Central

For more information please contact: Nancy Spurgeon, NSpurgeon@wvc.edu

- WA kids project – math kits have been created and are going to be part of elementary school libraries for Early Learning providers to check out. Designated Elementary schools have volunteered to have an event where providers will be invited and trained on how to use kits.
- New Parent to Parent program has hired a coordinator and has scheduled their first parent training.

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- Plans to add a home visitor and parent track at the local Embracing Early Childhood Conference. Conference will be held October 16 and 17.
- Three home visitor summits have been planned the first being in June. The summits will provide clock hours toward the IMH Endorsement.
- 5 North Central Coalition members went to Olympia for the Thrive advocacy day. They met with 4 of the North Central legislators. All but one of the legislators was very supportive of Early Learning.
- Early Learning Data collection project continues to move forward. The coalition has decided to use WEAVE as the data system. We are in the process of deciding where the data will be housed. Possibilities being explored – ESD has space on their server. Allan Walker will be talking to Patrick Jones who developed the Chelan-Douglas Trends website at Eastern Washington University to see if we could possibly house data on the Trends site and utilize their staff for evaluation and reporting.

Northwest

For more information please contact: Wilanne Ollila-Perry, wilanne_ollila-perry@oppco.org

Northwest Early Learning - continues with our established 2015 annual priorities.

- The five county NW Region celebrates its' 5th year utilizing 2014-15 Prek-K Transition Forms process. Forms continue to be disseminated for completion by pre-K child care providers, school district prek programs, ECEAP/Head Start and license exempt preschool programs/teachers who have participated in our parallel professional development DMA Literacy Cohorts. Our "Annual" Pre-K-K Dinner and Dialogue events are scheduled throughout each of the five counties in May/June. These events bring school districts and their pre-k partners together to celebrate another year of working together toward a seamless transition to K for all children.
- State of Children and Families Report and Fall 2015 Brunch
 - Early Learning Leadership Brunch - Keynote by David C. Berliner
Date: September 24, 2015 Time: 9 am – 11:30 am
Location: McIntyre Hall, Skagit Valley College, 2501 E. College Way, Mount Vernon
Cost: \$25 per person
Registration: [Download the form](#)
Completed forms can be emailed to khugo@nwesd.org, faxed to 360-299-4071, or mailed to *NWESD, 1601 R Ave., Anacortes, Washington 98221.*
- The NW EL Data Team continues to meet once a month to complete development of our next data publication (14-15) of The State of Children and Families in the NW Region.
- This year we will be including County Data One-Pagers as part of our annual reporting - that will reflect the work each county has done around identifying root causes and provides a picture of their theory of action regarding services for children and families.
- Three of the five county early learning coalitions have co-sponsored with the regional coalition a Data Carousel - identifying their root cause(s) and developing their theory of action.
- NWEL, Skagit County Health Department and Skagit - Children's Council developed a Parent Survey for parents of children 0-5 in early 2015. This survey was about activities and services that would help support parents/families in raising their young children and will be included in the State of Children and Families. The Data Committee is re-working this survey in order

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to utilize it for the entire region for 2015/16.

- Raising of America showings will take place in each county in the Fall of 2015 in partnership with County Coalition members with our kick off at the “Leadership Brunch.”

Olympic-Kitsap Peninsulas

For more information please contact: Rhodes Lockwood, rlockwood@olympic.edu or Marlaina Simmons, masimmons@oesd.wednet.edu

- No updates to share at this time.

SOAR, King County

For more information please contact: Harla Tumbleson, harla@childrenandyouth.org

- No updates to share at this time.

Southeast

For more information please contact: Samantha Bowen, 509-524-5142

- Asotin County Coalition held their Head Start Kindergarten Transition Meeting at the end of April, with 32 in attendance.
- Walla Walla Valley Early Learning Coalition held its annual Dinner and Dialogue event on May 20th for local kindergarten teachers, administrators and early learning professionals.
- Benton-Franklin Early Learning Alliance will host a Dinner and Dialogue on June 2nd at ESD 123 in Pasco. It will be an opportunity for multiple agencies and school districts to discuss collaboration and kindergarten readiness.
- Benton-Franklin Early Learning Alliance is planning the annual Early Learning Conference scheduled for November 7th at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick. This event targets early learning providers. This year the event will feature a showing of the PBS documentary *Raising of America*, in addition to parent focused break-out sessions.

Southwest Washington Early Learning (SWEL)

For more information please contact: Lindsay Newcomer, lindsay.newcomer@selfwa.org

- SWEL was able to award 5 WaKIDS mini grants across the region to help support collaboration between school districts and early learning providers
- Planning is currently underway for our 2nd annual home visitor’s conference. The conference will occur on November 13th in Longview, WA.
- Planning is also underway for SWEL’s racial equity training with REACH. This training is set to happen on August 29th.

Visions for Early Learning, West Central

For more information please contact: Jane Partridge, jpartridge@esd113.org

- VEL members are re-aligning the bylaws and governance documents to better support the current operations of VEL.
- Professional Development was provided at the last VEL meeting on the topic of Family Engagement. Addie Simmons presented.
- Summer programs are well underway for all 5 county coalitions.