



MEETING NOTES

Region 19 Action Council Meeting

Location: Zoom

Date & Time: January 13, 2023, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

11:00 am: Welcome & Updates (10 minutes)

Notes:

- Update on the Planning Grant: Nine new Early Childhood Collaborations in the state have been awarded the Planning Grant. One of the collaborations awarded this grant is in DuPage County. More news and updates on what collaborations received this grant will be coming soon.
 - Updates can be found on the Birth to Five website.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:10 am: DuPage Foundation Bright and Early Committee Presentation (34 minutes)

Notes:

- Barb Szczepaniak presented on DuPage foundation bright and Early Committee. Overview of the history of the foundation, mission, and accomplishments thus far.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:44 am: DuPage County Early Childhood Collaboration Discussion (1 hour 11 minutes)

Notes:

- Update on DuPage Early Childhood Collaboration (DECC). In 2022, they started a collaboration with DuPage County Health Department.
 - In our next meeting our Action Council member, Maria Cuevas, will be starting our meeting with any questions or comments regarding DECC and/or their collaboration.
- Short overview of DECC given by our Action Council member, Candance King.
- Presentation of Illinois Early Childhood collaborative landscape.
- Overview of what should a comprehensive Early Childhood system deliver



- Conversation around the need for a bigger focus on children with special needs/children with disabilities.
- Discussion around the work of our local collaborations aligning with the values and principles of a comprehensive early childhood system, and how the collaborations work.
 - Values and principles are precise.
 - Special needs community need to be better served.
 - Biggest challenge in the early childhood system is the availability to work with other collaborations because of legality issues.
 - Conversation around the challenges collaborations face with working with schools. They're better ways for outside agencies to work collaboratively and support the work that is being done in both areas.
- Discussion around local collaborations working together to efficiently meet the needs of children, families, and early childhood professionals.
 - There has been changes in DuPage County over the past decades where collaborations are now happening, and it has benefited DuPage County.
 - Conversation around the importance of building relationships where there is trust, and communication. Along with local collaborations knowing the needs of the families in their communities that are overlooked.
 - Discussion around funding streams.
 - There are still inconsistencies county wide with services and interventions.
- Discussion regarding changes or improvements that need to be made within our local early childhood system collaboration landscape.
 - The importance of having the community know what collaboratives are, what services they offer, and where they are located.
 - Conversation around marketing outlets being social media but some families not do not have social media.
- Discussion around what additional supports our current collaborations need in order to be successful to provide the needed services.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A



12:55 pm: Next Steps (5 minutes)

Notes:

- Birth to Five Illinois offers Grant opportunities. When applications are open again in the Fall, Valerie will communicate this to our Action Council members.
- Our next meeting will begin with our council member, Maria Cuevas, starting our meeting with any questions or comments regarding DECC.
- In our next meeting we will be discussing priority populations.
- As a reminder, Google forms are always open for additional feedback at any time.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Follow-up/Next Steps:

- Next Meeting: Priority Populations, Wednesday, January 25, 2023 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm