



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 40 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: April 25, 2023, at 6:30 pm

Council Members Present: Stephanie Emery, Amy Hess, Lisa Kallal, Amber Nash, Molly Peters, Marcia Schulte, Marla Willard

Council Members Absent: Kelsey Arnold, Amanda Goben, Lisa Goode, Regina Lindsey, Jennifer Lubrant, Cincy Rice, Laura Sams, Sarah Schmidt, Kristine Stanley, Jackie Vandoren

#### **6:30 pm: ISBE Requests for Proposals (15 minutes)**

Notes: Keppen Clanton, went over the ISBE Requests for Proposals and our role at Birth to Five Illinois Region 40.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: [FY2024 ISBE PFA RFP Tipsheet.docx](#)

#### **6:45 pm: Regional Needs Assessment Overview and Progress (30 minutes)**

Notes: Keppen Clanton, how the Narrative is set up and what substance is in our Narrative and our data came from the 2020 Census Data.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Strengths needs and recommendations for our region.

#### **7:15 pm: Strengths Needs and Recommendations (50 minutes)**

Notes: Strengths in our Region for Child Care Centers and Preschool Programs and Area Strengths.

Child Care Centers – ECEC staff are enthusiastic about their work. Able to share resources.

Preschool Programs – At Capacity. ECEC staff are enthusiastic about their work. Able to Share Resources.

Area Strengths – The majority of Families are working. The largest county in our region has the most programs.

Next Steps: N/A

Decisions made: Decisions made: Any additional strength?

- Two new centers, one in Greenfield and one in Jerseyville have applied for licensing with DCFS.



- Libraries are targeting more of our early children, such as programs called Move and Groove.
- Tracy Family Foundation provides grant funding for Greene and Calhoun Counties.
- Health departments are communicating across the region.
- We have a four-year college in our region offering the accelerated Teacher Licensure Program, and a Community College offering childhood development program located next to Jersey County.
- We have a PI program and a PFE program that is under our Public-School Districts, providing continuity within our small districts so that we know the kids that are getting services and who will be coming into the program.

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: Identifying needs and recommendations, how we want to address these, community recommendations, regional recommendations, and state recommendations as an Action Council for Regional Needs Assessment.

- Programs that address caregivers
- ECEC Regional Collaboration
- ECEC Mental Health Resources
- Transportation
- Support groups
- Data
- Workforce
- Early Childhood Education and Care Slots
- Investments by local and state funds
- Early Intervention services, and within the community that child needs these services (Gaps)
- Workforce Wages
- Child care for 0-2 years of age
- Affordability
- Diversity of voices to be heard.
- Funding opportunities
- Awareness of ECEC programs, Marketing
- Workforce
- Community Awareness

Decisions made: To make sure that we stress that it is a rural need, for rural communities. When we address businesses and communities, we need to stress the



importance of giving or supporting child care and early education for their workforce's future.

Follow-up/Next Steps: Who will be staying on as a Council member?