



MEETING NOTES

Region 44 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: 3/23/2023, 11am-1pm

Council Members present: Elyse Sereyka, Susan Beckman, , Donna Emmons, & Kim Lamz

Council Members absent: Diana Hartmann, Jamee Potash, Jennifer Nowicki

11:00 Birth to Five Illinois Family Stories (15 minutes)

Notes: Regional Council Manager shared the story “More Than a Mortgage” from a family who shared that their day care costs exceeded their mortgage payment by twice the amount.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: Encouraged council members to visit www.Birthtofiveil.com for more family stories.

11:15 Introductions & Ice Breaker (15 minutes)

Notes: Council members shared their place of work, title and their favorite childhood memory.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:30 Meeting Recap (25 minutes)

Notes: Regional Council Manager shared a document summarizing previous meeting notes collected by the council. Several categories were reviewed including the current Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) landscape and insights about the landscape, and local or regional program funding sources that support ECEC services.

Lots of discussion and some ideas added to the document. Council discussed private sector vs non-profit centers.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:55 Break

12:05 Recap Questions to Consider (30 minutes)

1. Is there anything that should be added regarding the ECEC landscape in our Region?



2. Are there any other local or regional programs that help fund ECEC in our Region?
3. Does this data (regarding number of spots in child cares vs. children ages 0-5 who may need child care) represent our Region?
4. Does this data (regarding number of spots in publicly funded programs vs. children ages 0-5 who are eligible for this service) represent our Region?

Notes: All comments were added to the community Jamboard.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

12:30 Check-In and Share-Out (5 minutes)

Notes: Options & Advocacy Picnic will be held on May 19th 11:00am-4:00pm; There will be a variety of vendors and it is open to the community.

Birth to Five Illinois: Region 44 staff will be at the Easter Egg Hunt this weekend at the McHenry County Fairgrounds in Woodstock, Illinois.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: Council Member will email the flyer to everyone for the picnic.

Requested council members to complete the survey for Birth to Five Illinois: Region 44 and to pass it along to at least three other people.

Next Meeting: 4/6/2023, 11am-1pm, Hybrid