



MEETING NOTES

Region 51 Family Council Meeting

Location: Birth to Five Illinois Building

Date & Time: November 17th, 2022, from 5:30-7pm

Council Members present: Mindy Parks, Megan Reynolds, Sara Trine, Kesha Harris, Lajewell White, Megan Dennison, Jamie Aldridge.

Council Members absent: Amber Shippam, Bushra Ali, Tanika Jones, Monique Nally, Antoinette Bidlingmaier

5:30: Welcome & Introduction of Region 51's Team (10 minutes)

Notes: Ashley and Amanda welcomed everyone to our first meeting. Ashley and Amanda introduced themselves to the council and explained their roles for Birth to Five Illinois and role for the Family Council.

Decisions made: n/a

Next Steps: n/a

5:40: Family Council Introductions with Icebreaker Activity (20 minutes)

Notes: The council went around the room and introduced themselves. Full name, where you live, your work/school/family life that you are willing to share, and

Icebreaker: *Tell us something no one knows about you!*

Decisions made: n/a

Next Steps: n/a

6:00: Introduction to Birth to Five Illinois, Council Purpose & Family Trust (20 minutes)

Notes: Ashley presented a PowerPoint of Birth to Five Illinois which included a short clip of Birth to Five Family Councils and the purpose of their work. Questions were asked and answered. One of those questions/concerns raised was about the multiple issues with the Early Education and Care System and how to tackle them all at once. This opened the floor for personal stories from those present.

Amanda presented and explained the Family Trust form.

Decisions made: We will be taking each meeting and topic issue one meeting at a time as to not overwhelm our Family Council, addressing concerns and questions as we can.

Next Steps: n/a

6:20: Community Agreements, Questions, Photo Release Forms, Stipend Paperwork (20 minutes)

Notes: Region 51's Manager, Ashley, scribed the council's shared agreements on a poster. The council's photo consent forms were collected.

Decisions made: Listen to Understand, Polite Re-direct, Be an Advocate, Start & End on time.

Next Steps: These are a work in progress, continue to add on at the next meeting.

6:40: Meeting Schedule & Location, Hybrid Discussion, Icebreaker Poll and Next Steps (20 minutes)

Notes: The council discussed their preferences and availability for the next December meeting. Amanda presented an Icebreaker question to the Council: *One thing you dislike about our Early Childhood and Care System*. They wrote their answer on a sticky note and put it on the poster.

Decisions made: December 14th, 2022 – 5:30-7:30pm.

Next Steps: n/a

Follow-up/Next Steps: Send out follow up email about the next Family Council meeting.