

Minutes-VEL Board of Representatives Meeting
March 10, 2016
ESD 113 – Grays Harbor Room
(Conference call in via the K-20 system. 206.732.9411)

The mission of Visions for Early Learning; West Central Regional Coalition, is to promote partnerships and community connections that support early learning.

Present: Jane Partridge, Kim Smith, Bonnie Peterson, Holly Porter, Diane Crabtree, Sandy Nelson, Connie Dougherty, Mary Perkins, Deena Kettle, Dan Teuteberg, Emily Knudtson, Project Launch: Victor Cardenas, Jan Thoenke, Maria Vasquez, Gary Burres CCAC, DEL: Sherry Trout, Brad Klos, Katherine Bell

- 1) Opening Activity - **Introductions**
- 2) Reports & Updates –
 - a) Infant-Toddler Program – **see update on page 3 below**
 - b) Early Achievers -
 - c) Project LAUNCH: Sherry Trout (from DOH), Maria Vasquez and Gary Burres from CCAC explain project LAUNCH’S upcoming work in Thurston County – **Developmental Screening within a child care setting/toolkit and focused Work Force development, Endorsement process. Expanding into Thurston County- Invited VEL Representative to serve on Oversight Council and additional locally based work group (direct service providers within the northern part of Thurston County). VEL Coordinator Jane Partridge and Kim Smith from TECC/SSPTP will attend March Oversight Council Meeting and bring additional information back to VEL. Hoping for a summer implementation of the program. Potential of expanding trainings to regional community. See pages 4-6 below for more information.**
 - d) VEL updates
 - i) Local coalition Family Engagement/Advocacy/STEAM Mini-grants (Local Coalition Reps)
 - (1) **Thurston: Family Fun Engagement Days, 3 or 4 events with STEM focus and multiple partners**
 - (2) **Mason: Hosting one to two events, north and south, family engagement fairs. Partnering with Hands On Children’s Museum**
 - (3) **Mason Advocacy: County wide marketing campaign to follow-up on Stakeholders Event.**
 - (4) **N. Pacific: Joining existing county 4-H event**
 - (5) **Grays Harbor: Assist and support South Sound Reading Foundation to provide an event**
 - (6) **Lewis: Summer STEM camp**
 - ii) **May 3rd Advancing Racial Equity/Community Summit , 11-3, w/Standards Alignment 6:30-9 – Flyers will be put up on website**
 - iii) **Home Visiting Professional Development Series, May 17th, and Summer Summit, June 20th**
- 3) Discussion
 - a) Brought forward by the Mason County Early Learning Coalition: the lack of qualified professionals to meet the needs of children. Some examples:
 - i) **Unfilled openings in early learning centers**
 - ii) **The lack of qualified therapists to serve children e.g. SLPs**

- iii) The lack of services for children on the autism spectrum – no services in Shelton or Greys Harbor
 - iv) Needed region-wide: OT/SLP/Behavioral Therapists, filling early education vacancies within school districts, Head Start/ECEAP, child care centers
 - v) Reach out to Harborview Center, agencies that use their model or have accessed training.
 - vi) Letter to ELAC (volunteer to draft-Kim/Dan and Holly), begin the conversation, issues created by college level training programs, limited slots and require BS to get into PT program. Legislative push. Other issue of pay. Paradox of identifying more children, identify more children would require more providers, encourage ELAC to commit to a more concentrated effort to look for solutions. More kids, less funding. Providers not willing to take the reimbursement. Head Start ECEAP provides training, then loose trained staff to school districts. Programs to train child care providers to move into early learning teaching positions. Early Achievers Scholarships to get college credits, pursue AA or BA. Gary: Retain folks, address pay gap. A deficit of providers continues to have a regional impact on finding services for identified children.
- 4)
- 5) Three talking points (to take back to local coalitions)
- a) Synopsis from local coalition mini-grants
 - b) Racial Equity and Home Visiting
 - c) Sandy Nelson's Retirement on March 28, ESD 113, 3:30-5:30

VEL Board of Representatives meets on the second Thursday bi-monthly from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 12, 2016: 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

Thursday, July 14, 2016: 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

Thursday, September 08, 2016: 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

Thursday, October 13, 2016: 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

Thursday, November 10, 2016: 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM VEL Board Meeting (Definite) Chehalis B

Infant Toddler Project Update

Facilities receiving services as of March 1, 2016

Thurston County:

Tutor Time, Lacey – mental health; pediatric nurse

Small Wonders, Lacey – ITERS/CLASS; mental health; pediatric nurse

Small Wonders, Olympia – pediatric nurse

Sugar and Spice, Rainier – ITERS/CLASS; mental health

Mason County:

Squaxin Island CC – ITERS/CLASS; mental health; pediatric nurse

Shelton Valley CDC – ITERS/CLASS

Lewis County:

Happy Day Learning, Centralia – ITERS/CLASS; pediatric nurse

Grays Harbor:

Keystone Learning Center – ITERS/CLASS; mental health

Tracy's Tikes FCC – pediatric nurse

Donna Hilliard FCC – pediatric nurse

Jessica Ramstein FCC – pediatric nurse

Phasing in of the FIND model (Filming Interactions to Nurture Development) will begin in July, 2016 (coach training in June).

Project LAUNCH Expansion Grant

(Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health)

Quick Facts:

Federal Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

4 Year Award:

September 30, 2015-September 29, 2019

Key Partnership for Implementation:

Catholic Family & Child Service – Yakima

New Pilot Communities:

- Benton-Franklin Counties
- Chelan-Douglas Counties
- North Thurston County

Project LAUNCH History:

The purpose of the original Project LAUNCH grant was to promote the wellness of young children ages birth to 8. It addressed the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive aspects of their development to ensure that all children enter school ready to learn and succeed. Washington was one of the first states in the country to be awarded a Federal SAMHSA grant to support Project LAUNCH. That was a 5 year grant (September 2008-September 2013).

For that grant, the Washington State Department of Health partnered with Yakima County to maximize opportunities and build on the work of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Thrive by Five Washington, Ready by Five in east Yakima, and Kids Matter. We worked to promote child wellness by creating an enhanced system of care for children who are at risk and live in poverty. We emphasized recent immigrant and Hispanic families in the Yakima area. This project aligned with state and local groups in the development of statewide universal developmental screening for all Washington children.

For more information, contact:

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DOH 350-005 October 2015

For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 711)

Grant Purpose:

Project LAUNCH Expansion will build on the success of the original Project LAUNCH by expanding to three new communities: Benton-Franklin, Chelan-Douglas, and north Thurston County. These three communities were selected for 1) their readiness to partner with the original Project LAUNCH staff for systems improvement, 2) demographics and high risk subpopulations, and 3) a high proportion of military and veteran families. We will focus on early childhood settings that serve infants and toddlers of populations who are at high risk.

Goals:

- Increase developmental and behavioral screening for young children
- Integrate behavioral health training and services into early child care and education systems
- Improve family strengthening and local parent support opportunities
- Enhance local services to at least 100 providers and 1,500 children/families over the course of the grant

Partners:

- Behavioral Health Resources
- Catholic Community Services
- Catholic Family & Child Service (CFCS) - Yakima
- Child Care Aware
- Department of Early Learning, Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT)
- Early Childhood Comprehensive Services Grant
- Family Alliance for Mental Health
- Family Support Organizations
- Parent to Parent
- PAVE (Partnerships for Action. Voices for Empowerment)
- Thrive Washington
- University of Washington Leadership in Education for Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program
- Visions for Early Learning
- Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
- Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA)
- Washington State Association for Infant Mental Health
- WithinReach





Project LAUNCH Expansion Grants

Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health

A project of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Briefing Sheet

Project LAUNCH is a national initiative to promote the wellness of young children from birth to 8 years of age by addressing the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral aspects of their development. It is particularly focused on the social and emotional development of young children and seeks to ensure that the caregivers of young children (including families, childcare providers, home visitors, teachers, and pediatricians) have the knowledge and supports they need to promote healthy development, identify early signs of emotional and behavioral challenges, and access treatment when appropriate.

Project LAUNCH began in 2008 and has funded a total of 55 sites, including states, tribes, territories, communities, and the District of Columbia. Lessons learned from the first 6 years of the initiative suggest that while grantees can bring about positive systems changes and improve child outcomes in a pilot community, additional time is needed to replicate and spread those practices to additional areas of the state. To bolster dissemination of successful LAUNCH strategies, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded five Project LAUNCH Expansion Grants in 2015 to build on previous LAUNCH efforts and expand statewide best practices in early childhood wellness promotion and prevention of mental, emotional and behavioral disorders. Each of the 5 state grantees will work with at least 3 new communities, increasing the total number of LAUNCH sites to 70.

Expansion grantees select three (or more) elements of the state's original Project LAUNCH grant to be implemented in the expansion communities; the selected elements must include systems improvements at the state and local levels and at least two of the Project LAUNCH "Core Strategies" (see sidebar). Over 4 years, each Expansion grantee state and pilot site from the original LAUNCH grant will partner together to develop tools and resources and provide training and technical assistance to assist expansion sites with implementation. The ultimate goal of the Expansion Grant is for lessons learned from replication to ultimately lead to statewide adoption of evidence-based programs for children and families, improved collaboration among child-serving organizations, and integration of physical and behavioral health services and supports.

A cornerstone of Project LAUNCH is the federal-level partnership between SAMHSA, the Administration for Children and Families, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Project LAUNCH Expansion Grantees



Project LAUNCH's Five Prevention and Promotion "Core Strategies"

- ▶ Screening and assessment in a range of child-serving settings
- ▶ Integration of behavioral health into primary care
- ▶ Mental health consultation in early care and education settings
- ▶ Enhanced home visiting with a focus on social and emotional well-being
- ▶ Family strengthening and parent skills training

Project LAUNCH's Objectives

- ▶ Increase access to screening, assessment, and referral to appropriate services for young children and families
- ▶ Expand use of culturally relevant, evidence-based prevention and wellness promotion practices in a range of child-serving settings
- ▶ Increase integration of preventive behavioral health in primary care settings
- ▶ Improve coordination and collaboration across disciplines at the local, state, territorial, tribal, and federal levels
- ▶ Increase workforce knowledge of children's social and emotional development and skills to respond to behavioral health challenges of young children and families

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Visit Project LAUNCH on the Web:
<http://www.healthysafechildren.org/>

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Project LAUNCH Expansion Oversight Council

Purpose

To collaborate, raise awareness, and share the knowledge of Early Intervention opportunities and services through local communities, agencies and organizations. In addition to, expand existing systems improvement to enhance the workforce and increase access to services and resources for children and families. Expansion sites will work to support best practices in professional development in childcare to increase social emotional development in young children and strengthen family support through local opportunities.

Partners (State and Local)

State Expansion Oversight Council	Local Expansion Workgroup
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Health and (public and private sector) Local Project LAUNCH Leads Mental health/behavioral health (Wa-AIMH, Department of Early Learning-Child care licensing Department of Social & Health Services-Child welfare Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Early childhood education (e.g., Head Start, Part C Early Intervention, Elementary Education, Early Learning Council) Family Engagement-Parent to Parent/PAG Health Care Authority/Medicaid Early Learning Action Council-ELAC Representative Division of Behavioral Health-Substance abuse prevention THRIVE-Regional Early Learning Coalition Representative (1 each Expansion Site) Local Expansion Workgroup Representative (1 each Expansion Site) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAUNCH Trainer and Technical Support Lead Regional Early Learning Coalition Lead Early Intervention Services Early childhood education Early Achievers Coach Infant Toddler Coach Parent Engagement Specialist Health (Public and private sector) Mental health/behavioral health Dept. Of Social & Health Service (Child welfare) Local Expansion Oversight Council Representative

Expectations (State and Local)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Develop a shared vision-All children have access? -Help promote Project LAUNCH at the state level -Help guide activities of the grant -Provide connections to enhance the ease of service delivery for families -Improve family Strengthening -Strengthen systems for workforce development -Support joint policy initiatives for sustained and efficient service delivery with parent involvement -Develop solid strategies and policies across organizations to align and support healthy child development -Align and develop policy changes to decrease inequities in access, service use, and outcomes among racial and ethnic minority and military populations served 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a shared vision-All children have access? -Help promote LAUNCH Expansion Project work locally -Develop membership and responsibilities -Regularly assess progress in reducing disparities and disproportionalities outlined in the disparities impact statement -Represent expansion community on the Expansion Oversight Council -Establish mechanisms to foster collaboration between the state and local expansion community -Identify 1 EOC representative -Improve local parent support opportunities
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