



MEETING NOTES

Region 13 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: 10/20/2022, 12:30pm-2:30pm

Council Members present: Tranae Brockhouse, Kara Boozer, Crystal Donoho, Deborah Lewis, Christy Jean

Council Members absent: Maria Koehler, April Higgins, Jill Wardlow

12:30 Welcome & Introductions (7 min)

Notes:

- Agreements for an effective meeting space was reviewed
- Heather Pruett – Regional Council Manager, Brittany Lemons – Family & Community Engagement Specialist, Jessica Chin – Administrative Support, Christy Jean – Director of Rend Lake College Children's Center, Crystal Donoho – Director of Children's Learning Center at Kaskaskia College, Kara Boozer – Youth development educator at University of Illinois Extension, Tranae Brockhouse – Director of Project Child and Child Care Resource and Referral Office at Rend Lake College, Deborah Lewis – Tender Hearts Day Care

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

12:37 Icebreaker Activity (7 min)

Notes:

- Action Council members picked an emoji to describe their initial reaction the first time they heard of Birth to Five Illinois.
- The activity showed a mixture of excitement and uncertainty.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

12:44 Introduction to Birth to Five Illinois, Council Purpose & Member Expectations (33 min)

Notes:

- The current funding model was presented and was perceived as convoluted and chaotic.
- The need for a new Early Childhood Education & Care system was evaluated.



- Reviewed Action Council's focus and commitment on racial equity, family voice, prioritizing access, and partnering with community collaborations.
- Discussed the purpose of the Family Council and selection process.
- Explained the purpose of data collection and the role providers have on input.

Decisions made:

- Inequities, access, and the pandemic were all identified as reasons to make improvements in the Early Childhood Education & Care system.

Next Steps: N/A

1:17 Break (6 min)

Notes: N/A

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

1:23 Community Agreements, Meeting Roles, Self-Permission Document (15 min)

Notes:

- Worked on Community Agreements as a council.
- The Self-Permission form was presented.
- Discussed best practices on how we can stay engaged in our work.

Decisions made:

- Action Council agreed with the current community agreements and felt everything was covered.
- Council members would like data and updates in advance of meetings.

Next Steps:

- We will review the Community Agreements every meeting and open it back up for discussion when our new Action Council members are seated.

1:38 Meeting Schedule & Location & Hybrid Discussion (11 min)

Notes:

- Action Council made decisions for day, time, and virtual platform for future meetings.
- New Action Council members will be seated in November.
- Family Council meetings will begin in November.

Decisions made:

- Midday/Afternoons on Thursdays work best for Action Council members.

Next Steps:

- Need to select volunteers to review Action Council packets.



- Action Council can reach out to Brittany about potential Family Council interests.

1:49 Questions & Concerns Document (10 mins)

Notes:

- Discussed the guidelines for the number of meetings needed per month.

Decisions made:

- Action Council agreed with making a recurring schedule for every 3 weeks.

Next Steps:

- The next Action Council meeting is scheduled for November 10th.

1:59 Adjourn

Notes: N/A

Decisions made: Meetings will be held on Thursdays from 12:30pm-2:30pm.

Follow-up/Next Steps:

- We will review the Community Agreements every meeting and open it back up for discussion when our new Action Council members are seated.
- Need to select volunteers to review Action Council packets.
- Action Council can reach out to Brittany about potential Family Council interests.
- The next Action Council meeting is scheduled for November 10th