



AGENDA

Region 26 Action Council Meeting

Location: [117 North Main St Canton, IL 61520](#)

Date & Time: October 12 | 6:30-7:50 pm | [Virtual Link](#)

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

Virtually present: Christy Ackman, Elizabeth Adler, Cara Erude, Amy Gee, Angela Vera, Sharon Warning,
Council Members Absent: Tricia Hecox, Michael Inman,

In person: Angela Hale, Paul Larson, Lacie McGraw, Shannon McKee,

6:30pm: Introductions and Welcome (10 minutes)

Facilitator(s): Shannon McKee- Regional Family and Community Engagement Specialist

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

6:45pm: [Adopt Community Agreement](#) (15 minutes)

Decisions made: All members present like the community agreement and chose that it will remain a living document and will remain at the forefront of the committee work.

Next Steps: Region 26 still will review on Monday, October 17

7:15pm: Demographic Overview (40 minutes)

Facilitator(s) Paul Larson, Lacie McGraw, and Shannon McKee

Demographic Landscape Analysis of Regional Demographics

- Notes: Presentation given via google slides.
- Members described the region with words as “quiet, peaceful, Rural, Large geographical area but low population, little transportation, Strong Family connections, Rural Help others mindset, increasing diversity in populations, friendly and caring about community. Macomb seems to be a tight knit community when it comes to early childhood education and other aspects of community. Ranked top ten places to raise a child/family. Resources are in the area but hard to find unless you know where to find them. Mental health help starts early.
- Members stated that the prices of childcare are rising and compared to the poverty level they noticed that the location of ECEC providers are comparable.



- Childcare providers lists provided broken up by county, to their best knowledge list was correct
 - Note made that just because the time on DCFS websites state they are open until it doesn't mean that they take kids until that time.
 - Note made- even if they are on the list they might not be taking kids at this time and might be letting the license go.
 - Hancock county is Heavy on Home daycares Note made "Hancock county makes sure to take care of its own, very spread out makes it hard for a center to be open that would be in a convenient location for everyone"
- Covid and providers
 - Note made- the older providers that have been open for a while closed their doors and retired when the pandemic started.
 - PPE, Grants, and CCAP took care of the providers when they didn't have any families attend
 - PPE given to providers
 - Grants were made available to supplement income lost during pandemic
 - CCAP paid 100% when families didn't attend during the shut down.
 - Grants still available for those still seeing the effect of COVID-19.
 - Inadequate number of staff to provide normal ratios
 - Emotional needs not being met for students
 - Social emotional skills are not there for the babies born during covid, making it difficult to teach, they have to teach all those skills that previous years have already come into school/pre-k with.
 - Will continue to see the effects of Covid on children for years to come.
 - The number of staff still is inadequate, no growth.
 - More speech and Language referrals not enough Speech and language pathologist/ therapist to take on the surge.
 - Childcare centers are feeling that they can't hire more workers, because the enrollment is down, but the number of slots available are lower due to inadequate number of staff members.

Decisions made: n/a

Next Steps: Links sent to the Action Council to ensure they have the most up to date information. Members will cross reference their own resources with provider lists for accuracy. Ask IECAM staff if there is a means to which we can know ethnic make up of children at provider locations.

7:35pm: On the Radar: Slot Gap Introduction & Wrap Up (5 minutes)



Housekeeping: Newsletter spotlight, Action Council Seating and additional member inquiry

Facilitator: Shannon McKee

Decisions made: n/a

Next Steps: N/A

7:40pm What's the Application/take home? (5 minutes)

Facilitator: Paul Larson

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Next meeting conversation

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

Next Meeting:

Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2022

Time: 6:30pm-7:45pm

Location: 117 N. Main Street Canton, IL 61520