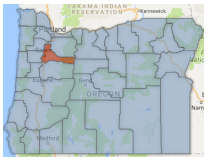
Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub, Inc.

2018-2019

Serving Marion County

Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative Report



Mission: Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub, Inc. is the regional coordinating body that identifies resources focused on children ages 0-6 and their families and helps align resources toward high impact and shared goals of the community. MPELH is focused on the overarching outcome of increasing school readiness for children, especially at risk children, while supporting stable and attached families and ensuring a coordinated, efficient learning system.

Vision: Our vision, with our partner organizations, is a strong system of parent education and supports so that parents, as a child's first teacher, are effective and children are safe and school ready.

Margie Lowe, mlowe@earlylearninghub.org, 503.559.9610
Veronica Mendoza-Ochoa, vochoa@earlylearninghub.org, 503.967.1183
Lisa Harnisch, lharnisch@earlylearninghub.org, 503.967.1183

Early Learning Hub, Inc.
2995 Ryan Drive SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301

PROGRAMMING OVERVIEW

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	2018-2019 TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL*
OPEC Funded Parenting Education Series	Parenting Series Completed	17	83
	Parenting Classes	190	929
	Parents Attended At Least One Class	174	*
	Parents Attended—Average	138	787
	Parents Attended 70% or More	131	660
	Children/Youth Attended	240	1,123
	Contact Opportunities (parents & youth)	4,148	20,699
Other Parenting Education Series	Parenting Series Completed	15	56
	Parenting Classes	150	453
	Parents Attended At Least One Class	173	*
	Parents Attended—Average	125	653
	Parents Attended 70% or More	124	606
	Children/Youth Attended	233	779
	Contact Opportunities (parents & youth)	3,455	10,453
Parent Workshops	Number of Sessions	66	187
	Parents Attended	1,215	3,889
	Children/Youth Attended	1,037	3,809
Parent Support Activities	Number of Sessions	30	308
	Parents Attended	91	3,242
	Children/Youth Attended	217	3,426
Home Visits	Number of Home Visits	28	112
	Total New Families	28	78
	Total New Children	28	97
Family Activities	Number of Activities	23	92
	People Attended	6,326	23,679

*Cumulative totals from 2014-2019; *Parents Attended At Least One Class* was a new field in 2015-2016, therefore cumulative results not available.

OREGON PARENTING EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

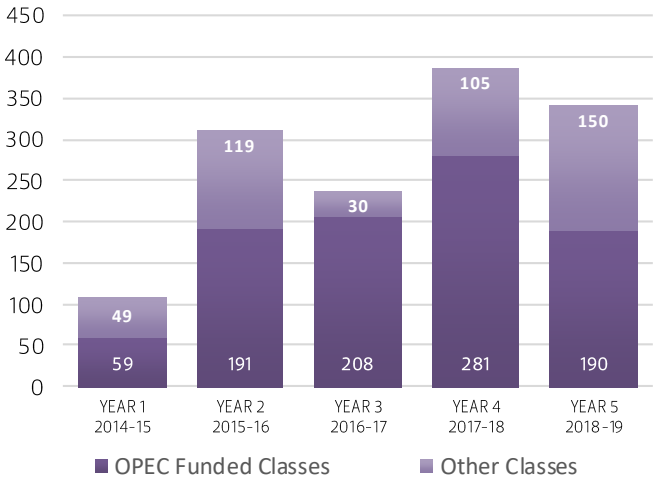
THE COLLINS FOUNDATION
THE FORD FAMILY FOUNDATION
MEYER MEMORIAL TRUST
THE OREGON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

This grantee had an OPEC Hub grant in 2018-2019.

SERIES & FAMILY PROGRAMS

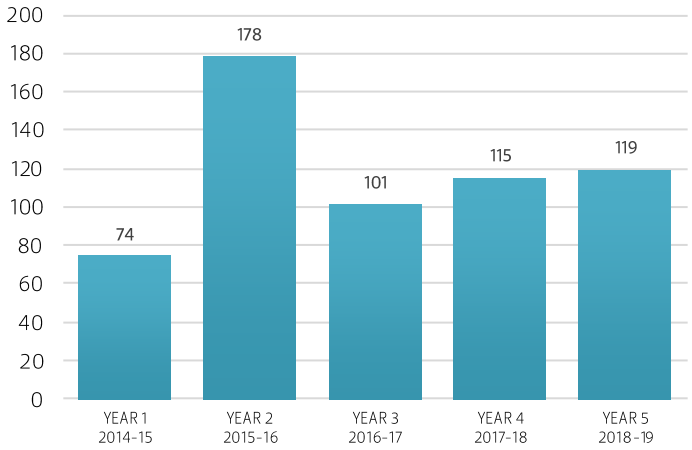
PARENTING EDUCATION SERIES

[NUMBER OF CLASSES]



FAMILY PROGRAMS

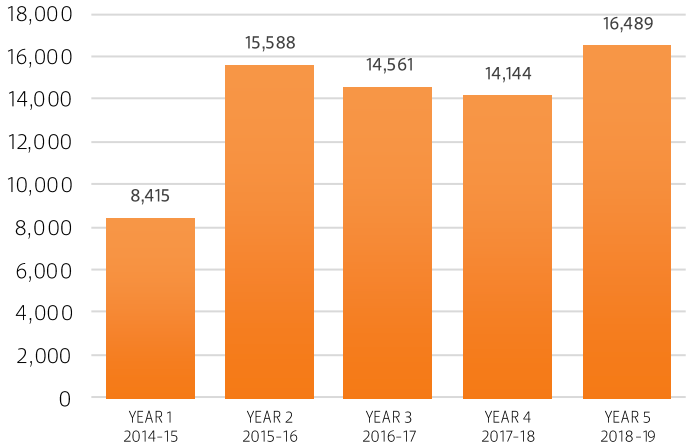
[WORKSHOPS, PARENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES, AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES]



TOTAL CONTACTS

Total Contacts includes parents and youth contacted during all parenting education series, parents and youth who attended workshops, parents and youth who attended parent support activities, and people who attended family activities.

TOTAL CONTACTS



ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY OVERVIEW

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	2018-2019 TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL*
Facilitators Trained in Curricula	OPEC Facilitators Trained	28	101
	Other Facilitators Trained	33	146
Funds Leveraged	Funds Leveraged	$48,100	$5,437,189
	In-Kind Leveraged	$15,434	$183,216
	Total Leveraged	$63,534	$5,620,405
Advisory Meetings	Number of Meetings	24	126
Professional Development	Professional Development Sessions for Facilitators	5	26
	Professional Development Sessions for OPEC Staff	29	137
Programs with Schools	Programs Held in School Facilities	344	1,089
	Additional Programs in Collaboration with Schools	29	42

*Cumulative totals from 2014-2019.

DEMOGRAPHICS

[OF FAMILIES COMPLETING EVALUATIONS FOR PARENTING SERIES AND WORKSHOPS]

531 parents

1,153 children

GENDER	
69%	Women
24%	Men
7%	Did not specify

RACE/ETHNICITY	
41%	White/Caucasian
50%	Hispanic/Latino
<1%	Black/African American
2%	Asian/Pacific Islander
2%	Native American
5%	Other/Did not specify

CHILDREN	
0-18	Age range
7	Average age
57%	Age 0-6 years
2	Children per family

COUNTY	
100%	Marion County

PARENT AGE	
16-72	Age range
35	Average age

PARENTING STYLE	
71%	With partner
18%	By themselves
11%	Did not specify

LOW INCOME STATUS	
58%	Use at least one resource for low income families (WIC, OHP, SNAP/TANF, Free/Reduced Lunch)

PARENT & CHILD SKILLS

PARENTING SKILLS

	BEFORE PARTICIPATION	AFTER PARTICIPATION
Know normal behavior for my child(ren)'s age level	3.3	5.1***
Show my child(ren) love and affection frequently	4.4	5.5***
Listen to my child(ren) to understand their feelings	3.7	5.2***
Help my child(ren) feel good about themselves	4.0	5.4***
Set and stick to reasonable limits and rules	3.6	5.2***
Know fun activities to help my child(ren) learn	4.0	5.5***
Find positive ways to guide and discipline my child(ren)	3.8	5.3***
Play with my child(ren) frequently	3.7	5.1***
Protect my child(ren) from unsafe conditions	4.9	5.7***
Talk with other parents to share experiences	3.6	5.0***
Deal with the day-to-day stresses of parenting	3.5	5.1***
Understand my goals and values as a parent	3.9	5.4***

*The retrospective t-test design revealed **significant improvement in parenting skills on starred items.***

CHILD SKILLS

	BEFORE PARTICIPATION	AFTER PARTICIPATION
Shows concern for others	3.7	5.1***
Willing to follow limits and rules	3.2	4.7***
Gets along with others	4.1	5.2***

*The retrospective t-test design revealed **significant improvement in child skills on starred items.***

Note: Dependent t-tests were used to calculate significance levels. ***Significant results indicate child skills improved after the parenting education series, $p < 0.05$. $N = 216$.

PARENT SATISFACTION

PARENTING EDUCATION SERIES

97% of parents reported that the class series was somewhat or very helpful

100% of parents reported they would recommend the class series to others

PARENTING WORKSHOPS

97% of parents reported that the workshop was somewhat or very helpful

98% of parents reported that they would use the information from the workshop

QUOTES

[FROM PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS]

"I am becoming a better version of myself."

"My kids behave more because I learned to be more patient and I understand them better."

"I am more patient and have better limits for my kids."

"We have spent more time with our daughter and we can tell she enjoys it. She has told us she is very proud of us."

"I understand my child more and am less stressed."

STRENGTHS

Offered professional development and curriculum trainings for parenting educators

Increased leadership opportunities for parents (e.g., Spanish-speaking parent as a co-facilitator and spoke at legislative hearing)

Continued to use Basecamp as a platform for communication with parenting educators

Successful *Ready for Kindergarten* series hosted by the Salem Public Library and the YMCA in English and Spanish

Partnership between Woodburn School District, Parks Department, and the Public Library to offer parenting education in a park during the day

CHALLENGES

Concerns related to trained facilitators not meeting obligations to facilitate classes

Drop in Parent Advisory Committee members' attendance on account of over-scheduling

Requests for classes highest in winter months, which can stretch resources

Strong economy and variable schedule needed for parenting education classes pose a challenge for maintaining a pool of parenting educators

LESSONS LEARNED

Sustainability—To meet increasing requests and changing resources, Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub (MPELH) has: (1) actively braided and blended funds from a transformation grant from Willamette Valley Community Health (the local coordinated care organization) for children's behavior health, Preschool Promise, and Kindergarten Partnership Innovation grants; and (2) embraced partnerships with Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality, Morningside United Methodist Church, Salem Clinic Medical Foundation, Children's Health Associates of Salem, the City of Woodburn Parks Department and Public Library, school-readiness programs offered through Migrant Education, and the Gilbert House Children's Museum to offer parent education classes across our communities. The contributions of these partnerships were close to $50,000 in expanded program offerings. We also were active supporters for parent education programs throughout the 2019 legislative session with the focus of support for parent education across the state.

continued on next page

The narrative sections of this report, including Lessons Learned and Plans for 2019-2020, were written by OPEC Hub staff. Although these sections were edited for clarity by OSU staff, the narratives remain in the voice of the Hub staff.

LESSONS LEARNED
[CONTINUED]

Capacity—The strong economy and the variable scheduling needed for parent education classes continues to pose a challenge for maintaining a strong qualified pool of parent education facilitators to meet the needs of our community. We have had two bilingual/bicultural facilitators that offered numerous classes move out of our service area to take full-time employment or to enroll in graduate school. Both facilitators were freelance providers, but working as such on an interim basis while seeking other opportunities—which they found! Their loss leaves a challenging gap in MPELH's capacity. Requests for classes are highest in the winter months, particularly in our public schools where classes are often offered in both English and Spanish with shared child care and dinner. Our education partners will need to schedule their winter classes (and facilitators) quickly, or be unable to host a parenting series due to the lack of local facilitator resource.

MPELH offered three local training opportunities for our facilitators this year; one on Popular Education, a refresher course on both *Abriendo Puertas* and *Make Parenting A Pleasure*, and Infant-Toddler training for the *Incredible Years* curriculum. We also support the OSU Parent Educators Conference registration fees for any facilitator that has led a course in the past 12 months. Basecamp is used as a communications platform to connect facilitators to host sites seeking a qualified facilitator and to share information regarding upcoming training.

Parent Education Offerings and Fidelity Checks—During the past 12 months, through our many partners, 23 courses in the five evidence-based parenting curricula have been shared with 230 parents in both English and Spanish. Nine series were offered in three other curricula to 95 additional parents. Workshops helped meet 646 parents' needs in 44 courses, with READY! for Kindergarten being the most popular in that local school partners shared 40 series with 611 parents.

To assist facilitators, site hosts, and families, MPELH staff visit each series twice during the program to understand what is working well and where additional supports may be needed. During these visits, Hub staff brought information for families about community resources and health topics and age appropriate books for each child to take home.

Latino Parent Participation—The most recent state kindergarten assessment identified over 50% of the entering kindergarten class in the Marion and Polk area elementary schools as Latino. Generally speaking, the parents of these children are eager to attend parenting education programs offered through our schools and classes with Latino parents are well attended. We have been able to partner with the Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality to train several of their staff in the evidence-based curricula; without their facilitators, our program results would not have been as strong. To serve these partners, we offer full Spanish translation at the facilitator training events.

PLANS FOR 2019-2020

We are mindful that the only constant is change. As the new grant year approaches, we know that there will be change in key partner organizations, funding, and community needs. We are thoughtfully reviewing the circumstances for each of these changes to maximize opportunity and minimize disruption to services for families. We are eager to offer new classes including *Abuela, Mama, y Yo* nutrition classes, Department of Human Services parenting classes for families with teens, and expansion through the new state Student Success Initiative for parent education. Change will also occur mid-year as a new Coordinated Care Organization assumes services for local Oregon Health Plan families. We look forward to working with these new partners in regards to the environmental social determinates of health and trauma informed care.