



## MEETING NOTES

### Region39 Action Council Meeting

**Location: Decatur Public Library**

**A.E. Staley Jr. Manufacturing Company Conference Room**

**130 N. Franklin St, Decatur**

**Date & Time: 10 am- 12 pm, December 8, 2022.**

Council Members present: Roberto Luciano, Karen House, Amy Steck, Brian Rhoades, Stephanie Strick, Megan Meyrick, Kristine Hansen

Council Members absent: Cathy Lucas, Jeff Dase, Maria Goad, Michelle Witherspoon, Tammy Robinson

#### **10:00 AM Welcome & Introductions**

Notes: Introductions were made by Birth to Five staff and all Council Members. Ice breaker activity was completed to identify how members were feeling heading into the meeting. Members described feelings of:

- Moving up in their position and seeing good things in the future
- Feeling as though they have been lifting up their employees
- Having a rough day
- Trying to find work/life balance
- Having a hopeful attitude and intending to bolster people as a goal

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A



**Start Time: 10:10 AM Finish writing Community Agreements**

Notes: Conducted a Jamboard activity for members to state what they needed to feel included, valued, safe & supported. An in-depth discussion was held to pull out the top 4 most important statements to create the Community Agreement.

Decisions made: The Community Agreement statements agreed upon.

Next Steps: Agreement to be created & available to Council Members

**Start Time: 10:30 AM Understanding Our Potholes- Analyzing Region 39 Demographics**

Notes: Discussed the strategic plan for Birth to Five Illinois slated by the State, including regional and community systems and data-driven allocation of resources. A conversation was held around the following:

- Goals for Birth to Five Illinois assigned by the State
- The potholes that keep us from achieving the State's goals by finding the root causes
- Region 39 demographic overview and in-depth analysis of the data
- Ways to start getting more interest in the younger generation to want to have a career in childcare and keeping them in their positions long term
- Reasons for the exodus of teachers and providers from larger cities in the community
- The lack of slots in the community that will accept CCAP and the lack of centers that will take DCFS-paid childcare assistance

Decisions made: Further discussions on these topics will be addressed as we move forward with the Council's goals

Next Steps: N/A

**Start Time: 11:40 AM Meeting Schedule/ Location & Hybrid Discussion / Training**

Notes: Further cadence of meetings was discussed. It was announced that our Family Council met on 12/6/22 and produced value-added discussions and team building.



Also discussed were the new ISBE-related questions as to what services are needed in our counties. The council agreed on the services needed.

Decisions made: Council agreed to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday mornings of each month

Next Steps: Heather to continue to send out meeting invitations. Heather will also update the ISBE file regarding services needed in Macon & Piatt counties.

**Start Time: 11:45 AM Reflection**

Notes: Council Members had a moment to return to the activity at the beginning of the meeting and discuss how they were feeling now that the meeting is about to adjourn. Member's reflections were:

- Members discussed after the detailed and in-depth discussion they felt tired

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

**Start Time: 11:55 AM Questions & Comments**

Notes: No Questions from members currently

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A