



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 1BB Family Council Meeting #1

**Location: Virtual**

**Date & Time: Tuesday 1/10/2023 5:00-7:00pm**

Members Present: Azucena Galvez (Oak Park), Edith Vargas (Westchester), Cindy Albor (Stickney), Jukselin Nuñez (Northlake), Juana Avila (Cicero), Mario Porras (Franklin Park)

Members Absent: Susan Farnum

#### 5:00 Welcome

##### Notes:

- The meeting will be recorded. Meeting will be presented in both English and Spanish, with Lucy speaking both in English and Spanish; bilingual members encouraged to speak in both English and Spanish
- Introductions. Who are you? Who is in your family? Why are you interested in the Family Council? Answers included: want the best for my children and if there is any way I can be involved to improve life of children, I will get involved!; one of her children has autism and wants to serve as an advocate for all of her children; didn't know something like this existed; very excited about giving my voice and learning from others; want to do what I can to provide funding for children; nice to hear from other family; as a mother looking to learn more about ways to teach kids; learning from other parents will be helpful; want to be an advocate and connect with other parents

Decisions Made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

#### 5:10 Overview of Family Council

##### Notes:

- Community Agreements: Most common agreements are, "Respect, punctuality, and confidentiality."
- Purpose of Family Council  
Serve as advisory council to the Action council, need sincere opinions and input about things happening in their community; Advocating for family



needs; one Family Council member shared situation of driving far (an hour one way) to receive services for son with autism; took all day driving him and other children back and forth to school.

- Need representation from as many communities as possible
- One Family Council member shared that services depend on family's health insurance, difficulty with finding services with language support; the wait time to receive services is very long and is unacceptable.
- What is done with family's input- prepare regional scan and share needs of region with the state
- Responsibility of family council members-attend meetings and participate
- How to make sure parents are involved- it is difficult with children, need to feel comfortable sharing own experiences; how to create safe space; everyone here for same reason; care about our children and everyone's children; having presentation ahead of time is helpful
- Always going to be asking for recommendations from members; what needs to be changed
- Parking lot-will put ideas in "parking lot" for us to hold their place for later discussion

Decisions Made: Meetings will be held virtually every two weeks on Tuesdays from 5-7 pm

Next Steps: N/A

**6:00 Meeting Adjourned**