
The Early Childhood Hub of Lane County

2024-2025 Annual Report





Message from our Director, Kris Coomes

Wow, so much happened in 2024–25 that it's hard to know where to begin. Last year brought remarkable growth, transformation, and shared achievement for the Early Childhood Hub of Lane County. **As I reflect on the work behind us, I am deeply proud of how our partners, providers, and staff came together with creativity, resilience, and heart to support children and families throughout our region.**

We navigated a year of major transitions, ones that strengthened our foundation and positioned us for an impactful year.

While training a new Preschool Promise team, we also implemented new software systems. Thanks to the flexibility and dedication of our team and partners, those challenges became opportunities, and together we built a stronger, more efficient system that will better serve

families and providers for years to come. Our early literacy work continued to expand in meaningful ways. We supported pre-kindergarten providers through PreK LETRS training, giving educators stronger tools to foster early language and literacy development. We also awarded mini-grants to community organizations leading creative early literacy efforts, from family reading events to culturally specific book distribution. In addition, we invested in library systems across Lane County, strengthening their ability to offer early literacy programming, outreach, and resources for young children and their caregivers.

Cross-sector partnership remained a core part of our work. Our collaboration with Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) deepened last year, helping families experience more connected

support across health and early learning systems. And in partnership with the CCOs, we started developing our Resource Navigation System, a family-centered approach designed to make it easier for parents, caregivers, home visitors, and providers to access the early childhood community, education, resources, and childcare they need. This project represents an important step toward reducing barriers for families and improving early childhood system alignment.

As we move into the coming year, I do so with gratitude. **Together, we are building a Lane County where every child and every family can thrive.**

With appreciation,
Kris Coomes

Our Mission

The Early Childhood Hub of Lane County's mission is for all parents and caregivers to have the knowledge, tools, and support they need to nurture their child's optimal development and success from birth to age eight.

Our Work Across Lane County

The Early Childhood Hub of Lane County is a combined regional Early Learning and Parenting Education Hub, where we connect families with resources and opportunities to support their young children. We envision a Lane County community where families, childcare providers, and organizations work together in alignment, ensuring every family is supported and connected across all early learning resources and programs.

\$2.7M

invested into early education initiatives in Lane County

6,870

children and caregivers served across our parenting and early learning programs

56

local early education organizations funded

2,604

families received parenting education and supports from **28 grant-funded partner organizations**

538

children enrolled in free, high-quality preschool at 28 Preschool Promise sites, a record high!

3,000+

children (perinatal-age 8) utilized essential community resources across 6 family resource centers

“

The Early Childhood Hub of Lane County offers opportunities for families to connect so they don't have to go the journey alone.”

-Kaydie, Early Childhood Hub program participant and Lane County parent

2024-2025 Community Impact Highlights

Strengthening School Readiness: Kids in Transition to School (KITS)

This year, a total of 251 children and 416 parents and caregivers participated in KITS across eight school districts, providing school readiness skills for a positive transition to kindergarten and social success. In partnership with Oregon Social Learning Center, the Hub also supported the training of 95 early learning professionals in KITS.

Driving Access: Transportation Funding for Families

Transportation is one of the greatest barriers families face when participating in parenting education classes and workshops. To help alleviate this barrier, we partnered with PacificSource to invest \$180,000 to support Lane County families with non-medical transportation needs. Families have used the funds for essential transportation needs, including car repair, car seats, gas cards, and bus passes.

Expanded Access to Literacy

Early literacy helps children develop a rich vocabulary, supports reading comprehension, and fosters long-term school readiness. With expanded early literacy funding, the Hub was excited to invest in a broader range of impactful early literacy community initiatives. We awarded nearly \$130,000 in mini grants to local organizations, supporting projects that brought books directly into underserved neighborhoods through Little Free Libraries and created literacy programs tailored for children in foster care.

In partnership with Quality Care Connections, we also provided PreK LETRS training for 15 prekindergarten educators, equipping them with tools grounded in the Science of Reading, helping bring stronger, evidence-based literacy instruction into early learning classrooms.

On the Horizon: New Resource Navigation System

Finding free or low-cost resources for children and families can be overwhelming for parents. That’s why we are developing a comprehensive, closed loop referral system designed to make parenting support and resource navigation easier. Through this initiative, families will have access to real-time, personalized support from the Hub’s Resource Navigators, helping them more easily connect to services they need. Stay tuned for our launch in 2026!



“

I felt empowered to ask for help and set boundaries when it comes to my recovery and my baby’s transition in this world.”

**Positively Pregnancy program participant,
Nurturely**

2024-25 Funded Partners

- 4J Welcome Center
- 90by30
- Awbrey Park Elementary School
- Bethel School District FRC
- Black Cultural Initiative
- Blue River Volunteer Library
- CAFA
- Camas Ridge Community School
- Center for Family Development
- Charlemagne Elementary School
- Chávez Elementary School
- Creswell Public Library
- Creswell School District FRC
- Crow-Applegate-Lorane FRC
- Daisy CHAIN
- Early Education Program (ECSE Division)
- ECCO High School
- Edgewood Elementary School
- Edison Elementary School
- Eugene Education Foundation
- Eugene Public Library – Downtown
- The Family School
- Family Relief Nursery
- Fern Ridge Public Library
- Fern Ridge School District FRC
- Friends of Marcola School Media Center
- Head Start of Lane County
- Holt Elementary School
- Junction City School District
- Kids FIRST
- Lane Community College
- Lowell School District FRC
- Mapleton FRC
- McCormack Elementary School
- McKenzie School District FRC
- Migrant Education Program
- Nurturely
- Oakridge Public Library
- Oakridge FRC
- Options Counseling
- Oregon Community Programs
- Parenting Now
- Pearl Buck Center
- Pleasant Hill School District FRC
- Quality Care Connections
- Relief Nursery
- River Cubs Dual Immersion Program
- River Road/Santa Clara Volunteer Library
- Silly Billies Child Care
- Siuslaw Family Connections
- Siuslaw Public Library – Florence Branch
- South Lane FRC
- Spring Creek Elementary School
- Springfield Public Library
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Willamette Family Treatment Services

Early Childhood Hub Governance Consortium

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Oregon Health and Education Collaborative | Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative | Pacific
Source | Trillium Community Health



www.earlychildhoodlane.org