

NOTES

Region 32 Action Council Meeting

Location: KCC North Extension, 450 N. Kinzie Ave., Bradley, Illinois

Date & Time: May 4, 2023, 9:00-11:00 am

Members Present: Sheree Sykes, Chrissy Nojd, Cindy Luzeniecki, Rosemary Pistorius, Carolyn Short, Mary Self, Cindi Schimmelpfennig, Lovice Brinkman, Rachel LaGessee, Newcomb Mowrer, Rhonda Showers, Rebecca Kroiss, Erin Goldenstein, Amanda Chorak, Pamela Powell

Members Absent: Amanda Parks, Christine Johnston, Rebecca Graham, Jim Duggan, Rhonda Pence, Marquita Cox, Rita Armstrong, Holly Knupp, Theodis Pace

9:05: Welcome, Permission to Record

- Permission to Record was granted.
- Liz thanked the Council for their work and reviewed the remaining timeline for the ECEC Regional Needs Assessment and our dissemination plan.

9:10: Review Strengths and Needs

- Liz reviewed our Recommendations from previous meetings and the Action and Family Council's Utopia of Needs in our Region.

9:15: Jamboard Activity:

- The Council used Jamboard to sort the common Region 32 Needs and Recommendations to use for our Final Assessment.
 - Foster Care Children added to Mental Health Support/Wrap-Around Services Recommendation.
 - IRIS program added to the Mental Health/Wrap-Around Services Recommendation.
- Final Needs and Recommendations (in order of importance):
 - Quality Workforce, Recruitment, and Retainment
 - Continued funding for ECACE scholarships, increased hourly wages for staff, and additional professional development and support.
 - Centralized Community Network for Information, Referrals, and Resources
 - System of support to streamline Information, Referrals, and Resources for all entities serving prenatal to age eight.
 - Mental Health Support/Wrap Around Services for ALL Children ages birth to eight, ALL Families, and ALL Educators in Region 32.
 - Support the psychosocial, emotional & developmental needs of our children and families within the

- community but also the professionals supporting them.
 - Provide Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) slots and funding for Infrastructure for Region 32 based on need.
 - Physical space is needed to support increased slots by building infrastructures, renovations, or partnering with local organizations.
 - Accessibility to Transportation for children ages birth to age eight in ECEC programs, healthcare support, and family support.
 - Addition of public transportation, school district transportation, and funding allocated for ECEC programs.
- Recommended to be specific and concise using ALL language and Region 32 for the recommendations.

10:35: Regional Scan Draft Update

- Liz updated the Council on the Slot Gap, ECEC programs, and ECEC Workforce sections of the Regional Needs Assessment.
- The Council approved the above sections, as drafted for State team approval.
- Liz shared a “rough draft” of our Region’s Infographic.
 - The Council voted on the two quotes to use for the Infographic.

10:55: Q&A

- Liz shared with the Council about the one-year evaluation that will be sent via email.
- Liz asked the Council to think about the Dissemination Plan – Whom do we need to meet with and present to? Who is not included that needs to be involved?
 - We will make a list of these at the next meeting.
- Liz talked about the Request for Proposal (RFP) 2024 Early Childhood Grant Preschool for All 3-5 and asked the Council to let her know if they would like more information.
 - Priority List for our Region: Donovan CUSD 3, Iroquois West CUSD 10, and Manteno CUSD 5 (these zip codes will receive priority points on application – if you do not fall into one of these zip codes you can still apply.)

11:02: Adjourn

**Next Meeting: May 25, 2023
9:00-11:00am
KCC NEC**