



MEETING NOTES

Region 50 Action Council Meeting

Location: St. Clair Regional Office

Date & Time: 11/2/22, 10:30am-12:30pm

Council Members present: Janice Moenster, Gina Ruther, Gina Harding, Jen Knepper, Chinita King, Sheri Kraus, Brenda Crisp, Jessica Seger

Council Members absent: Tamara Vaughn Walker

Staff: Stephanie Herling, Shameka Brown, Tabitha Luczak

10:30am Welcome & Introductions & Review of Community Agreements (25 min)

Notes: Action Council members and staff shared their reasons for wanting to be a part of the change Birth to Five Illinois hopes to achieve.

Next Steps: n/a

10:55am Small Group-St. Clair County Demographics (60 min)

Notes: Action Council members were paired up to discuss the following questions surrounding the data. What do you notice? Do your experiences align with what the data shows? What are the experiences of the families that you serve? What is missing?

Decisions made: Action Council members developed a list of information they would like to see for data comparison.

Next Steps: Data sharing agreements with organizations that might be able to provide insight into the missing components.

11:55am Group reporting out/Questions (20 min)

Notes: Action Council members recognized there is a vast amount of data. They discussed the misrepresentation of children who are identified as Hispanic and English Language Learners (ELL). There was a discussion about the experiences that members are seeing in their programs. They noted that they have seen an addition of new languages coming into their programs, not just English and Spanish.



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Decisions made: n/a

Next Steps: Reach out to Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (IECAM) to get clarification on the representation of children who are identified as Hispanic and ELL.

12:15pm Connections (15 min)

Notes: Members were asked to reflect on: Improving and expanding the delivery of child care and early learning programs for children from birth until they start kindergarten. Participants imagined what it might look like five years from now if this statement was upheld. Collectively the council came up with “Families would have inclusive, high-quality choices with equitable funding that met the needs of all (language, race, special needs)”.

Ready4K pilot information was shared. Information was distributed on how programs can auto-enroll families into the program or how they can share the fliers to promote families to join on their own.

Decisions made: n/a

Next Steps: Action Council members will share flyers for Ready4K and Birth to Five Illinois with their organization.

Follow-up/Next Steps:

- Next Meeting: November 17th, 2:00pm-4:00pm at Regional Office of Education
- Data sharing agreements with organizations that might be able to provide insight into the missing components.
- Reach out to IECAM to get clarification on the representation of children who are identified as Hispanic and ELL.
- Action Council members will share flyers for Ready4K and Birth to Five Illinois with their organization.