



MEETING NOTES

Region 13 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: January 10th, 2023, 7:00-9:00 pm

Council Members present: Kathy Brown, Ranzie Callahan, Toni Carter, Jessica Hogg, Rachel Jackson, Lexi Kanteres, Katlynn Mullins, Jacob Purcell, Hannah Raney, Katie Schmollinger

Council Members absent: Sarah Brashear, Shelby Coke, Ashley Renth, Kelsey Smith

7:00 Welcome, Introductions, & Family Photos (15 mins)

Notes:

- Heather Pruettt – Regional Council Manager, Brittany Lemons – Family & Community Engagement Specialist, Jessica Chin – Administrative Support
- Family Council members introduced themselves and shared family photos.
- Jacob Purcell – Marion County, Kathy Brown – Clinton County, Toni Carter – Jefferson County, Ranzie Callahan – Jefferson County, Katie Schmollinger – Marion County, Katlynn Mullins – Marion County, Rachel Jackson – Marion County, Hannah Raney – Jefferson County

Decisions made and Next Steps: N/A

7:15 Ice Breaker (13 mins)

Notes:

- Family Council members went into breakout rooms to discuss their three goals for the new year.

Decisions made and Next Steps: N/A

7:28 Community Agreements Review (3 mins)

Notes:

- Worked on Community Agreements as a council.

Decisions made:

- Members agreed on the current Community Agreements to abide by within our meeting space.

Next Steps:

- We will review the Community Agreements at every meeting and open it back up for discussion.

7:31 Training and Support for Family Council (1 min)

Notes:

- On-demand foundational trainings were shared.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps:

- On-demand foundational trainings can be used between meetings to help us with our work.

7:32 Slot Gap Case Study Sharing (28 mins)

Notes:

- Brittany shared and reviewed the Slot Gap Case Study that was sent to the members before the meeting.
 - The mom is a pregnant single mother of four that has just moved to Nashville, Illinois. She has three children currently that have special needs. Find support for this mother and her family.
- Family Council members went into breakout rooms to discuss their findings.

Decisions made and Next Steps: N/A

8:00 Slot Gap Case Study Breakdown (28 mins)

Notes:

- Members came together to compile key components from the breakout rooms.

Decisions made:

- Single-parent pregnancy findings:
 - Medicaid, AllKids, Family and Community Resource Center in Jefferson County, and Washington County Health Department for WIC
- Child care findings:
 - No licensed child care was available in Nashville.
 - Pates Playhouse in Centralia, Home provider in Centralia, Project Child, and INCCRRA website has a list of providers
- Pediatrician findings:
 - The DHS office has a list that accepts medical card members, or the mother could access her specific insurance for providers.
 - Dentists are very hard to come by for medical card members.
- Before/After school care findings:
 - Currently could not find any before/after school programs in the Nashville area.
 - Woodlawn and Summersville have after-school programs. Woodlawn is currently free through the YMCA.

- School days off care findings:
 - The YMCA in Mount Vernon has summer break programs.
- Speech services findings:
 - The child's school/child care or pediatrician can refer them to the Birth to Three program.
 - When the child is registered into their new school/child care, they can reach out to the previous school/child care for records.
- Housing findings:
 - Since the mom is considered homeless, she could receive services for HUD and Section 8 through SWAN.
- Developmental therapy findings:
 - Birth to Three, Child and Family Connections #22, and Regional Office of Education 13 in Centralia.
- School for children findings:
 - Since the child is considered homeless, she can enroll in any school. This is provided through McKinney Vento.
 - Catholic, Lutheran, and public schools in Nashville.
- Weekend/Night care findings:
 - There is no weekend/night care found in our whole region and is a tremendous need.
- Therapy/counseling findings:
 - Spero, Cornerstone, Life Thrive in Mount Vernon, and The Community Resource Center in Centralia.
- Transportation findings:
 - The public transportation system in Centralia and Mount Vernon, but it does not allow children.

Next Steps: N/A

8:28 Closing Discussion (15 mins)

Notes:

- Shared Region 13's Facebook Group page and invited members to join.
- Discussed focus groups and interviews and requested members to send the consent form to anyone they believe would like to share their experiences.
- Brittany invited members to participate in National Day of Racial Healing.

Decisions made:

- Members agreed to move the next meeting from February 14th to February 7th.
- The Council Members indicated that working through the case study was a valuable experience in learning what services are and are not available in our region and that it would be difficult for a parent or caregiver who was not familiar with the area to find and access these services on their own.

Next Steps:

- Our next meeting will be February 7th at 7pm.