



MEETING NOTES

Region 11 **Action** Council Meeting

Location: Virtual

Date & Time: 2/2/23 Noon – 12:55

Council Members present: Tammy Helm, Linda Gamble, Daphne Boley, Jenifer Bonawitt, Melissa Coleman, Kiyla DeVoss, Amy Durdell, Cori Moore, Laura Shull
Council Members absent: Jennifer Buchter, Lisa Flynn, Robin Hopper, Dennis Pearson

Start Time: 12:00 Welcome/Review (10 min)

Notes:

- Tammy welcomed everyone and reviewed minutes from the last meeting.
- Tammy provided clarity on the email she sent out about Sundown Towns.
- Tammy also explained that the survey after the last meeting has been updated.
- Tammy made announcements:
 - Our next meeting will be in person at the Tuscola office.
 - We will start having focus groups, interviews, town halls and surveys soon.
 - We will be volunteering at the homeless shelter in Mattoon and will interview residents that have small children.
 - Tammy & Kayli will be attending a Town Hall in Sullivan to meet up with Brad Halbrook.
 - We have approximately 45 preschool round up screenings scheduled to attend in February & March.
 - We will be doing interviews with teen moms in the LIFT program.
- Kayli is out doing preschool roundups today, and we will all be out soon doing them.
- Tammy went over the community agreements and asked if there were any changes that needed to be made.

Start Time: 12:10 Meeting Objectives (25 min)

Notes:

- Tammy explained the meeting objectives are to analyze the IECAM data, and review the Regional data.
- Members proceeded to go over data from Edgar, Moultrie and Shelby Counties including demographics, what programs are available, poverty, and diversity.



- Tammy asked if there was anything else that anyone wanted to add.
- Tammy stated the regional review shows that programs are clustered in the most populated towns. Racial/ethnic diversity is limited to a few specific locations. The entire region experiences 100-200% poverty level.
- Tammy sent a link to the February google sheets as requested by a member.

Start Time: 12:35 Wrap Up (20 min)

Notes:

- Did we meet our objectives?
 - Tammy asked how can we best describe the region's community landscape? Discussion led to following answers:
 - Rural
 - Low diversity
 - High poverty
 - Limited licensed daycare
 - Limited EHS programs
 - Limited resources to mental health, rehab providers
 - Limited access to all day programs for infant/toddlers
 - We have a strength in PFA programs
 - Limited qualified staff
 - Limited specialized staff
- Tammy stated that we have finally analyzed the data for all seven counties and we have described well what our regional community landscape looks like. She asked members to email her if they have any ideas after the meeting to include.
- Tammy explained that the next meeting we will cover Slot Gap. She will send slides to everyone, and she gave links to Childcare Gaps Assessment and IECAM (Illinois.edu)
- Tammy explained at the next meeting we will be working in person about if we need more staff or more buildings or both and asked if anyone had any questions or wanted to add anything. She also reminded members to please take the survey as she takes all information from it into consideration and really appreciates the feedback.
- Tammy stated that the next meeting will be 2/23/23 at the Tuscola office from 5:30 – 7:30 pm.



Follow-up/Next Steps:

- Tammy requested slot gap information from all members to help with the next meeting.
- Tammy requested that members forward any information regarding ECEC programs, enrollment data, etc.