



MEETING NOTES

Region 3 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: 12/06/22, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Council Members Present: Shannon Gelsinger, Natalie Repking, Sadie Ruholl, Brandi Page, Meghan Rewers, Kevin Busher, Megan Harley, Jamie Nichols, Paula White, Beth Wise

Council Members Absent: Carla Holtz, Adrienne Beavor, Ashley Harmon, Jessica Green

1:00pm: Welcome & Word Art

Notes: Introductions for new council members

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Update wordcloud word art for Appreciation Night

1:20pm: Regional Scan Priority Populations

Notes:

- Evaluated ethnicities in Region 3
- Evaluated household languages in Region 3 (2020 data)
 - CEFS Head Start provides literacy programs for refugees, immigrants, and homeless families
 - Languages: Spanish and a few others (couldn't recall) but there have been challenges in communicating with families who speak
 - Bridges of Hope - wealth of resources for Spanish-speaking families
- Region 3 Priority Populations
 - Poverty - Evaluated 100% and 200% poverty levels in the Region vs. state averages
 - Homelessness - Region is above the state average - Centralized in Fayette County, one of the highest rates of homelessness in the state
 - Programs in place to help homelessness - CEFS
 - There is state funding to help with rent or mortgage, rental deposit
 - Crisis Nursery will accept children if families are experiencing homelessness
 - Will provide food, clothing, baths, diapers, etc. for children while they are there



- There are no homeless shelters in our Region
 - Granite City is closest for a homeless shelter
- Housing assistance vs. homeless rates per county
 - Fayette County housing assistance is extremely low, but their homeless rate is skyrocketing
 - Lack of diversity in Fayette County excludes them from some funding assistance
- Abuse – Region is well above the state average
 - Child abuse goes together with high stress living conditions
 - Ages 2-8, Parent-Child Therapy - 12-28 weeks through AMYGDALA - Beth has had good reviews of the program from families
 - No Bond County mental health services for birth-to-five-year-olds

Decisions Made: share story-telling link from Birth to Five Illinois' website (mention anonymous option)

Next Steps: Research what other languages are spoken in our region; review more recent data on housing assistance per county; created a shared resources folder to combine everyone's contacts, organizations, etc. into one place

2:20pm: Pencil Me In & Reminders

Notes: Reminder to email their consent to share their information on our website and their RSVP for Appreciation Night; reviewed meeting time preferences

Decisions Made: daytime meetings work best, specifically 1pm via Zoom

Next Steps: review dates for January meeting times

2:30pm: Adjourn

Notes: reviewed action council's role after the Regional Scan is complete

Decisions Made: N/A

Next Steps: Send out January meeting times as soon as they are set

Next Meeting

Date: January 2023

Time: TBD

Location: Zoom