



MEETING NOTES

Region 44 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: 12/8/2022, 11am-1pm

Council Members present: Diana Hartmann, Elyse Sereyka, Jamee Potash, Susan Beckman, Kim Lamz

Council Members absent: Donna Emmons, Michele Holden, Lori Lanphier, Jen Nowicki

11:00 Welcome & Review of Community Expectations (5 minutes)

Notes: All current and new members of council reaffirmed agreement to expectations

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:05 Introductions & Ice Breaker (10 minutes)

Notes: Everyone shared their name and organization.

Diana Hartmann- Regional Superintendent of Schools

Elyse Sereyka- Program Manager HUG (Helping Us Grow)

Jamee Potash- Assistant Director Friendship House

Susan Beckman- Program Manager Child & Family Connections

Kim Lamz- Director 4-C: Community Coordinated Child Care

Kris Cozzi- Family & Community Engagement Specialist Birth to Five Illinois

Samantha Marcellis- Regional Council Manager Birth to Five Illinois

Kerri Ruddy- Regional Administrative Support Birth to Five Illinois

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:15 What are the High Needs for McHenry County (ISBE information gathered) (30 minutes)

Notes: Council discussed what the high needs for McHenry County were. PFA, PFA Expansion, Early Head Start, Migrant Head Start, and CCAP dollars were the topic points.

Decisions: Who is responsible for referrals? Ex: pediatrician, OB/GYN, etc. There will be further discussion.



Next Steps: Samantha to investigate referral mandates from pediatricians in the county.

11:45 Trainings from Illinois Action Council for Children (5 minutes)

Notes: There will be follow up discussion offered around the on-demand training series that is available to members of the council.

Decisions: Let Samantha know if you are interested in the follow up groups.

Next Steps: Samantha will send links to anyone interested in the trainings.

11:50 Early Childhood Collaboration Data and Discussion (40 minutes)

Notes: The Action Council discussed the following questions about the Early Childhood Collaboration Data

1. What is the region's community collaboration landscape?
2. What are existing collaborations or community groups working on?
3. Are there areas of the region where there are no community collaborations?
4. How does it connect with the broader regional community systems work?
5. Are there smaller/local areas that might be ready for a local collaboration? If so, what supports might they need to begin? If not, then what needs to happen before a local collaboration can begin?
6. What questions are unasked/unanswered about local collaborations in your region?
7. What questions should be asked of local collaboration leaders in your region?
(Will help in the development of focus group/interview questions.)

Group collaboratively worked on Jamboard to answer the above questions.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: Everyone is welcome to go back to the Jamboard and add items to the board for further discussion at next meeting.

12:30 Interview and Focus Group Questions Brainstorm (20 minutes)

Notes: Reviewed preestablished questions and asked for more ideas from council members.

Decisions: N/A



Next Steps: Members were asked to go back to the Jamboard and answer the questions we didn't get to.

12:50 Family Council Update and Appeal for Recruitment (5 minutes)

Notes: Updated council on numbers of people on Family Council.

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps: Let Samantha or Kris know if have any families that may be interested in the council.

12:55 Check-Out and Share-Out (5 minutes)

Notes: N/A

Decisions: N/A

Next Steps:

1. Plan Focus Groups with staff for January/February at various agencies.
2. Council members will share Family Council information within their network;
The council can have up to 15 members and we have a hybrid option.

Next Meeting: 1/12/2023, 11am-1pm, Virtual