



MEETING NOTES

Region 35 Action Council Meeting

Location: Ottawa, IL

Date & Time: 03/23/2023, 1pm-2:09pm

Council Members present: Denise Garth, Sara Markey, Kira Pfeffinger, Jackie Blackburn

Council Members absent: Rich Faivre, Derek Kilmartin, Melissa Mital, Lynn Sheedy

1:00pm Welcome and Introduction Consent to Record (3min)

1:03pm PowerPoint on Regional Scan (13min)

Facilitator: Rebecca Eager

Notes:

The Regional Council Manager shared the demographics we have reviewed in prior Action Council meetings to verify there are no additional comments to be added or focus areas to cover.

1:16pm Discussion (53min)

Notes:

Council Members share in discussion a review of thoughts and insight on all areas we have covered.

- The Region faces a lack of support groups for grandparents.
- If more support groups are added, the ability to then connect to those families will be an additional problem. New ways of engagement are needed.
- Concerned doctors specializing in children are limited in the region. The lack of referrals have led to fewer children receiving much-needed Early Intervention services.
- Lack of staffing in the medical field leads to overbooked physicians. Parents need to be more assertive with doctors' appointments.
- Families are not able to find care to accept children that have health concerns or disabilities, and this leaves the family without any options.



- Providing effective training or professional development that is research-based and proven to produce quality and effective application by staff is necessary for Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) programs.

2:09pm Wrap up and adjournment

Notes:

- Stressed a copy of the PowerPoint would be sent to each Council member to add additional notations so we can be sure their voices are heard. Generalized what is to come at the next meeting. Recap on steps after Regional Scan is complete. Requested to invite us to events and to join us if possible.
- Add IVCC to the workforce and strengths.
- Acknowledged we would give accolades to the resources found within the community and from Tri-County Opportunities Council.