



NOTES

Region 32 Action Council Meeting

Location: KCC North Extension, 450 N. Kinzie Ave., Bradley, Illinois

Date & Time: May 25, 2023, 9:00-11:00 am

Members Present: Amanda Chorak, Rebecca Kroiss, Cindi Schimmelpfennig, Sheree Sykes, Mary Self, Rosemary Pistorius, Cindy Luzeniecki, Carolyn Short, Rebecca Graham, Jim Duggan, Marquita Cox, Pamela Powell

Members Absent: Amanda Parks, Lovice Brinkman, Christine Johnston, Newcomb Mowrer, Rhonda Pence, Erin Goldenstein, Rita Armstrong, Holly Knupp, Rhonda Showers, Theodis Pace, Chrissy Nojd

9:00 Welcome, Permission to Record

- Permission to record granted.

9:05 Council Gift and Appreciation

- Liz thanked the Council for their generous time and wisdom during the last several months working on the Regional Needs Assessment.
- The Council was recognized with an appreciation gift bag.

9:15 Regional Needs Assessment Review

- Liz shared each section of the Regional Needs Assessment (RNA) and asked each Council member to be thinking: Who needs to see this section of the RNA? What voices are missing, if any? What data is missing, if any?
 - Executive Summary: Groups that we need to see – churches, health dept., WIC, counseling services, city councils, elected officials, and school staff.
 - Demographics: Groups that we need to see – Pediatrician offices, urgent cares. Missing data – disability data (more IFSP data), the Poverty rate in African Americans seems to be higher than listed, infant mortality, and Hispanic population.
 - Local Community Collaborations: It was noted that *Jump Start* is not mentioned and they have a much larger caseload compared to Aunt Martha's. It was suggested to get data and collaborate with *Jump Start* in the future.
 - ECEC Programs: Groups that we need to see – School districts/administrators, school boards, CCR&R, local employers, Olivet, KCC, U of I Extension office, and Farm Bureaus. Missing data – migrant programs.

- Slot Gap: Groups that need to see – churches.
- ECEC Workforce: Groups that we need to see – Higher education institutions, and school superintendents.
- Parent/Family/Caregiver Engagement: Groups that we need to see – Churches.
 - A Council member mentioned that a physical space would be good for children to go to while parents are in trials at the courthouse.
- Regional Strengths and Needs: Groups that we need to see – Elected officials, day cares, and school administrations.
 - Liz mentioned that Kankakee County is rated #1 in the world for Theraplay services.
 - A Council member mentioned that a group not mentioned to work with are the local area dentists, there is a need for local dentists to serve early childhood and children with disabilities.
- Recommendations: Groups that we need to see – Local employers, large businesses, day cares, and mom groups.
 - “The ones (businesses) that are trying to get people to move here from the outside because we’re not taking care of the people already here why will people move here?”

10:35

Next Steps

- **Dissemination Plan**

- The Council discussed specific groups and individuals whom our team can share the RNA with.
 - Liz tasked the Council to help with soft introductions in the community with our Birth to Five team for our summer dissemination plan.
- Liz asked the Council to be thinking of:
 - A person that can share a story to speak to a section of our RNA.
 - Person or group to build a cheering squad that will support our efforts.
 - An audience to give a sneak peek of our assessment before it becomes “live.”
 - If any Council member would be comfortable doing PR training to share our assessment.

- **Infographic**

- Liz shared the proposed, final infographic that will be available to hand out to the community that bullets our demographics, recommendations, and needs.

- **One-Year Evaluation**

- o Liz reminded the Council to complete their one-year evaluation of their Action Council experience.

11:00: Adjourn

Summer Meeting Dates:	June 15th	July 20th	August 10th
	9:00-11:00am	9:00-11:00am	9:00-11:00am
	Virtual Only	KCC & Virtual	KCC & Virtual