



MEETING NOTES

Region 34 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: 01/25/23 7:00pm-9:00pm

Council Members present: Dane Cruz, Maria Pizano, Pankti Jani, Brittany Nielsen, Jen Johnson, Kaylee Peters, Laura Rosales, Elina Gizatullina, Luisa Alfaro, Yoselin Martinez, Fernando Aceves, Ana De La Luz

Council Members absent: Tirzah Jones, Martha Campos, Katia Lezama, Taishiya Nix

7:00pm: Welcome, Review of Family Meeting Minutes (10 min)

Facilitator (s): Maria Pizano

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

7:10pm: Icebreaker/Team Building Activity (10 min)

Notes: If you could be any cartoon character, who would you be? And why?

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

7:20pm: Review Program and Services & Slot Gap information (80 min)

Notes: Presentation given by FACE Specialist Maria Pizano on the Demographics of Lake County

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: License Child Care Centers and License-Exempt Child Care Centers

- The difference between licenses and licenses exempt- do not get the same payment from state or have the same licensing requirements.
- Safety is the same requirement. Fire inspection is needed for both programs.
- More children if you are licensed.
- A license requires more credentials.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A



Notes: **Family Child Care Home**

- Two different home license-Individual and Group License owner and substitutes (CDA or More children if you are licensed college credit)
- Square Footage varies on license.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Preschool for All (PFA) And Preschool for All Expansion (PFAE)**

- Fox Lake- 2 half day and 2 full day programs,
- Priority is given to at risk families or score lower on developmental screener.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Head Start (HS): 3–5-year-old and Early Head Start**

- HS can serve children 130% below the FPL.
- Has the same pockets of poverty as the other slides.
- A lot more daycares in the Waukegan area.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Licensed Child Care, Licensed Family Care Center, and Licensed Exempt Family Care Centers**

- We are undeserving of our youth.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **IDHS Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)**

- 6,250 children being served currently,
- Childcare is not affordable w/o CCAP.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Average cost of childcare provider in Illinois**

- Daycares are getting good money.



- Is good to have all this information.
- A lot of daycares are here just for the money.
- Daycares are not paying enough attention to the children
- Daycares are not paying enough money to the staff

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Public Funding ECEC Sites**

- 6 programs HS currently,
- We do not have Early Head Start,
- HS work with Childcare centers to partner to get 1 or 2 classes,
- PI the # is in Highland Park but service the whole county.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Prevention Initiative**

- Family Focus has 165 families,
- Round Lake has 60 in 2021 and has 120 in 2022,
- Double Check total numbers.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Head Start and Early Head Start**

- HS work with child care centers to partner to get one or two classes.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Slot Gap of Prevention Initiative, Preschool for All, Head Start and Early Head start**

- More Children than programs
- We might have more Children but, parents are afraid to say they have other families living with them.
- We don't have enough spaces for all children.
- 3,802 Publicly funded slots,
- We are undeserving and we are undeserved,
- Not Surprising,



- 46,858 children do not have a Publicly funded Seat,

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Slot Gap of Licensed Child Care, Licensed Family Care Center, and Licensed Exempt Family Care Centers**

- 21,106 Total ECEC Slots,
- 29,554 Children with No seat 58.33%.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Data does not tell us**

- How many families do not qualify for CCAP by a small amount.
- Slot gaps are not equal, but the need can be significantly different.
- Where are all the children without slot at?

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Assumption should not be made from reviewing the Data**

- Not enough money to pay for teachers
- Having before and after care is needed for the half day programs.
- Some parents want daycares.
- Everyone can transport.
- Some parents prefer to stay-at-home mom/babysitters with the children.
- Should assume that everyone wants daycare.
- Maybe not have enough funds/money
- Parents give teachers more work/ not helping to work as a team.
- We need to know the breakdown of the family's income to properly understand which programs would be best (public funded vs. paid)

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **From where to get more Information**

- Baby Talk Waukegan Schools
- How can we get more raises for center staff?
- How to raise the wages of the staff with out charging more for tuition?
- We should find out how to start Licensed/ Family Daycares



- We need to attend more events to explain the Birth to Five Initiatives
- Council members join the FaceBook group and share with 10 friends.
- Invite Martina Rocha (Childcare specialist) to one of the Council Meeting
- Provide marketing/ media language for repost on FaceBook.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Notes: **Things Surprised today**

- Find out more information about Early Head Start
- Surprise that we don't have a Early Head Start here in Lake County
- We have more children and not enough sites.
- How much the numbers dropped in 2020.
- To see how many home daycares Waukegan and Round Lake are have and still Children are being left without a spot in the programs.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

8:40pm: Stipend information (10 min)

Next Steps: N/A

8:50pm: Questions (10 min)

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

Next Family Council Meeting on February 15, 2023 @7 pm (TBD)

**Next Steps: Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce,
Parent/Family/Caregiver Engagement, and Regional Strengths and Needs.**