



## **MEETING NOTES**

### **Region 30 Family Council Meeting**

**Date & Time: November 10, 2022, 6:00pm—7:30pm**

Family Council Members present: Breanna Kobus, Micole Larry, and Amanda Hester.  
*Via Zoom:* Veronika Parrone, Kimberly Myers, Lyndsey McCann, Victoria Taylor, BreAnna Puckett-Woods, Keosha Woods, Amanda Sullivan, Sonya Clark, and Denasha Oliver

Family Council Members absent: Rhonya Fitzgerald, Alessandra Nicholson, and Nicki Rathert

#### **Welcome, Introductions of Regional Council Manager and Staff (10 min)**

Facilitators: Linda Poindexter

Notes: Linda welcome everyone to our first Family Council meeting. Linda introduced the Regional Council Manager, Zena Madison, and the Regional Administrative Assistant, Akemi Walker.

#### **Ice Breaker and Introductions of Family Council Members (40 min)**

Facilitators: PowerPoint Presentation by Linda Poindexter. Zena Madison, Linda Poindexter, and Akemi Walker—tell Your Story.

Notes: Linda, Zena, and Akemi shared their stories and experiences and opened the room for each of the Family Council Members to do so as well. Stories were shared in the following order: Amanda Hester, Micole Larry, Breanna Kobus, Amanda Sullivan, Kimberly Myers, Keosha Woods, Veronika Parrone, Lyndsey McCann, Breanna Puckett-Woods, Sonya Clark, Victoria Taylor, and Denasha Oliver. All members expressed their various challenges and struggles with early childhood in our Region. Most agreed that our Region needs more services and options. Linda thanked everyone for sharing their stories.

#### **Review of Community Agreements (30 min)**

Facilitator: Linda Poindexter, PowerPoint Presentation



Notes: Linda reviewed the Family Council Community Agreements which are the following:

- We treat each other with kindness and respect
- We honor each other's unique ways and ideas
- We respect all voices and all experiences
- We participate with an open heart and mind, while seeking to understand
- We actively listen for understanding, not only to respond
- We show grace and patience with participants and allow space for miscommunications, misunderstandings, and emotions

**Discuss: Roles and Responsibilities of the Family Council (30 min)**

Facilitator: Linda Poindexter, PowerPoint Presentation

Notes: Linda reviewed and shared the roles and responsibilities of the Family Council:

- Share about needs of families and ideas to improve programs and services
- Give feedback to the Action Council
- Advocate for family needs with local and state officials

Zena shared and emphasized the following information and the reason of the importance in our work.

- ❖ First 1,800 days of every child's life-the time from birth to kindergarten-is the most intense period of development in their lifetime!
- ❖ Initial data shows 3,800 children in Region 30 are not receiving services
- ❖ Only 1 in 4 Illinois children are ready to enter kindergarten

**Discuss: Meeting Schedule, Location, and Accommodations (10 min)**

Facilitator: Zena Madison

Notes: Zena asked everyone when the best time would be to schedule our meetings. Most members had conflicts with different dates/times. It was decided for Zena to send out a survey via Survey Monkey early next week to come to a consensus including the hybrid or virtual option. Zena also reminded Members to sign the Stipend Agreements. It was also mentioned that our Council will be provided access to a Google Drive where all documents and resources will be uploaded for reference. Linda thanked everyone for sharing their stories and for attending the meeting.

Next Meeting: TBD