



MEETING NOTES

Region 51 Action Council Meeting

Location: Springfield

Date & Time: Tuesday, December 13th, 2022, 6:00-8:00pm

Council Members present: Mitch Baker, Apryl Edwards, Jill Larson, Laura Pickrell, Debbie Tiskos, LeAnn Bell, Tracie Sampson, Lindsay Sleade, Kendra Day, Saraya Curry, Lajewell White, Lingling Liu, Savannah Wilken, Connie Shugart,
Council Members absent: Wendy Williams, Jamar Scott, Ya'shika Reed, Kayla Miller, Violet Wiker, Laurie Rhodes, Kevi Jackson, Christine Craddock.

6:00-6:30 pm: Welcome, Community Agreements, Ice Breaker, Future meetings (30 minutes)

Notes: Ashley went over community agreements and introduced the ice breaker. Each member went around and said their *name, who they represent, county they serve, and favorite Holiday dessert/cookie*. Icebreaker: On post-it notes, they answered, *something they like and/or appreciate about the Early Childhood Education and Care System*. Amanda collected them and posted them on a poster. Ashley discussed availability for future meetings. Questions were asked and answered.

Decisions made: Not to add any additional Community Agreements at this time. 2nd Thursdays of the month. Exception: next meeting - January 19th.

Next Steps: Send out email & Outlook invite.

6:30-6:45pm: Action Council vs. Family Council, How councils were selected, Who is sitting on the Action Council, Review Roles/Sectors (15 minutes)

Notes: Ashley explained the difference in Action and Family councils and how they were selected. Ashley went over who is currently sitting at the table. A paper was passed around for members to review their sectors/titles and information.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

6:45-7:15pm: Racial Equity (30 minutes)

Notes: The council watched "The Dangers of a Single Story" video. Ashley asked:

- How is the danger of having a single story relevant to our regional scan?



“No diversity”, “A complete misrepresentation of what’s really happening”, “It’s different by zip code”.

- What are some ways we can improve our ways at this very moment?

To answer this question, Ashley provided the members with resources in their folders to help them improve their ways right now. These are to help members be more self aware of racial equity and provide more tips and tools to bring racial equity to light. Introduced “Decolonizing Language Cheat Sheet” - to be aware of our language and practice inclusive language. Next, Ashley introduced a self permission form to the council members and asked them to sign it for themselves - explained that it’s for room for improvement, practice, and accept that we’re not perfect and we want to be better. Ashley discussed the importance of focus groups and interviews. She asked the council these questions:

- What voices are missing from the table?
- Who is trying to get into the room?
- Who is at risk from being erased from the room?

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Council will provide suggestions on who we need to interview or create a focus group for based on the questions above.

7:15-7:30pm: Regional Scan & Data Introduction (15 minutes)

Notes: Ashley went over the regional scan process, introduced IECAM and Asset maps databases and the other sources of data. Questions were asked and answered.

Decisions made: Ashley shared this PowerPoint would be provided to them which would provide them the links to the Data Sources.

Next Steps: Ashley stated to the Council that they could explore the Data Sources at their own will.

7:30-7:45pm: Agenda for future meetings, Foundational Trainings Intro, Family Council Meeting Report (15 minutes)

Notes: Ashley went over the topics for the future meetings until July. She then offered and recommended the Foundational Trainings by Illinois Action for Children. Amanda went over the Family Council report and a member of the Action Council responded with a resource. Mobile Crisis response for help with mental health crises - 217-788-7070 or dial 988. Mental health professionals can come to home or school.

Decisions made: Ashley shared the Illinois Action for Children Foundation Training/Education links are available on their Google Drive.

Next Steps: Ashley shared to please take these 20-40 minutes Education sessions at their leisure and shared how beneficial they would be to the work they will be doing.



7:45-8:00pm: Last Ice breaker: *Imagine you've completed the Regional Scan, How do you feel? What do you see? What do you hear?*

Notes: Members wrote their answers on a post-it note and Amanda collected them and put them on a big poster. Ashley read a few aloud to the group so they could hear from some of their fellow peers on how they foresee their work affecting the community.

Decisions made:N/A

Follow-up/Next Steps: Email Outlook invites to members for all future meetings in 2023 and look out for focus groups/interviews suggestions from Council