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| Early Learning Multnomah: Goals & Strategies |

**Vision:** Every child in Multnomah County is prepared to succeed in school and life, regardless of race, ethnicity, or class.

**Mission:** Eliminate racial and social disparities in kindergarten readiness and create opportunities for success by implementing environmental level changes that align programs, systems and funding in early childhood with a focus on children living in poverty and all children of color.

**Priority Population:** All 0-6 children of color (including immigrants and refugees) and all children in poverty (at or below 185% of Federal Poverty Level).

**Introduction**

This Strategic Plan was prepared by Early Learning Multnomah (ELM) for submission to the State of Oregon’s Early Learning Division within the Department of Education. The plan reflects how Early Learning Multnomah intends to achieve the goals and metrics prescribed by the State with the limited resources provided by the State. While this plan is reflective of many community priorities around early learning, it is not a comprehensive plan that is inclusive of *all* of these priorities in Multnomah County, nor does it intend to capture all of the early learning work in the county.

This plan is framed around a) feedback from the Early Learning Division, b) learnings from Early Learning Multnomah investments during initial years, c) feedback from community partners, and d) input from Early Learning Multnomah’s governance bodies – the Sector Council and Parent Accountability Council. Strategies and investments reflected here are aligned with the Guiding Principles developed by the Parent Accountability Council; the Guiding Principles will continue to guide all of Early Learning Multnomah’s work throughout implementation.

All the strategies below (listed in **bold**) represent 2 year strategies through 2019. The bullets underneath each strategy represent activities to be updated annually.

**ELM’s Guiding Principles**

Developed by the Parent Accountability Council

We have a **priority population**. We focus on children who are called “at risk” but who are really “full of promise.” We want all children to thrive.

We work for **equity**. We make the invisible visible.

We are here.We are all equal. See us. Respect us.

We are **parent-centered**. There is nothing done about us without us.  
We are raising the children. We are your best resource.

We create **family engagement**. We support the family to support the child.  
Support us as we take care of the children. Meet us where we are.

We build **system coordination**. We all work together to partner with families. Talk to us.And talk to each other. It takes all of us to make life better for our children.

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| The early childhood system is aligned, coordinated and family-centered |

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| **Develop and implement a shared strategic vision and work plan to achieve the early childhood system goals**   1. **Use partnerships across sectors to dismantle the factors that allow inequity to flourish**  * *Build Sector Council with leaders ready to leverage broader system change* * *Stay accountable to the Parent Accountability Council in resource allocation and strategy development*  1. **Set family-driven priorities for our hub region and align investments**  * *Connect PAC and Sector Council to reach hub goals* * *Include partner voice in hub work plan* * *Invest hub resources in accordance with work plan* * *Create data sharing agreements where needed* |

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| Children are supported to enter school ready to succeed |

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| **Challenge and support early learning and K-12 partners to serve children and families of color effectively**   1. **Collaborate with early learning providers, culturally specific organizations and school districts to ensure that children in priority populations have access to quality early learning experiences prior to kindergarten entry**  * *Fund Preschool Promise sites* * *Fund professional development for family members, preschool teachers and professionals* * *Fund Spark and CLASS support for early learning teachers* * *Fund Focused Child Care Networks* * *Co-lead Preschool for All initiative* * *Co-lead regional hub/CCO partnership for developmental screening, referral and services* * *Fund production of Early STEM kits* * *Sponsor All Born (In) cross–disabilities conference*  1. **Strengthen connections between early learning and K-3 education by increasing the link between the SUN Community School system and early learning**  * *Fund P-3 Schools* * *Fund Kindergarten Teacher Home Visits (the Parent Teacher Home Visiting Project)* * *Fund and co-lead regional “sign-up for kindergarten” campaign* |

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| 3. Families are healthy, stable and attached |

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| **Spark shifts in thinking and practice to disrupt the barriers that families of color face**   1. **Work with early learning programs and other partners to ensure children and families from priority populations have access to culturally responsive family support services**  * *Fund Community Education Workers* * *Fund Parent Child Development Services (PCDS)* * *Introduce VROOM into local DHS offices* * *Build local chapter of National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)*  1. **Collaborate with the health sector to address the social determinants of health for young children and their families**  * *Fund and co-lead a regional hub/CCO partnership on school readiness* * *Fund We Are Home* * *Sponsor Early Childhood Mental Health conference* |