



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 11 **Family** Council Meeting

**Location:** Virtual

**Date & Time:** 1/17/23 6 pm

Council Members present: Holly Houser, Samantha Bush, Tammy Helm, Kayli Bontrager, Linda Gamble

Council Members absent: Alycia Prouse, Brooke Cramer, Dariah Rawdin, Elizabeth Houser, Morgan Waller, Jeremy Larson

#### **Start Time: 6 pm Welcome & Introductions (5 min)**

Notes:

- Kayli welcomed everyone and told members that we have two new members that is not in attendance tonight, but they will represent Greenup and Paris.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

#### **Start Time: 6:05 Icebreaker (8 min)**

Notes:

- Kayli opened the floor to an icebreaker with a mood check in. Each member shared their mood and what their dream vacation would be.
- Kayli then reviewed the mission, community agreements, roles & responsibilities of the Family Council, and talked about some training support with the five videos offered by Illinois Action for Children.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

#### **Start Time: 6:13 Family Engagement (12 min)**

Notes:

- Kayli then explained the Birth to Five definition of Family Engagement; that it refers to the systematic inclusion of families in activities and programs that promote children's development, learning, and wellness, including in planning, development, and evaluation.
- Everyone discussed what is meaningful family engagement, their role as a family council member, and how do you "show up" for success.



- Kayli talked about family stories and how to get people to tell their stories. She asked members to invite their families and friends to our Facebook page and to visit our website/sign-up for newsletters.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

### **Start Time: 6:25 Family Advocacy Homework (10 min)**

Notes:

- Kayli explained how to talk to friends/co-workers about child care concerns and how things are working for them. Then you can bring their voices to the table.
- Talk to at least 3 different caregivers and ask them two questions.
  - (1) What are some of your issues with early childhood education and care now or in recent past
  - (2) What would have made early childhood education and care easier?

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

### **Start Time: 6:35 Future Meetings & Questions (5 min)**

Notes:

- Asked if members have enjoyed the books included in their meeting packets and if anyone had any takeaways.
- Kayli explained about future Family Council meetings and what is proposed for each month and there will be "homework" for each one with questions that we will answer/discussed at the next meeting. She also said that she would be sending out an evaluation survey for the meeting.
- Tammy also spoke about talking to people and asking questions to them and explained that the questions don't have to change to get different perspectives from different families.
- Next meeting will be February 21, 2023 at 6 pm

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Follow-up/Next Steps: