



MEETING NOTES

Region 48 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: April 26, 2023, 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Council Members present: Anita Frei, C'Ante Morris, Catina White, Folanda James, Gary Craig, Indirea Slaughter, Kerishena Metz, Kristin McGraw, Megan Crookham, Shelby Hall, Timothy Whitacre-Albertson

Welcome, Introductions, Review of Community Agreements

Notes: Kari welcomed the Family Council and introduced Region 48's new Family and Community Engagement Specialist, Melissa Green. Melissa provided information about her experience in ECEC and then Council Members introduced themselves. Kari reviewed the Council's Community Agreements.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Resources, Action Council Update, and Parents, Caregivers, and Families Recap

Notes: Kari reminded the Council of the trainings available through PartnerPlanAct. She informed the Council that the Action Council has not met since the last Family Council meeting. After, she provided a recap of the prior Family Council meeting.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Data Recap, Regional Strengths and Needs Discussion

Notes: Kari reviewed information from each of the Family Council's prior meetings, including data and quotes. Kari then presented the strengths and needs that the Action Council had identified.

Does our collection of themes, strengths, and needs encompass what you believe to be true and correct concerning ECEC programs and services in our Region?

- The screening kits are amazing
- The idea of Home Visitors helping families on the EI waitlist is wonderful and very needed
- "What are they doing to equal the funding between programs? Based on slots for children?"
 - We don't know. It is decided by the state



- “How do we make the public Preschool for All something that parents would want to send their children to, instead of private?”
 - High-quality programming
 - Eligibility – Income is one of the primary factors, but there aren’t enough slots for children that qualify on income alone as it is.
 - School districts don’t have enough classrooms
- Funding is talked about but it isn’t emphasized enough. You can’t make programs inclusive because there isn’t enough funding to provide slots for the children in most need.
 - This is a good argument for universal preschool

Is anything missing from the list that wasn’t included?

- Workforce
 - Improve diversity within the workforce
- There should be a ratio concerning diversity with income levels and screening results for children in programs
 - Race, socio-economic status, disability

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Feedback from this meeting will be reviewed and we will finalize the list of themes, strengths, and needs, and share with both Councils. The next Family Council meeting will be to finalize recommendations that will be started by the Action Council.

Wrap-Up, Meeting Schedule

Notes: Kari wrapped up the meeting by reminding the Family Council of the next meeting and thanked the Members for coming.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Location: Hybrid – Region 48 office or Zoom

Adjourn

Follow-up/Next Steps: