



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 40 Action Council Meeting

**Location: Virtual and in person**

**Date & Time: January 31, 2023, 6:30 pm-8:30 pm**

Council Members present: Amy Hess, Stephanie Emery, Laura Sams, Maria Schulte, Marla Willard, Cindy Rice, Sarah Schmidt, Kristine Stanley, Jennifer Lubrant, Kelsey Arnold, Amber Nash, Molly Peters, Lisa Goode, Lisa Kallal  
Council Members Absent: Amanda Goben, Regina Lindsey

#### **6:30 pm: Welcome (10 Minutes)**

Notes:

- Introduction

#### **6:40 pm: Review from Past Meeting Notes (10 minutes)**

Notes: What populations are not being represented? What focus groups or interviews should we be contacting?

- College Students with young children.
- Migrant workers
- Incarcerated population is a big hurdle.

Notes: For any events that the council members know of that we could attend, you may email Keppen Clanton, Lindsey Coultas, or Lisa Wojcik.

Notes: Virtual County Hall Meeting, February 23, 2023.

#### **6:50 pm: Data Walk (30 minutes)**

Notes: Children ages 0 to 5 by County

- The number of children in Macoupin County
- There are only 300 or so children between Green and Jersey
- Community Systems Development
- Surprised by the number of Children in Greene County
- The Numbers are higher for 0-2 children.
- A substantial number of kids in the four counties, were surprised by the number of 5009. (Based on census data from 2020) and will impact the school.

Notes: Child Care Capacity Slot Gap

- Is this number before covid shut down many Daycares?



- We have over 4000 without slots. Very large slot gap.
- We only have 993 spots, and what number are we funded for?
- So many children are not being served.

Notes: Number of Childcare Centers/Home Sites and Capacity

- I am surprised that there are so many more family childcare homes compared to childcare centers.
- How many of these have closed in the last two years and why have they closed?
- What is the cost of licensed childcare cost vs. a home not licensed?
- How many unlicensed childcare centers are there not being reported.
- What barriers are there to getting an in-home daycare licensed.

Notes: Publicly Funded Programs No's ad Capacity.

- **No Early Head Starts that are reported, only home-based not Center based. Only 24 slots for children.**
- **Calhoun County Center based closed because of enrollment.**
- **Calhoun County school district has a preschool for all with 40 slots, and it meets the need of the area.**
- **Calhoun Counties' goal is to open a center-based EHS program.**

Notes: Publicly Funded Slot Gap – Calhoun Total no. of Children and Programs

- Out of 263 in Calhoun county how many of the children are attending a preschool for all or a head start program? Data is needed for this. The proposed capacity for preschool for all is 40.
- If there are a number of slots that are not adequate to meet the need of that space, is it easier for your child to receive services based on where you live?
- Poverty level is so low, Macoupin County couldn't find enough children to fill the slots for this program.
- Families cannot get services due to making too much money.
- How many families are going to other counties because they work in another county, and will drop them off in that area?

Notes: Greene Total No. of Children and Programs

- The 0-2 number for Greene County is very high.
- Greene County Head Start is waiting on staff to get trained and or hired. Could have 40 but only 20 due to the staffing shortage.
- The numbers are really beginning to impact, the need, and resources for our early intervention.
- Greene County zero to three programs had more prenatal this year.
- Greene County also has a new pre-k school on Main Street in Carrollton.
- Carrollton has a parochial school that has preschool, and they are not full.



- Slots are there, but there are several barriers to filling the slots, such as a lack of benefits for the workforce, transportation, etc.

### **7:25 pm: Priority Populations Data (10 minutes)**

Notes: Who is not at the Table and whom do we need to make sure we are elevating their voices?

- Grandparents raising children.
- How many centers did we used to have in our region and no longer have and why did they close?
- Middle-Class people
- Childcare that have closed and left the field, why?
- College students with young children
- Migrant workers
- Young parents

### **7:45 pm: Open Discussion (35 minutes)**

Note: Open Discussion

- Kids getting speech on zoom is a
- barrier.
- Counties not being able to find staff such as speech pathologists this year.
- Only one drop of spot for children
- Income is a barrier because of transportation.
- Having a lot of trouble getting our home visiting birth to-three families to engage EI Services.
- Buses to drop off working parents' children at in-home daycares.
- Transportation in the middle of the day for working families.
- Short staff of bus drivers.
- No place to take working families' children because no daycare for the summer.
- Once a family is qualified with west central Childcare, there is no place to send them.
- Lack of local childcare options
- Caseloads for intervention staff are overloaded.
- EI services, if they show up to a home and they do not get to supply services because they were not home, or they were not ready they do not get paid for that. Mileage maybe paid but the time that they drive to the location is not paid.



**8:20 pm: EC Collaborations (5 minutes)**

Note: Formal VS. Informal

- AOK Collaboration is specific to Adams County the Health Department holds this grant.
- Tracy Foundation only goes as far as Greene County
- Capacity building grants Who? What? When? Where?
- Wasteland for collaboration in our Region with early childhood.

**8: 25 pm: Open for Questions/Recap of Meeting and What is Next (5 minutes)**

Next Meeting:

Date: February 14, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Hybrid – Via Zoom & Yonder Works, Carrollton, IL.