Community Partnerships

POLICY/APPROACH:

Community partnerships are foundational to providing comprehensive services to Head Start and Early Head Start children and families. Staff will establish ongoing collaborative relationships with community organizations to promote the availability of and access to community services that are responsive to needs of enrolled families. Staff will advocate to meet the unmet needs in local communities served and support collaborative efforts to improve service coordination and delivery.

Policy Council Approval 8/19/2014
Board Approval 8/21/2014

HEAD START PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:
1302.53 1302.53 (a)(2)

PROCEDURES:

Parent Family and Community Engagement (PFCE) Manager, Supervisors and Family Advocates will maintain contact during the school year with community agencies such as:

- Department of Human Services - Child Welfare and Self Sufficiency
- Crisis Intervention Services
- Jackson County Human Services Consortium
- Hispanic Interagency Group
- Child Abuse Network
- Substance Abuse Community Action Team
- Employment Agencies
- Non-profit agencies providing services to low-income families
- Health care providers, such as clinics, physicians, dentists, and other health professionals
- Mental health providers
- Nutritional service providers
- Prenatal service providers
- Individual and agencies that provide services to children with disabilities and their families
• Housing assistance agencies and providers of support of children and families experiencing homelessness including local Education agency liaison (McKinney-Vento)
• Education and cultural institutions- such as libraries and museums, for both children and families

Staff will:

• Advocate with agencies in the community on behalf of individual families
• Encourage parents to serve on community boards or task forces to develop services responsive to their needs
• Enrollment will release Public Service Announcements (PSA’s ) to T.V., radio, newspapers, regarding recruitment, and special events
• Enrollment will request newspaper articles on Head Start/EHS to appear in local newspapers and magazines
• Make presentations to community agencies about Head Start/EHS services
• Agency representatives will be invited to attend Center Parent Committee Meetings at Head Start/EHS centers
• Head Start/ Early Head Start Directors and Managers will serve on inter-agency councils, including the Southern Oregon Early Learning Hub, Community College Advisory Boards, Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) committees, and inter-agency task forces