

SUN™ Service System Coordinating Council Meeting

December 5, 2014

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

MEETING NOTES

Attendance

Members Present: Bill Scott (Co-Chair), Eileen Argentina, Lee Po Cha, Gerald Deloney, Rene Duboise, James Hiu, Rick Nitti, Lisa Pellegrino, Aaron Ridings, Pat Ryan, Nate Wass Shull, Liesl Wendt

Also Attending: Amy Corbett, Diana Hall, Kendra Johnson, Gina Kim-Fulston, Lisa Kulkarni, Peggy Norman, Walter Robinson II, Peggy Samolinski, Rachel Spigal, Susan Stoltenberg, Judy Strand, Jill Weir

Introductions/Announcements

Peggy Samolinski opened the meeting; Bill Scott is delayed today. She extended a special welcome to Liesl Wendt, the new director of County Human Services. Liesl expressed optimism about the progress being made in initiatives she worked on, like co-location of State DHS caseworkers in schools. She added that she is hopeful for future funding opportunities.

Budget Update

Council members shared these budget updates:

- Gresham-Barlow School District completed negotiations with its teachers
- The Governor's budget is disappointing for school districts: His \$7.3 billion dollar budget has substantial carve outs that effectively reduce base funding for school districts
- The Governor's budget has some good things for human services including housing supports
- Multnomah County's budget forecast just came out. There appears to be some room for growth this year and some one-time only funding
- The City of Portland predicts a "hold steady" year for its budget

SUN System Review and RFP

Proposed Regions

Today's discussion and decision-making is focused on the realignment of regions. Peggy referred to the map of a proposed new regional organization. The map was handed out and also displayed on a Power Point slide (see presentation embedded below).



SUN 120514
Meeting Presentation

Peggy reminded members of the Allocation Workgroup's work on regional realignment; this recommendation was presented at the June 2014 Council meeting. The impetus for the realignment to five regions is to create regions with a similar percentage of the target population for efficient administration of SUN services. Population percentage was calculated using Free or Reduced Lunch numbers from Oregon Department of Education and race/ethnicity.

Discussion:

- The proposal breaks down current infrastructure creating two regions for Portland Public Schools
- Roosevelt High School will not get the attention it needs in the new regional configuration
- The Allocation workgroup considered future population projections in this proposal
- SUN staff will examine the most recent population statistics before issuing the RFP, and make any needed adjustments to the regional percentages
- Periodic reexaminations of the demographics will be built into the RFP; adjustments will be made, if needed, during the course of the 7-year grant period

Bill Scott called for a vote on this recommended regional realignment. One member opposed the change; all others concurred. Members voiced the importance of carefully planning the transition to minimize disruption, and maintain existing relationships.

Proposed Changes in Allocation Factors for Regional SUN Programs

Peggy referred to a handout (embedded below) outlining the four SUN service areas and the factors used to allocate funding regionally to each. The only proposed change is in the Anti-Poverty/Stability Services area. The current allocation factor is the percentage of households in poverty with related children from Census data. The proposed allocation factor is the percentage of students who qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch and who are non-White. The change is designed to measure the need for services more effectively by including race/ethnicity. Census data does not have robust race/ethnic data and it counts a family as one regardless of size. The new direct certification in the Free or Reduced Lunch program may have an effect on getting qualifying percentage figures.



Proposed Changes to
SUN Allocation Factor

Sponsor Meeting Preparation

Bill reminded members about the SUN Sponsors meeting on December 16. Staff will be present ideas on how to move forward on the short term actions Sponsors identified at their November meeting. Diana Hall displayed a list of the short term action steps staff that Sponsors were presented with at the November meeting. Sponsors were asked which, if any, of the actions their organization wants to move forward on. Four areas were named by several Sponsors: differentiated core funding, attendance supports, culturally specific youth case management, and new Sun CS sites. There was also interest in addressing principal leadership development and support. SUN will align with housing and mental health efforts underway.

Diana asked members to review a draft document outlining how to move forward on differentiated funding, attendance supports and culturally specific youth case management (embedded below).



SUN Depth Budget
Thinking for CC

These discussion points followed:

Differentiated Core Funding

- Sponsors want to shore up core staff capacity, especially at larger schools
- A cost of living increase should be called out separately
- This will help nonprofits hire and retain high quality staff
- Members applauded the idea of building the new differentiated core funding on top of the current base
- All Sponsors who fund SUN would need to agree on this and make a contribution

Attendance Supports

- Current messaging on attendance misses the larger issues of struggling families
- Schools need a team of people with resources to support struggling families
- Specify the desired outcomes of this initiative for the Sponsors meeting
- We need a culture change in school buildings
- Qualitative values and relationships are the key here; outcomes follow
- A workteam is being assembled in conjunction with the Communities Supporting Youth Collaborative to develop this area

Culturally Specific Youth Case Management/Advocacy

- SUN has some youth advocacy now but not enough to meet the need
- Staff needs to flush out this area more
- What are the outcomes we are seeking here?
- One outcome is reducing disproportionate discipline; schools need to integrate youth advocates
- This is more about engaging and supporting kids' identities than traditional case management

Members were encouraged to send additional thoughts to Diana. Staff will refine this document in preparation for the Sponsors meeting.

Next Schools on Equity Index

Diana displayed a list of schools at the top of the SUN Equity Index that do not yet have SUN (The list is part of the Power Point Presentation embedded on page 1). Gresham-Barlow School District has expressed interest in adding North Gresham ES. Parkrose wants to add Sacramento.