

Visions Regional Early Learning Coalition  
Meeting Minutes  
January 28, 2014

**Welcome and Intro** – members introduced self, agency, county representing and what want to gain from meeting today.

Connie Dougherty reported on **Infant Toddler Project**. Work includes 14 sites and 30 classrooms. The plan continues to coordinate this project with Early Achievers. Goal is to combine programs by July 1, 2014.

**Early Achievers** - Annie provided handouts to show number of Early Achiever sites in region. 50 sites have been rated, ratings are reported as *Involved in Program* or *Excellence in Program*. New legislation requires ECEAP to join Early Achievers by 2015. Many training programs being offered are geared toward helping providers improve quality of care, addressing goals of Early Achievers participation.

**Thrive by Five Community Momentum Grant** - Results of the application have proven positive. Visions Regional Early Learning Coalition was awarded \$84,000. Personnel Capacity and Regional Coordination are categories that allow for coordinator and salary, received over \$16,000 for this category. Racial Equity existed in this section, received \$3,000 (the coalition was granted an additional \$10,000 from Nisqually Tribe for advancing racial equity). Funds from this section also will cover web site for communication and connections. Early Learning Plan section received \$20,000 for WaKIDS funding to support connections between schools and early learning providers. The coalition received \$15,000 for home visitation. The plan to address home visitation is to reach out to existing home visitation programs within the region for presentations to local coalitions and to bring home visitation providers together to discuss professional development needs. The coalition also received full funding for Love, Talk, Play. Part of these monies will be split, giving \$500 to each county coalition and a provide a separate funding opportunity for establishing a Learn and Play group. Application will be available for individual coalitions or agencies among region.

**WaKIDS** - Team meetings between schools and early learning providers scheduled for March 1 and March 15. Plans will be developed through this process.

**Love, Talk, Play** - Submit plans for use of \$500 coalition projects to Jane. Report material order to Jane by Feb. 10. There is funding for a new Play and Learn group, a committee will form to create selection process for \$2,000 award.

Comment [1]:

**Advancing Racial Equity** - Planning committee will be forming to determine using funds and training decisions. County coalitions are asked to submit names of representation to this committee. Intent is to extend influence in broad way, including agencies working with each coalition.

**Home Visiting** - Committee will form to work on this. This committee is open to regional members, county members or agencies working with each county coalition.

**Advocacy Work**- A House Bill is moving forward that recommends regional early learning members to ELAC exist as voting members. Let Jane know if interested in attending training for

new Advocates at the Have a Heart for Kids Day on Monday, Feb. 3. Thrive by Five requests one item from Visions as focus for advocacy. This might be an agenda item for future meetings.

Comment [2]:

### **ACTION AGENDA**

Action will be to form committees for each of the areas listed below. Committees are open to coalition members as well as community members. Visions members will be liaison of information. Each committee will be supplied budget, work plan and description of action items. Jane will get committees started arranging a first meeting date and supplying Visions member on each committee with necessary information to begin work and plans.

#### **Committees include:**

- **WaKIDS**
- **L,T,P**
- **Advancing Racial Equity**
- **Home Visiting**
- **Advocacy Work**

Let Jane know which committee you have interest in participating. Committees will need to convene and report in March. Local coalitions will send emails and give personal asks and then send names to Jane by end of February.

Comment [3]:

### **COMMUNITY REPORTS**

Grays Harbor - Play and Learn group begins first week of Feb. housed at Chehalis Tribal Head Start.

Lewis - Learn on the Go! creating banners in businesses to encourage parent-child engagement continues. A sub-committee will be meeting to create first round of ideas.

Mason- Caspar Baby Pants event included activities for children and members of coalition to provide information of resources available to families.

N. Pacific - Planning and preparing for changes in upcoming year. Spring Fair in May.

Thurston -- Continue to bring speakers to meetings, information has been beneficial to work. Parenting Tools workshops continue.

Review of Membership will be top of agenda for next meeting.

Next meeting March 18, 2014.