



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 54 Action Council Meeting

**Date & Time: Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 11:30 AM**

Council Members present: Cindy Montgomery, Mary Surprenant, Mia Harrier, Tamara L Red, Tamera Forthenberry, and Tim Dudley

Council Members absent: Chris Rice, Cynthia Smith, Elizabeth Cannon, Kathy Vines, Lisa Abdelghani, Lisa Langellier, Melissa Hollingsworth, Michael Marron, Niah Hamilton, and Odette Hyatt-Watson

#### **Welcome & Icebreaker (10 mins)**

Notes: This meeting was a virtual meeting and council members attended via Zoom. A couple of fun Icebreaker questions were visually presented, and council members answered them as they logged on.

#### **Review Regional Scan Purpose (20 mins)**

Notes: We informed the Council Members of what topics will be included in the Regional Scan. Topics include:

- Demographics
- Local Community Collaborations
- Early Childhood Education and Care Programs
- Slot Gap
- Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce
- Parent, Family, and Caregiver Engagement
- Regional Strengths and Needs
- Recommendations

These topics were the focal point of our past Council meetings and were used to compare the responses between the two Councils.



### **Compare Action and Family Council Findings (30 mins)**

Notes: We reviewed all past meeting notes from both councils and prepared a PowerPoint, comparing both Action Council and Family Council Members' responses to each topic.

Next Steps: Use the information from the presented PowerPoint to answer the parting questions.

### **Parting Question (30 mins)**

Notes: After reviewing what was previously covered in prior meetings, we asked the council members the following questions:

- Are these topics an accurate representation of how parents, families, and caregivers experience the ECEC system in our region?
- If yes, why, and how do we know these topics are accurate? Do we need to explore anything else?
- If not, why not? In what ways are these topics inaccurate? How can we change them and/or what else should we explore to understand the differences between these topics?
- Who else should we talk with?
- Are there topics and/or insights that are not here or that you expected to see?

Council members agree that the correct information and responses were captured from past meetings. They also stated that they feel like we should put an emphasis on how important it is that our region gets funding. Not only the importance of getting funding but also getting it in a timely manner.

Next Steps: Use the information gathered today to update our regional scan.