



MEETING NOTES

Region 33 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: 11/18/22- 4:00-5:00pm

Council Members present:

Kourtnei Carlson, Jessica Alvarado, Leann Corson

Council Members absent:

Marie Gunde, Morgan Hubbard, Christopher Myers, Janel Young, Jessica Burrell, Lakota Beach

4:05pm: Welcome, Introductions, and Ice Breaker (10 minutes)

Notes:

- Recording Notification and Consent-There were No Objections
- Welcome & Introductions of Regional Council Manager & Staff
- Ice Breaker/Introductions of Family Council Members
- Council members shared their names, favorite activities and their "why" for wanting to be on the council. Shared information included:
 - Children are 2,3, 8, 11 and attend Christian School, Enjoys taking children to the Discovery Depot
 - Children 4, 5, 13, 14 -Enjoy Swimming at YMCA with kids -Enjoy helping others
 - Children 2 & 3 years old-Owens Play Place in Knoxville. Enjoys taking children to Discovery Depot. Children attend Learning Connections

Decisions made: N/A

4:15pm: Establish Community Agreements (5 minutes)

Notes:

- Guidelines we will follow as we move forward in order to ensure open, active, inclusive, and respectful dialogue and participation.



Decisions made:

- We will seek to understand differing perspectives, at times agreeing to disagree.
- We will not hesitate to speak up if you have trouble seeing/hearing
- We will respect each other's views.

4:20pm: Roles and responsibilities of the Family Council (20 minutes)

- The early childhood system in Illinois is complex and includes early learning, health and mental health, and family support and engagement programs. When ensuring every child is fully ready for school, communities often face a variety of complex issues that are not easily addressed with simple solutions or solved by one organization alone. It is important to move beyond building solutions through individual programs. When multiple agencies, organizations, and families work together, the available resources become more substantial and provide greater benefits that the community may utilize and further build collective power to influence systems and create social change. So, what does that look like?
- To elevate your voices in the decision making by:
 - 1) Sharing your personal experience, presenting the needs of families and ideas to improve programs and services unique to our communities
 - 2) Serve as an advisory committee for the Region's Action Council. Through our councils- ensure ALL children in our region have access to high quality education, so that ALL families that want a seat-have a seat.
 - 3) Your shared experience, information and recommendations will be presented to our state team in what we call a Regional Scan.

Decisions made: N/A



4:40pm: Meeting Schedule, Location, and Concerns (10 minutes)

Notes:

- Family Council members will serve as leaders in their communities gathering stories from their Constituents.
- Friend who was shut down by too many children with no license. It took months to get the credentialing to reopen.
- Summer care for children is a huge issue, Preschools are closed when school is closed.
- Learning Connections does a summer program.
- Early Childhood Care and Education is expensive!!
- Gets asked by other parents if they will open a daycare with the play place.
- Focus Group idea: Recovery Families

Decisions made: See Below

4:50pm: Next Steps (5 minutes)

Notes:

- Next Meeting will be:
 - Date: December 8, 2022
 - Time: 4:15-5:30pm
 - Location: Bondi Building, Conference Room
- Family and Community Engagement Specialist will:
 - Email Minutes of meeting to Council members
 - Submit Council Members for pay

4:55pm: Meeting Adjourned