

SOUTHERN OREGON SUCCESS UPDATE

May, 2021

- First Preschool/K12 Alignment Summit Held in April
- Southern Oregon Family Advisory Council Starts Work
- The Bus Project Brings Students and Businesses Together to Help the Homeless
- UpTogether (formerly the Family Independence Initiative) Recruiting Families for Pilot Project in Jackson and Josephine Counties
- Pathways Into the Behavioral Health Workforce Effort Underway
- Virtual Facilitator Training Offered by the Family Connection
- Open ACEs Training Scheduled for May 18
- Join Us on Facebook

FIRST PRESCHOOL/K12 SUMMIT HELD IN APRIL

Southern Oregon Success teamed up with our early learning hub, Southern Oregon Early Learning Services (SOELS), last month to hold the first of two Preschool/K12 Alignment Summits for this year.

84 people took part—parents, early childhood educators, Kindergarten teachers and elementary school principals—in either the evening session held on Thursday, April 15, or the afternoon session held on Saturday, April 17.

The online sessions included time to connect with other participants, a review of responses to the Summit planning survey completed in January, an overview of the [Early Learning and Kindergarten Guidelines](#) developed by the Oregon Department of Education, and a proposal for a common student information form to be used by preschools, daycares and families in our region to help let Kindergarten teachers know more about the children coming into their classrooms.

Participants in the Summit expressed a strong consensus on the need to focus on social and emotional learning for children to be ready for Kindergarten.

From the discussions at the Summit, three new work groups were formed: one to focus on the proposed student information document, one to work on synthesizing the information in the Early Learning and Kindergarten Guidelines in a parent-friendly format, and one to plan a longer, full day Summit in August.

SOELS generously provided each participant with a \$100 Gift Card to Scholastic Books, and is making the same incentive available for participants in the August Summit.

For more information, or to be on the email list for the work groups or the August Summit, please email peter_buckley@southernoregonsuccess.org.

SOUTHERN OREGON FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL STARTS WORK

The Southern Oregon Family Advisory Council held its first meeting on the evening of May 4, with 18 members in attendance. The Council is made up of parents and caregivers from all walks of life. Some have experienced addiction and recovery and are committed to helping others experiencing the same challenges. Some work with agencies serving children and families and are parents themselves. Some have come to this country as immigrants and have built their lives here. It is a group with a good deal of lived experience and a great passion to help others.

The Council spent its first meeting with members telling the stories of their own families and what drives them to serve. Time was also given to providing an overview of how the Council fits into the overall work of the Southern Oregon Success Innovation Network and our goal of that by 2025, all parents and caregivers in Jackson and Josephine Counties will have the knowledge, skills, connections and support needed for all of their children to enter Kindergarten ready to thrive.

The goal for the Family Advisory Council itself is to increase family voice in education, health care, human services, public safety, our business community and state and local government.

THE BUS PROJECT BRINGS STUDENTS AND INDUSTRY TOGETHER TO HELP THE HOMELESS



THE BUS PROJECT

A pilot program to spark student interest in CTE/STEM & workforce pathways



OBJECTIVE: Ignite student interest in the construction trades, health care, advanced manufacturing, transportation, and high tech careers by providing hands-on opportunities to build awareness, encourage exploration, and engage through real-world experiences that dovetail with regional pathways in high-wage, high-demand fields.

WHO: SOESD's STEAM Hub, Talent Maker City, the Skoolie Home Foundation, Justin Eagar (South Medford High school Construction Teacher) and other partners seek to bring these opportunities to the Rogue Valley by uniting business and education interests to advance CTE/STEM opportunities for rural students, families living on low-incomes, students of color, and girls by addressing Southern Oregon's dire need for temporary and transitional housing in the wake of the 2020 wildfires that ripped through our most vulnerable communities.

WHAT: Retired school buses no longer being used for transportation are being transformed into homes and mobile medical facilities.

HOW: Engage all grade levels and districts through **Career Connected Learning**

- **Career Awareness:** Converting the school buses to housing will require experts from multiple industry sectors: carpentry, plumbing, electrical and welding will all be introduced by industry professionals; exposing students to different career pathways in construction
- **Career Exploration:** through Project Based Learning, students will have an opportunity to work directly on the bus or remotely helping to construct something that will make the bus a home
- **Career Preparation:** students will practice skills directly aligned to industry through in class offerings, after school programming and out of school Construction Internship Programming
- **Career Training:** Construction Internship Programming will directly prepare students for careers in the Construction trades



Curriculum is being developed for easy replication for continued project and designed to impart employability skills while supporting construction skills acquisition

Virtual sharing of each stage of the build through Oregon Connections NEPRIS platform allowing access for all students to engage remotely

Donations - Cash, volunteer your expertise, in-kind donations of materials, space, tools and equipment. Potential matching funds exist.

[Partner With Us](#)

UPTOGETHER (FORMERLY THE FAMILY INDEPENDENCE INITIATIVE) RECRUITING FAMILIES IN JACKSON AND JOSEPHINE COUNTIES

A partnership including Rogue Community Health, UCAN, the Health Care Coalition of Southern Oregon (HCCSO), the Family Nurturing Center, Southern Oregon University and the Southern Oregon Success Early Childhood Services Work Group is launching a pilot project in our region with [UpTogether](#), a proven program to help families set goals, organize into teams and help each other succeed.

The pilot will include 20 families in each county. Each family is invited to use the [UpTogether](#) online platform to help develop goals for themselves and then are invited to join teams of up to 8 families to share resources and strategies. Each family in the program receives \$750 to \$800 a year to use as they see best in order to reach their goals. The program has a multi-year track record of helping families make significant progress.

Priorities for the pilot project include families with income up to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level, families with children under the age of 2, families who were impacted by the Almeda fire and bilingual or monolingual Spanish-speaking families. We are also looking for families who are already participating in peer-support groups.

Recruitment will take place over the next several weeks with the official launch of the pilot to take place in July.

Southern Oregon University will be tracking data from the pilot with the goal of determining positive impacts for families. If the data is persuasive, it is our long-term goal to expand the UpTogether program to many more families in our region.

For more information, or to recommend families you know, please email peter_buckley@southernoregonsuccess.org

PATHWAYS INTO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE EFFORT UNDERWAY

Southern Oregon Success is working with SOU, Rogue Workforce Partnership, SOESD and a number of other community partners to develop a variety of pathways for people to enter into the Behavioral Health field.

The need for Behavioral Health services is very high in our schools and communities. For K12 school districts, pathways are being developed for classified staff, teachers and administrators who have good people skills and are interested in “skilling up” in effective Behavioral Health practices to help the students they work with.

For the community as a whole, the vision is to create pathways for people to move from being participants in a peer support group to go on to train as facilitators for groups and perhaps continue on to eventually become mental health counselors.

SOESD, Options for Southern Oregon, Jackson County Mental Health and other agencies that provide training in areas related to Behavioral Health (such as trauma-informed practices, suicide prevention, etc.) are coordinating their efforts with the work being done by SOU to develop a micro-credential program in Behavioral Health.

Rogue Workforce Partnership, which has developed a number of pathways into various career fields at their roguerecareers.org website, is working with the group to add the information on Behavioral Health pathways to the site.

Watch this space for more information in the months ahead.

VIRTUAL FACILITATOR TRAINING OFFERED BY THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Scholarships available for people interested in becoming facilitators for these great parent education programs:

Here are the details (click the link for more info about the program):

- ◆ [Active Parenting: First Five Years](#) (ages 0-5) – July 14 & 15, 2021 (9:00am - 1:30pm PST each day via ZOOM)
 - taught in 4 sessions to families

- ◆ [Active Parenting, 4th Ed](#) (ages 4-12) – July 21 & 22, 2021 (9:00am - 1:30pm PST each day via ZOOM)
 - taught in 6 sessions to families

- ◆ [Active Parenting of Teens: Families in Action](#) (ages 12-18) – July 28 & 29, 2021 (9:00am - 1:30pm PST each day via ZOOM)
 - taught in 6 sessions to families

For more info, email: bgrace@socfc.org

OPEN ACES TRAINING COMING UP ON MAY 18

An open ACEs (the Adverse Childhood Experiences study) training session for new staff and anyone else interested will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, May 18, from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. To register for the session, [please go to this link](#).

The training covers the NEAR curriculum (Neurobiology, Epigenetics, ACEs and Resilience), developed by national leaders in trauma and resilience at ACE Interface. It is a straightforward presentation on the impacts of adversity as we're growing up, the health and social outcomes resulting from adversity, and the tools of resilience to revitalize lives.

Our Southern Oregon ACEs Training Team is doing ongoing training sessions for Providence employees and for residents in the Women's and Men's programs at the Addiction Recovery Center, as well as for staff and volunteers at Rogue Retreat.

There is no cost to host a training or workshop or attend an open training or workshop, thanks to funding by our local school districts, SOESD, AllCare, Jackson Care Connect, Options for Southern Oregon, SOELS and Rogue Workforce Partnership.

For more information, or to schedule a training session or workshop for your school, organization or community group, email peter_buckley@southernoregonsuccess.org

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

The Facebook page for Southern Oregon Success features almost daily postings of events taking place in our region and information shared from all over as part of our learning community efforts on what works and what doesn't in helping kids and families thrive.

If you do Facebook, check us out and Like us at [Southern Oregon Success](#).

If you do not wish to receive future Updates from Southern Oregon Success, please email peter_buckley@southernoregonsuccess.org with the subject line of "Unsubscribe"

MAY 2021