

HB 2726—The Southern Oregon Early Childhood Support Network

[HB 2726](#) creates the Southern Oregon Early Childhood Support Network, a coordinated system of resources and services committed to ensure every child in Jackson and Josephine Counties has an equitable opportunity to enter Kindergarten ready to thrive.

How will it work?

- The Network invites people who are planning to be pregnant, are pregnant or have children under 5 to work with their Coordinated Care Organization, or other trusted community provider, to develop a Family Success Plan.
- Care coordinators work with families through the Connect Oregon referral system along with warm handoffs to acquire the services needed to reach the goals set out in their Family Success Plans.
- Through the Network, families can access everything from day-to-day needs such as diapers, clothes, shoes, food, peer support, parent education etc. to specific financial support needed for safe housing, job training, transportation, and other needs.

This Network is a prototype—the FIRST Child Success Delivery System for Oregon. Using this pilot project, the goal is to have Child Success Delivery Systems in every region of our state capable of ensuring every child has the tools they need to enter the K12 system ready to learn.

- The data on this is very clear—we must go as far upstream as possible.
- The crisis we are seeing in self-regulation and social/emotional wellness in our kids can and must be addressed as early in life as possible.
- Ensuring that a child is on the road to success by age 5 needs to be a top priority for our state and will have a tremendously positive impact on everything from 3rd grade reading, to high school graduation, to life-long prosperity.

Why start in Southern Oregon?

Southern Oregon Success, a collective impact initiative for Jackson and Josephine counties, has been working for nearly a decade to bring together all levels of education, health care, mental health care, human services, public safety and workforce development in the region.

Since former State Representative Peter Buckley joined the collaboration in 2016, Southern Oregon Success has held over 500 training sessions in Adverse Childhood Experiences & Resilience for over 17,000 participants, creating a common vocabulary and common approach to work with children and families across all sectors.

Inspired by the Achieving Oregon's Promise white paper on Child Success Delivery Systems developed by the Oregon Roundtable for Health Care & Education*, Southern Oregon Success has worked for close to a year on the development of the Southern Oregon Early Childhood Support Network and is ready to bring it into being.

The need is great. The data is clear. Everyone is at the table and the blueprint is in place. It's time to change the dynamic that keeps far too many children and families from being able to thrive.

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<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/HB2726>

*<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/marsh/Documents/AchievingOregonsPromise.pdf>