



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 19 Family Council Meeting

**Location:** Zoom

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 6:00-8:00 pm

#### **6:00 pm: Welcome Family Council Members, Review of Family Council Community Agreement (15 minutes)**

Notes:

- Welcome to Family Council members
- Google Folders are available for Family Council members to review information from each meeting.
  - If there are any questions or additional comments from a particular meeting please reach out to Claudia, [clangoni@birthtofiveil.com](mailto:clangoni@birthtofiveil.com).
- Review of Family Council Community Agreement and Courageous Conversations.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

#### **6:15pm: Ice Breaker (15 minutes)**

Notes:

- Family Council members shared what they are looking forward to this summer and their must-do for the summer.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

#### **6:30pm: DuPage Early Childhood Education and Care Regional Strengths and Needs (75 minutes)**

Notes:

- Brief overview of the Family Council members voices and additional input for the following meetings
  - Demographics
    - The thought that DuPage County is diverse when it is not as diverse as many people believe it is.
  - ECEC Landscape
    - Parents don't choose child care based on comfort and or trust but on the need for child care.



- Mother of a 3-year-old shared her story with a family council member, mother was advised by school staff to seek her pediatrician to medicate her child.
  - “It is hard to get your child to fit in a one box fits all.”
- School district using insensitive language toward parents and having a lack of communication with school incidents.
- Slot Gap
- Priority Populations
  - Dual programs look very different across the board, and even from one school year to another.
  - Continuity of care is needed for children and families involved with The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).
- Work Force
- Parent/ Family Engagement
  - Lack of professional translators/interpreters in a school environment.
- Conversation around additional strengths in the ECEC system for DuPage County
  - Home visiting staff have been great advocates for DuPage County families.
    - Families feel empowered thanks to home visiting staff.
  - Dual language programs, home visiting services, and preschool through school district being free have been a great help for families.
  - Resources available for families.
    - Emergency funds, holiday assistance, laptops
  - Fun and safe places to visit; children's museum, parks trails, family events.
- Conversation around needs for the ECEC system in DuPage County
  - More proactive outreach regarding services and resources
    - A simpler process for information to be communicated.
    - A “one-stop shop”
  - Cost of child care for low and moderate-income families
  - More efficiency in creating modified learning environments because one size fits all leaves too many people behind.
  - The ability to communicate in simple language.



- Family support/outreach targeted to families with young children to improve school readiness, enrollment, and attendance in school and community events.
- Improve overall family wellness.
- Support smooth transitions from home to PreK to grade school.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

### **7:55pm: Questions? (10 minutes)**

Notes:

- No additional questions from Family Council members

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps:

- If Family Council members have any pictures of their children from the Week of The Young Child, we would love to see those.
  - Please send those to Claudia along with the photo consent form.
- Although we are coming to the end of our Regional Scan, our work is not over. In May we will be presenting a full draft to our Family Council members to review and provide input.
- During the summer time we will be presenting our Regional Scan to our community.
  - We would love for any Family Council members to join or if they have suggestions on whom to present our scan to, please let us know.
- In May we will have more details regarding our next steps for Birth to Five Illinois.
- Claudia will be following up with each Family Council member soon to receive their input on continuing with the Family Council.

Follow-up/Next Steps:

Next Meeting:

Date: April 25, 2023

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

Location: 800 Roosevelt Road, Building A, Glen Ellyn/ Zoom

