

**Harney County Commission on Children and Families
Minutes of November 08, 2011, Meeting**

Attending: Dan Nichols, Chair; John Copenhaver; Pat Sharp; Jean Hurst; Ramona Hofman; Joyce Moser; Teri Cain, Director; Nancy Walker, Assistant.

Absent: Michelle Bradach; Ann Vloedman

Guests: Alicia Goodson, Kathy Rementeria, Sheri Webb.

Call to Order/Introductions: Dan called the Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. No new introductions.

Public Comments:

- Sheri Webb, [Grant-Harney CASA](#) Director, presented an overview of the work Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers are doing in Harney County and thanked the Commission for funding awarded following the recent RFP process, which be used to recruit, train and provide support and some mileage reimbursement for Harney CASA volunteers.
- Kathy Rementeria, Ford Family Foundation Community Fellow-Harney County, informed the Board regarding the foundation's upcoming [Leadership Development-Spring 2010 Application](#) events, community vitality online survey, and efforts to promote "collective impact" made possible through collaborative efforts in Harney County.
- Alicia Goodson, Harney County Drug Free Community Coordinator, presented the Commission a summary of Harney [Partners for Kids and Family's DFC community survey](#) regarding drug-use prevention (see attached Community Survey Results or contact Alicia dfccoordinator@hotmail.com).

Approval of agenda and minutes: Current meeting agenda and minutes from October 11, 2011 HCCCCF Board meeting were reviewed by Board members and Director. Pat Sharp made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes as presented; Ramona Hofman seconded; unanimously approved.

Director's Report: *(In Italics) HCCCCF Director's Report 11-08-11*

General: I continue to learn the processes and needs of executing the duties of the Director's position. My priority in October and early November was to complete our reporting in the state database and to draw down the funds to come into the County coffers and inputting information from our providers' quarterly reports. Marilyn Miller has been a marvelous support in this endeavor.

I am keeping track of all the paperwork (contracts, receipts and bill payments) in binders, following Patty's systems. I am preparing for all providers to receive their first quarterly payment at the 11/21 County Court. In preparing for these payments, reviewing the current contracts, and in speaking with Marilyn about it, it seems we need to make a slight amendment to the contracts to include language to reflect payments for the first quarter of the fiscal year. The contracts currently state that the first quarter began October 1. However, the state allocated money for the entire year even though the process began late. I am consulting Tim Colohan about the needed language and documentation to make this more accurate. Otherwise, the process was a good learning experience and should flow a little more smoothly at the end of next quarter.

Drug Free Community: I have submitted the appropriate quarterly report to the federal reporting agency. I am attending appropriate DFC committee meetings, keeping track of their bills and budget and learning more about the grant. I may attend the CADCA training in Washington, DC the first weekend in February, based on

recommendation of Alicia Goodson. I attend the Harney Partners meetings and attended the Red Ribbon event in October. The committee/grant/coordinator/director seem to be doing great work, getting a curriculum into Slater Elementary School 's fifth grade classes, welcomed this year particularly because of the loss of their school counselor's prevention work. Alicia and Ashlee have also been to rural schools promoting prevention. I will attend their next committee meeting just prior to Tuesday's commission meeting.

Parenting classes/CTFO Grant: Nancy Walker is doing a great job getting this year's classes up and running, hiring teachers, promoting the program and taking care of the program entirely. This is tremendously valuable to me as I cannot imagine having to be responsible for all of that while I am learning so much about my job and the upcoming changes at the state level.

Commission vacancies: I have been in conversation with Dan Hoke about submitting a letter of application to the commission. I will present his letter at Tuesday's meeting. The recruitment ad played on the radio throughout the past month. I would like to visit with Linc (from KBNH) about submitting another letter for membership if he is still interested. Jean reported that Susan Peilstick is not able to commit to a term at this time. Pat may still visit with Vicky Clemons. Ann's position is not vacant until December (or the month thereafter.)

State Commission Transition: Since our last meeting, I have been part of four meetings about the OCCF transition. The first was with several HCCCF members and Donna Schnitker and me to discuss all the things that Donna's Early Childhood Center does, and information on her programs as well as her insights on legislation and her perception of the Governor's plans behind the eventual elimination OCCF. I sent my notes on this meeting and those of our hosted meeting with Malheur, Grant and Lake counties to commissioners. I also have been keeping abreast of developments/proposals of the state commission and Coalition. I have tried to keep track of them and forwarded any meeting outcomes and recommendations to local commission members. I will try to put last week's State Commission meeting outcomes into words to present at the meeting tomorrow. Suffice it to say all is in process and waits approval by the legislature in February. However, I did hear sentiments similar to Harney County's stance that "what we're doing is working" and "let's not lose the good work that's been done" echoed in this meeting last week.

An Eastern Oregon Regional Directors meeting is scheduled to be held Thursday, December 1 in Pendleton with Iris Bell and Marilyn Miller. The meeting's location is based on Iris' travel schedule/ foundation meeting the following day and funding for their travel (or at least Iris') will be paid by the foundation grant. In addition, the Grant County coordinator who had originally been asked to host a meeting just announced that she has taken another job, so this may have been a factor in selecting location as well. If any Commissioners are interested in attending this meeting via phone or video conferencing, please let me know. I plan to view at either the ESD building or the courthouse if we have inclement weather.

"Emerging Issues" (developing topics and/or reports from OCCF); Strategy/follow up from meetings: Teri indicated some SB909 implementation objectives await clarification to be determined in the next couple of months (see [OHSA SB909 Implementation Perspective for 2012](#); upcoming [Early Learning Council \(ELC\)](#) topics and events). In February, the ELC will make implementation recommendations to the legislature, which could include regionalization and shared services implications for Harney County and HCCCF. Dan pointed out the need to work on documenting the Commission's strategy to highlight Harney County strengths that will meet OCCF transition objectives implied in SB909 before the February legislative session.. John suggested the Commission start with the latest community mapping assessment and a consensus to form a workgroup, which Teri will coordinate, emerged from the discussion.

Keep Kids Safe License Plates Proposal to assist in funding: \$100 assessment: Commission members discussed the proposed Oregon Keep Kids Safe License program including a one-time \$100 assessment to

participate in the program (see [HB 3684](#)). John made a motion to donate \$100 from Commission flex funds to the program, Joyce seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Membership: Openings & letters, recruitment: There are currently two vacancies on the HCCCF Board consisting of one vacated position and one upcoming seat in January. The Director received a letter of interest from Dan Hoke dated November 7, 2011, and presented it to the Commission for consideration to fill the vacated seat. Board members also indicated recruitment efforts are ongoing to fill a Board position opening in January. John endorsed Hoke as a qualified Board member candidate to fill the current open seat, and Dan indicated that the Board does have the prerogative to make Board candidate recommendations to the County Court. Ramona made a motion to recommend Mr. Hoke as an HCCCF member to the County Court; John seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Late Items: Nancy updated Board members regarding the first sessions for the Fall Parenting Series. The facilitators and participants indicate “Make Parenting a Pleasure” for parents with children ranging from birth to ten years old and “Becoming a Love and Logic Parent” (focusing on understanding Teens and Tweens) are both worthwhile programs relevant to the needs of Harney County residents. The Fall series will continue through November and will resume in February, thanks to Oregon Childrens’ Trust Grant Funds. Nancy will provide data and recommendations to the Director and Board following each series.

Next Meeting: Tuesday December 13th, 2011 at Hines City Hall Council Room, 2:00 p.m. (December's meeting is scheduled, unless otherwise notified by HCCCF Chair or Director).

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 3:43m.

Respectfully submitted (with attachments),

Nancy Walker, assistant to Teri Cain (HCCCF Director)

Minutes approved 02/14/2012



Harney Partners for Kids and Families - Community Survey Results

Attachment 1 of 2:

	Youth Respondents	Adult Respondents
How much of a problem do you believe marijuana use among youth in Harney County is?		
Problem	85%	79%
Unsure	8%	14%
Not A Problem	8%	7%
How difficult is it for youth under 21 years to obtain marijuana in our community?		
Easy	73%	74%
Unsure	19%	24%
Difficult	8%	2%
In your estimation, what percentage of youth would report using marijuana in the past 30 days?		
Average (In percent)	56%	37%
!What do you think youth attitudes are regarding marijuana use?		
Acceptable		70%
Not Sure		25%
Not Acceptable		5%
What is your attitude regarding marijuana use?		
Acceptable	15%	
Not Sure	8%	
Not Acceptable	77%	
How risky to a youth's health is smoking marijuana on a regular basis?		
Risky	76%	90%
Not Sure	12%	7%
Not Risky	12%	2%
What is the greatest risk associated with youth regularly using marijuana? 1=lowest risk;4=greatest risk		
Risks	4	2
Health Risks	2	2



Harney Partners for Kids and Families - Community Survey Results

- **Where** would youth acquire marijuana in our community? (open-end; major categories] They

grow it
Medical Marijuana Users
Obtain During Out of Area trips Older
Adults (other than parents) Other
Youth
Parents
People "Passing Through"/Visitors

Why do you think youth are using marijuana in our community? (open-end; major categories]

Boredom
Depression, Mental Health Issues
Easier to obtain than alcohol
Low self-esteem
Makes them "feel good" Not
educated about risks
Peer-Pressure/Friends Use/To "Fit-in" Lack
of positive role models
Mixed messages from legalization efforts
Think there is a low health risk
Because they are told not to use It

- **What** could be done in our community to reduce marijuana use? [open-end; major categories] More

drug testing in multiple locations (job, sports, school. etc)
More drug searches at school
More parental awareness and involvement
More opportunities for involvement/alternative activities
Increase consequences for youth and parents when caught in possession
More prevention education about its health effects
Do away with "legal use"
More parent education about problem and how to handle it
More recovery/abstinence information
Offer incentives for not using
Create a teen center or something outside of school for kids



OREGON HEAD START ASSOCIATION:

Investing in Head Start is Investing in Oregon's Future

SB 909 Implementation Perspectives for 2012

What OHSA Supports Implementing in 2012

- Statutorily protecting OREGON HEAD START PRE K and EI/ECSE in statute as a base for early childhood education
- Maintaining Head Start standards in statute
- New uniform data collection procedures
 - Programs currently use three student evaluation assessments and data is not compared statewide
 - OHSA could support a single data collection assessments with uniform evaluation standards and evaluation periods and cross-program comparisons
 - This data could include academic, physical, mental health and family-based data
 - This data could be evaluated regularly on a set schedule for reporting purposes
- Improved and uniform collaboration with school districts
 - OHSA could support a uniform plan for each Head Start program to execute with its partner school districts including:
 - The formation of an electronic database and file sharing capabilities
 - Standardized evaluation elements
 - Standardized process for transferring information for students whose families move or transfer to another district
 - Standardized transition requirements for students and parents
 - This could include a kindergarten classroom visit, school district staff at an OREGON HEAD START PRE K parent meeting, uniform materials from the school district to parents regarding enrollment and what to expect.
 - The formal appointment of a Head Start liaison in each school district
- Pilot joint ventures with other providers of early childhood services
 - OHSA could support the creation of a pilot joint venture with other early childhood service providers to explore how the groups could collaborate and reduce redundancy. This could include a mandatory report on progress in 2013.

What OHSA Cannot Support Implementing in 2012

- Giving the Early Learning Council or any other non-legislative body the authority over OREGON HEAD START PRE K and EI/ECSE funds without legislative oversight and approval.
- Giving the Early Learning Council or any other non-legislative body authority over restructuring or otherwise changing OREGON HEAD START PRE K or EI/ECSE service delivery or standards without legislative oversight and approval.

Key Points of Ambiguity Requiring Clarification

- Why the Governor's Office and the Early Learning Design team continues to state the need for restructuring in early childhood education without outlining the problems it sees with the current operation of OREGON HEAD START PRE K programs.
- Why the Governor's Office and the Early Learning Design team will not commit to continuing current levels of funding for OREGON HEAD START PRE K programs and the families they serve.
- Why the Governor's Office and the Early Learning Design team will not commit to maintaining Head Start standards in statute and thereby maintaining the foundation of comprehensive services provided to the lowest income children and families in Oregon.
- Why the Governor's Office did not appoint any OREGON HEAD START PRE K or EI/ECSE representatives to the Early Learning Council even though these programs represent the largest sector of early learning in Oregon.