

## **SUN Service System Coordinating Council Meeting**

May 16, 2008  
8:30-10:30 a.m.

### **MEETING NOTES**

#### **Attendance**

---

**Members Present:** Lolenzo Poe (Chair), Joanne Fuller, Jerry Burns, Barbara Kienle, Willie Poinsette, Bill Scott, Lee Po Cha (alt), Susan Stoltenberg (alt)

Alt = alternate member

**Also Attending:** Nichole Maher, Peggy Samolinski, Diana Hall, Lori Kenney

#### **RFP Update**

---

Peggy reported that notification letters regarding the SUN RFP were sent out yesterday. The Department of County Human Services determined that it is not in the County's best interest to award the Regional Service Center contracts at this time. This decision was made to address issues and risks associated with having a single provider have a large portion of contracts for a single service delivery system. The Department will re-procure these in the coming months. Target Outreach Population (TOP) and Countywide Service contracts will be awarded, effective 7/1/2008. The contracts for current regional providers will be extended for six months. Beginning July 1, the new SUN program model and allocations will be implemented. A contract negotiation summit is scheduled for Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to review budgets, program instructions and to determine siting of services, based on population concentrations of those needing the services.

#### **Values Update**

---

Diana distributed the latest version of the Values and said they will be inserted into the Charter.

#### **David Douglas Contribution to SUN**

---

Barbara Kienle reported that the David Douglas superintendent has committed \$500,000 to after school programs. In addition, a parental advisory council independently agreed that the structure of any new schools in David Douglas should be that of SUN Community Schools.

#### **DHS Partnership**

---

Chair Poe introduced Jerry Burns, underscoring the importance of his work as another example of an alignment effort taking place between Council members. Jerry reported on the partnership and alignment efforts underway with DCHS. Over a year ago, DHS began looking at the way services were organized for people receiving food stamps. They found that although their charge includes providing case management services to remove barriers to self-sufficiency, staff tended to focus more on checking for eligibility for food stamps.

In January, DHS designated a .5 FTE position to work with the SUN Service System and DHS offices to look at current awareness and alignment and potential connections. One aspect of the work is to build greater understanding about SUN amongst DHS personnel and enhance SUN staff understanding of access to DHS services. Their intention is to have DHS staff focus more on monitoring, cash payments and services to facilitate removing barriers for clients to achieve self-sufficiency. Recognizing the connection between child welfare issues and self-sufficiency, DHS will be developing means to assess kids' success in school, an indicator of their future self-sufficiency, and will then work collaboratively with SUN to provide support to families and youth to ensure their success. Their goal is to identify specific people to be liaisons with the schools. Both DHS and SUN will be looking at the crossover with foster care kids and kids at risk in the school system, which are high priority populations for both institutions. They will also be looking at more effective ways for caseworkers and SUN staff to connect and work jointly with clients. A pilot of this joint approach is being planned through the East DHS office.

## **National Community Schools Forum Recap**

---

Lorenzo offered praise and thanks to Peggy and staff for all they did to make the Forum such a great event. The Mayor attended and as a result of his positive impression of the Forum, asked his lobbyists to encourage senators to renew the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grants.

Peggy reported that 900 of the 1,000+ registrants attended, some from as far away as Czechoslovakia, the UK and South Africa. A great deal of national and international experience was shared at the Forum. A feedback meeting held after the Forum revealed that folks felt energized from the connections made. The National Coalition was positive about smooth logistics.

The Leaders Symposium allowed leaders to tell their story and illustrated the strength of the partnerships. Participants at the plenary included 50 people including State Commission on Children and Families members, Superintendents, School board members, non-profit executives and more. The governor is looking to form a blue ribbon Community Schools committee.

The University of Pennsylvania offered to host a conversation with local higher education and SUN about system level connections. After the inspiring meeting with PSU, Lewis & Clark and Concordia, the partners agreed that there was great interest in partnering more intentionally together. Folks asked if Chair Wheeler and the Mayor would host another discussion soon to continue the conversation. SUN Staff are working with higher education folks to plan this meeting.

Council members offered additional input about the Forum:

- All East County superintendents participated, plus some board members
- Participants enjoyed the contrast of hearing about other jurisdictions
- Many cities are struggling with the same issues as we are
- Chair Wheeler was very engaged and enthusiastic
- Lots of interest in school/business partnerships
- Impressed at the levels of knowledge and interest
- Hearing about how the UK has made all schools into community schools was very exciting
- The person coming all the way from Nepal was very gutsy
- Warren Simmons from Annenberg Institute nuggets:
  - Models alone aren't effective – must have the system to sustain efforts
  - Critical dimensions of scale within a system:
    - Capacity to deepen
    - Capacity to sustain
    - Capacity to build ownership

The discussion reminded Joanne of a recent trip to the UK, Amsterdam and Dublin. These countries took a different tack on data collection, tracking kids' success in the world and economy to come and focusing on fostering creativity and innovation, rather than developing factory workers. Their community schools effort targets the entire student population – what are we doing to create the future economy and preparing kids to function in the real world? Council members asked to return to this issue, to discuss more how we can shift the system to focus more on building strength, rather than removing poverty.

## **Sponsor's Meeting**

---

Lorenzo opened a discussion about the next Sponsors' meeting by emphasizing Chair Wheeler's interest in working toward a substantive system change and or a break-through resource change. The Sponsors are looking for results and want to know whether we are making a difference. What could we be doing differently to bring about significant positive change? Lorenzo said Chair Wheeler sees the Council's role as one of moving the critical issues in the system. He wants members to identify the critical questions:

- How do we integrate the system?
- What does mutual ownership of the system look like?

Discussion about topics for Sponsor discussion and/or decision included the following:

- Focus on concrete, substantive changes
- Decisions about contributions and commitments
- What would it take to make every school a SUN Community School? We need to articulate a bold vision to invest in this as a community and then deal with the realities of cost and structure.
- Revisit what the districts contribute. Each school is unique and caters to the culture of their area.
- Are all those who need to be at the table here? We would need many more business partners to make all schools SUN Community Schools.
- How does the SUN Service System align with each district's priorities?
- Issues out of RFP – wish vs. current
- The superintendents in this county have unusually close relationships. Build on these to identify the common initiatives the SUN Service System can support.
- What do each of us bring and what do we need collectively?
- What differences can be made with current resources?

### *Next Steps:*

- Members expressed interest in returning to the discussion of how to move toward our vision of all schools being community schools at a future meeting.
- Hold the Sponsor's meeting in September on a date that works for superintendents.
- Work with superintendents over the summer to clarify common initiatives SUN could support.
- Issue a Council Update to keep folks aware of progress being made and ask Sponsors for questions they would like to discuss.

## **Vision**

---

Diana recapped our visioning work to date and asked the group to think about the commitments required of the Council and of Sponsors to drive toward each part of that vision. Interest was expressed in making certain we recognize and represent growing partnerships. The group acknowledged that our vision represents an immense culture shift. In that light, our work will include helping shift the thinking of service providers and sponsors. The table below illustrates needed commitments to drive toward our vision:

Commitments/Drivers	Joint Ownership Vision Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cross district efforts and services</li> <li>➤ Better sharing/adapting to/of SUN model</li> <li>➤ Prioritization and identification of services not currently available/accessible through SUN</li> <li>➤ Support and align services with SUN</li> <li>➤ Drive to address service gaps along with associated resource development</li> <li>➤ Maximize services we have; reduce duplication</li> </ul>	<b>Universal Access</b> <b>“No Wrong Door”</b> <b>Comprehensive, Accessible Services</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Buy in of all leaders on whether the system is meeting our joint priorities</li> <li>➤ Aligning priorities and being transparent about each organization’s unique orientation and perspective</li> <li>➤ Joint applications to beef up infrastructure and participation</li> <li>➤ Shared budget process to reflect shared priorities and core work</li> <li>➤ Investment of time and resources it will take to develop mutual understanding and agreement</li> </ul>	<b>Shared Financial Decision-Making &amp; Commitments</b> <b>“SUN Money”</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Influence and support funding decisions</li> <li>➤ Champion SUN</li> <li>➤ In-depth conversation; commitment to collective vision and priorities</li> </ul>	<b>Mutual Influence</b> <b>Open Communication</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Communication across data systems for service and evaluation (identify duplicative efforts)</li> <li>➤ Investment in data resources (both people and \$\$)</li> <li>➤ Willingness to think differently</li> </ul>	<b>Sharing Information, Data, Outcomes</b>
	<b>Recognition</b> <b>Use</b>
	<b>Growing Partnership</b>

### Communication/Take Aways

- Staff will draft an Update and cover letter for Council input
- **Upcoming meetings: June 6, June 20**
- Agenda items for 6/06 meeting:
  - Work plan (including what we want to accomplish over the summer)
  - Discussion about summer meeting schedule for Council and work groups

### Next Meeting

**Friday, June 6, 2008**  
**8:30-10:30 a.m.**  
**Multnomah Building, Room 112**  
**501 SE Hawthorne**