



# THE WEEKLY MEMO

2022-2023, Issue #27 - April 25, 2022- Editors: Angie Salazar & Ashley Clayton

## Mission Statement

Southern Oregon Head Start prepares all children and their families for success in school and throughout life.

**This is your Monday morning reminder that you can handle whatever this week throws at you.**

—UNKNOWN



### Weekly Memo Submission

Please send your PDF's, jpecs, and text to

Angie Salazar-

asalazar@socfc.org

By Wednesday @ 12 p.m.

## INSIDE

- 2) Power of Unity
- 3) Smoothies in the classroom
- 4) Making Music at ABC
- 5-6) Eggstravaganza
- 7-16) Departments in the Spotlight

## Meetings and Trainings

### April 25 —Monday

- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Weekly Team Meeting, Virtual
- 10:00-11:30 ED Department Meeting, TEAMS

### April 26—Tuesday

- 9:00-11:00 Directors' Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Rm.
- 10:00-10:45 Parenting Education Sessions, VIRTUAL
- 1:00-2:30 Management Team Meeting, TEAMS

### April 27 —Wednesday

- 9:00-9:30 Main Office Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Rm.
- 1:00-2:00 Onboarding Updates, TEAMS
- 5:30-6:00 Parent Work Shop—Spanish

### April 28 —Thursday

- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Dept. Meeting, TEAMS
- 12:00-1:00 Parenting Education Sessions, VIRTUAL

### April 29 —Friday

- 8:00-10:00 Education Planning
- 8:00-12:00 Union Negotiations, Blue Building Conf. Rm./ Library

### May 2 —Monday

- 9:00-12:00 Education Department Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Rm.
- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Weekly Team Meetings, TEAMS
- 10:00-11:30 ED Dept. Meeting, TEAMS

### May 3—Tuesday

- 9:00-11:00 Directors' Meeting, Blue Building Conf. Room (off week)
- 10:00-10:45 Parenting Education Sessions, VIRTUAL
- 1:30-2:30 PC Executive Committee Meeting, TEAMS

### May 4 —Wednesday

- 11:00-12:30 Department Directors Meeting, MO Blue Conf. Rm.
- 1:00-2:00 Onboarding Updates, TEAMS
- 3:00-4:30 Head Teacher Cohort, VIRUTAL
- 3:00-4:00 LISTO Prep, Blue Building Conf. Rm.

### May 5 —Thursday

- 9:00-10:00 PFCE Dept. Meeting, TEAMS
- 12:00-1:00 Parenting Education Sessions, VIRTUAL

### May 6—Friday

- 8:00-10:00 Education Planning
- 10:00-11:30 Center Meeting, TEAMS
- 1:00-2:30 CPR— Hands On Training, Blue Building Conf. Rm.

# Power of Unity



Big things are happening in Riverside AM 2. The Teaching Team (Susan, Katalin and Gina) have been working to support the success of a child in the class who is on a Guidance Plan. This child tends to escalate quickly and the school family is wrapping around him to develop skills. The teachers have been giving the children power to say "Stop!" (It does not always work.) Our Behavioral Specialist, Amber, suggested using Stop signs in the classroom. The Site Manager, Mary, took it one step further and suggested putting a Stop sign on the back of each child's name badge. Now the children want to wear their badges and all of the children (including the child who is on Guidance Plan) use them when needed. The Teachers, have them too and they work well.

This team is embracing the Power of Unity, "We are all in this together." Each of us is unique, yet undeniably connected to every other unique being in our world. By honoring both our uniqueness and our interdependence, we see that each individual has an important contribution to make to the welfare of our classroom, school, community and world. Thank you, Riverside Team, for seeing hurtful behaviors as a call for help. This is a wonderful strategy that you have graciously shared with us.





We had the pleasure of a nice demonstration of how to make a smoothies by Lori. She engaged with the kids and answered thier questions. It was fun to see them really connect between the recipe, the fruit and how it was mixed. Lori was really understanding about the sound of the blender and warned them about the loud noise. I just love how she demonstrated and and answered their questions. It was such a fun project for our Toddlers.

Thank you  
from the Children and Staff  
OT2@ ABC-C





# Music Making at ABC



Left: Newly-weds Jan and Terry McRoberts came dressed in their Scottish best for the kiddos! Jan has been a CA at Head Start for about 2 years now and wanted to share her and her husband's heritage with her class.

Right: 15-year Piper, Terry explains to the kiddos how the instrument works to go along with their current study theme of Music Making.

Below: Dance Party!





# EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Here are some photos from the Eggstravaganza!





EGG STRAVAGANZA





# DEPARTMENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Take a look at who is in the following departments!



listo



Family Literacy Program





# Human Resources

## Kathy Stassi- HR Director

Hi, I'm Kathy. I have been with the Agency since 2015. I have been in the HR field for over 30 years. When I am not at work I spend my time with my family and dog, Maggie May. I enjoy all kinds of food, cooking, love traveling and the beach is my go to place.



## Valerie Banek- HR Manager

Hi! I'm Valerie. I started working at SOHS in October of 2018, and have met many wonderful, caring people. I feel privileged to work for an organization that makes a positive difference in a child's life. Prior to working here, I worked for a local manufacturing company in various HR roles for 21 years. I enjoy exploring new places, gardening, reading, and spending time with friends. I also wanted to mention that I am looking forward to winning the Oregon Megabucks :)





# Human Resources

## Ashley Jasper - HR Coordinator

Hello! I started with the Agency in 2016 as an Area Assistant and shortly after moved into the Human Resources department, where I am currently the HR Coordinator. I really enjoy the team I work with here in Human Resources and I also love to see all the new faces that join our Agency! When I'm not at work you can find me spending time with my partner in crime out on our adventures or spending time with our families!



## Jessica Lee - HR Assistant

Hello! I have been with the agency for 10 years. I am grateful to work for an Organization that makes a difference in the lives of children and the community. I myself was a HS parent, now that child is a teen and they're pretty great! When I am not at my desk, you can find me in the kitchen, planning the next escapade, or with my dogs chasing the sun.







# Human Resources

## Laurie Hester - Safety Compliance Manager

I'm originally from a small southern town call Amory, MS with a population of 8,000. Never feeling that I fit into the Southern culture, I left the South at the age of 18 and found my "home" in Santa Cruz County, California.

For the next 18 years I worked in the restaurant business as a waiter and eventually began taking college classes part-time. After earning a BS in Nutrition Science ('92), I began my journey in Early Childhood Development with Santa Cruz County Head Start in 1994 as the Health and Nutrition Manager. Twelve years later I commuted from San Jose to South San Francisco Head Start where I also took on the role as Family Services Manager in addition to Health and Nutrition. After 4 years of commuting while also going to graduate school, I desired to work closer to home and became employed as the Health and Compliance Director for an agency with 156 child development centers based out of San Jose. Eight years later in January of 2018, after a company-wide layoff, my husband and I decided to relocate to the Rogue Valley to live a less stressful life. I was fortunate enough to be hired as the Safety and Compliance Manager in August of 2018. My passions are my two cats (Snuggles and Mitty), hiking, gardening, swimming, yoga, trying new healthy recipes, exploring new outdoor environments, spending time with old friends and making new ones.







# Human Resources



## Raquel Rodriguez- Lead Receptionist

My name is Raquel Rodriguez, I am the receptionist at Southern Oregon Head Start! I strongly believe in our mission because I have lived firsthand what amazing things can happen when a family is supported and given an opportunity to excel. Every day that I get to open these front doors I remind myself how far I have come from being a head start parent to becoming a part of this

amazing agency. This has helped me relate to our families in an incredible way, the impact we make in our community brings me tremendous joy! I hope to continue supporting all of you and the incredible work you do! Outside of work you can find me spending time with my family, growing blueberries, hiking, refurbishing furniture, and obsessing over Disney!

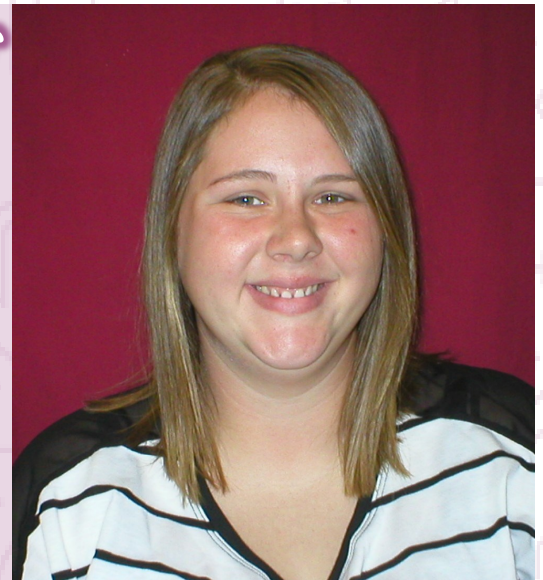




# Human Resources

## Ashely Clayton- Business Services Manager

My name is Ashley Clayton and I am the Business Services Manager. I have been with SOCFC for about 9 years. I started as an Area Assistant, moved to Service Area Assistant and then to my current position, Business Services Manager. When I am not working, I enjoy spending time with family and friends and I LOVE to travel.



## Jessica Lee- HR Assistant

My name is Heather Grove, and I've been with Southern Oregon Head Start since 2009 in the Human Resources department. I currently handle Criterion data and reporting, as well as benefits enrollment for staff. When I'm not at work, I enjoy reading, playing woodwinds with local ensembles, writing mods for video games, and spending time with my family.





# listo



## Family Literacy Program

Since 1995, The Listo Family Literacy Program has offered culturally-specific literacy programming for low-income Spanish speaking families in Jackson County. The founders of Listo were veteran educators who noticed that schools and Spanish-speaking parents struggled to communicate when it came to their children's education. They built Listo on the four-pillar family literacy model begun in the 1980s as an approach to level the educational/economic playing field for impoverished families. Listo addresses each of the four pillars in the following ways:

**ADULT EDUCATION** - Free ESL classes, Adult Basic Education and G-ED preparation in Spanish

**CHILD EDUCATION** - Age-appropriate education support Birth-Grade 8

**PARENT DEVELOPMENT** - Establishing parents as child's first/most important teacher and advocate through parent leadership development activities

**PARENT & CHILD TIME** - Deepening parent/child bonds of trust and making time together as a family count, honoring cultural traditions

In March, Listo worked with 73 families - a total of 221 wonderful people!

77 adults

65 school age kids

79 little ones

Listo is a diverse team of caring professionals, many of us share the immigrant experience with the families we serve. We are 16 people, with all of our educators delivering services online. Here's a little about the folks you'll see around our office in the Blue Building on Beall Lane.



Left to Right - Patty Gutiérrez, Eunices Ayala Velasco, Court Andersen, Rachelle Schaaf, Rosa Torrez Paz, Norma Montaña.

### Patty Gutiérrez, Listo Program Director -

Patty's service with SOCFC began in 1994 as a family advocate working with Spanish speaking families, moving to Listo in 2016. In the summer of 2020, she became Listo's Program Director and worked with colleagues and families to transform Listo's programming entirely online in response to COVID and the Alameda wildfire. Patty was born in Honduras and has raised her two children in the USA, so she has an understanding of what our Listo families are experiencing.

### Rachelle Schaaf, Listo Development Director-

Rachelle sees her work with Listo as a chance for all her skills and experience to come together to make a real difference in the lives of families and society. She raises money (lots of grant writing), makes connections, and works to find solutions so the Listo Community can thrive.





Left to Right - Patty Gutiérrez, Eunices Ayala Velasco, Court Andersen, Rachelle Schaaf, Rosa Torrez Paz, Norma Montaña.

### Eunices Ayala Velasco, Listo Parent Coordinator-

An early childhood educator from Colombia, Eunices is at the heart of all of Listo's parent leadership development programming and is a total family magnet! Endlessly creative and energetic, Eunices makes the fun happen!

### Rosa Torres-Paz, Listo's Teaching Assistant-

Rosa helps us pull everything together as our teaching assistant. She has past experience in logistics, and working as part of a team in agricultural and in printing/shipping industries, so she's organized! Rosa helps Listo construct our early learning kits, connects with families, and helps our early childhood team manage lots of little kids - online!



Left to Right - Patty Gutiérrez, Eunices Ayala Velasco, Court Andersen, Rachelle Schaaf, Rosa Torrez Paz, Norma Montañó.

### Norma Montañó, Listo Family Advocate-

Originally from the West Coast of Mexico, Norma has lived in the Rogue Valley for 20+ years. She's worked in a variety of social services roles, including with DHS and Community Works. Norma is the point person for our new social services component. She uses her experience and deep compassion to support our Listo families who are fire survivors or are experiencing crisis.

### Shout out to the other members of our equipo:

#### Team Adult Education

Ailym Piñero Requena - INEA/ Pre-GED Instructor  
Lisa Wagner - ESL Teacher  
Ansley White - ESL Teacher  
Suzanne Ray - ESL Teacher  
Orianna Alter - ESL Teacher  
Court Andersen - ESL Teacher  
Bryan Gonzalez - Tech Coordinator

#### Children's Education Team

Kayla Cunningham - Multi-Nivel Teacher (Multilevel - grades 3-8)  
Gloria Hoggarth-Ramirez - Multi-Nivel Teacher (grades 1-2)  
Fabiola Reyes - Early Learning Teacher  
Claudia Cervantes López - Early Learning Teacher/Parent Education  
Rosa Torrez-Paz - Teacher Assistant