



Early Learning Division Shared Vision

WHO WE ARE

Early Learning Division staff create a genuine culture of support, collaboration and engagement across the state to fulfill the mission of supporting all of Oregon's young children and families to learn and thrive.

We build trusting relationships and we value and celebrate all diverse cultural, personal and professional life perspectives and experiences. We encourage innovation, embrace change, and take meaningful risks to meet our goals and establish ourselves as a learning organization. We recognize and grow the expertise of each person and cultivate leadership among all staff through professional development opportunities and shared learning experiences.

OUR WORK

We ensure *all* families have access to safe, high-quality, culturally responsive child care and early learning services through a relentless focus on closing all gaps created by systems that block opportunities for children to be successful.

We embrace equity and prioritize children and families who are farthest from opportunity, with a focus on children of color and emerging bilinguals, because of systems that have inadequately supported them. We demonstrate authenticity, integrity, and trustworthiness in our interactions with each other and our partners. Our partners believe they are heard and supported by us.

WHY THIS WORK MATTERS

Children thrive when they are healthy, confident, and filled with wonder. They learn and grow in home and care environments that support their physical health and social-emotional development, and have access to learning opportunities and experiences that promote school and life readiness.

Our collaborative approaches embody cultural humility and cultivate an environment of trust and respect. We are acknowledged as a key resource for supporting Oregon's early learners:

- *Oregon's families understand that they are their children's most important teachers and feel confident in this role.*
- *Communities across the state are empowered to respond to the unique needs of the families they serve.*
- *Child care, preschool, and early learning professionals are equipped with the information and resources they need to create safe, nurturing and quality environments. We partner with elementary and after-school teachers and leaders to strengthen pathways from birth through grade 3 for Oregon's children.*
- *Colleagues across state agencies respect us for our expertise and invite us to participate in shared work.*
- *Policymakers know they can count on us, because we deliver results that show up in the communities they serve.*

As a system dedicated to the best outcomes for every child, we align efforts and work together in service of children, families and communities.