



MEETING NOTES

Region 48 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: January 25, 2023, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Council Members present: Anita Frei, Gary Craig, Folanda James, Courtney Kilgore, Tia Dye, Timothy Whitacre-Albertson, Kerishena Metz, Catina White, Maricela Nieto, C'Ante Morris, Kristin McGraw, Megan Crookham, Laurel Huston, Indireia Slaughter, Hunter Stahl

Welcome, Introductions, Review of Community Agreements

Notes: Staff and Council Members introduced themselves, then reviewed the Community Agreements. No changes were proposed.

Decisions made: No changes to the Community Agreements

Next Steps: N/A

Updates, Facebook Group, Resources

Notes: Sarah reminded the Council about the seat open in the Family Council for someone that lives in the southern part of Peoria County, the Facebook group, the trainings through Partner.Plan.Act, and Google Drive access.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Demographic Recap

Notes: Sarah provided a recap of the Demographic meeting. She reminded Council Members that we're looking for feedback and lived experiences from the Family Council, regardless of the data.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Large Group Discussion

Notes: Sarah asked the Council, "Have you ever had a child who has had to sit on a waitlist for an Early Childhood Education or Care program, or know someone who has?" Multiple responses were received. Sarah asked, "Why is this a problem, and what challenges is it creating? And for who?" Members had various perspectives.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A



Slot Gap Data Presentation and Discussion

Notes: Sarah presented about slot gap: What it is, data, and supporting information. Kari clarified that the data for the licensed child care program slot gap is assuming every family would want their children to be in licensed child care programs, not including publicly funded programs (public preschool). Sarah pointed out that there is no information provided on how many spots are reserved for families using CCAP for programs that limit those spots. Concerning home visiting, a Member asked if it's playing catch up, or is that not child care? Sarah said home visiting can go hand in hand with child care or preschool and can encourage parents to consider preschool. Publicly funded programs typically have eligibility requirements and poverty is one eligibility factor. Care for children ages 0-2 is tricky because the ratio is so low. Many providers only offer programs for children 2 years and older, due to the needs of infants to 2-year-olds. Data about parents working shows an immediate need for programs/slots. There were multiple comments regarding missing data.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Open for Additional Questions

Notes: "What is the ideal slot gap?" Amount of kids vs the number of slots, but not every kid needs a spot, so what does it look like to meet everyone's need? – No real way to get that answer, plus people's situations change.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Wrap-Up, Meeting Schedule

Notes: Reminder of next meeting.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Adjourn

Follow-up/Next Steps: N/A

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Location: Hybrid – Region 48 office or Zoom