



## AGENDA

### Region 26 Action Council Meeting

Location: Zoom, Trinity Lutheran Church Canton IL

Date & Time: 6:00-7:45pm | [Virtual Link](#)

PowerPoint PDF Version to print | [Click here](#)

In Person: Angela Hale, Tricia Hecox, Micah Garnett, Paul Larson, Lacie McGraw, Shannon McKee, Josh Pickel

Virtual: Christy Ackman, Elizabeth Adler, Marc Baxter, Cara Erude, Amy Gee, Angela Vera,

#### 6:00pm: Welcome (10 minutes)

Facilitator(s): Paul Larson

Decisions: n/a

Next steps: n/a

#### 6:15pm: ECEC Programs County Specific(65 minutes)

Facilitator(s) Paul Larson and Shannon McKee

Decisions: What stands out about ESRI DATA?

comments include

- median household income is low
- the average age is 55+
  - doesn't fit what we're seeing in town (young families are moving in since the pandemic)
- members of the community would rather shop local over shopping in big box chain stores.

First impressions

- Behind, not many ecec in the areas
- schools are the epicenter of the community
- no dental that accepts public aid in the community
- have to drive out of the area for that (for a minimum of 20 minutes)
  - Questions by the members.
    - if you have to drive for the services are they more likely to move out of the area to be closer to the services?
- Strengths
  - School system



- public library
- performing arts center
- movie theater
- Recreation facilities
- Weaknesses
  - limited family services
  - middle of nowhere
- Opportunities
  - Income coming in to support the community
- Threats
  - Limited services
  - limited income for the residents
  - limited jobs
  - lack of Child Care
  - leaving town to find services
  - mostly minimum wage jobs unless you have an education.
- Rushville is a small town that feels peaceful.
- more people moving in because of the influx of remote jobs and fiber optic being offered in the area, and its cheaper living.
- Rushville is looked to be "self-sufficient"
- All classes in Rushville are well utilized by the community

#### Enrollment

- Members stated
  - They are surprised by fine motor skills are not where it needs to be
  - Children are coming in at a 2-year-old level
  - Delayed at the social/emotional level
  - Would like to see one on one aides in the classroom of child care settings

#### Barriers

- Finding qualified teachers
  - Licensing for home care providers is hard to navigate
  - Streamlining qualifications process (you can have a masters in one degree and not be able to be a teacher in preschool)  
Should be streamlined the same as the school
- Raise the pay of Child Care centers to match the public school system.



- Not kindergarten ready
- not enough openings in lower-age children (Birth to Two years old)
- It is cheaper to utilize different child care such as non-qualified home providers, or family and friends

Next steps: n/a

**7:15pm: On the Radar & Housekeeping:** (15 minutes)

Facilitators: Shannon McKee & Paul Larson

Decisions: n/a

Next steps: n/a

**7:25pm: Wrap Up (5 minutes)**

Facilitator: Paul Larson

Decisions: n/a

Next steps: n/a

[Photo Release — Birth to Five Illinois](#)

Next Meeting

Date:

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Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, Canton IL, Virtual