



Meeting AGENDA

Region 26 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: April 25, 2023, 6:00 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

Present- Claire Happel Ashe, Tori Buckert, Andrea Garnett, Orinda Gillham, Paul Larson, Ronacia Misinga, Lacie McGraw, Shannon McKee, Kelly Nelson,

Welcome & Introductions (5 min)

Discuss Region 26 Findings (30 min)

- **Family council members discussed findings with our Regional Needs Assessment, Members stated/asked the following**
 - **Is there a way to encompass neighborhood/community raised?**
 - **The world is not the same in that you don't rely on your neighbors like you used to be able to. ***
Meaning, you can't send your child down the road and other people can parent if the child is there.
 - **Lack of sense of community.**
 - **There are a lot of renters and temporary living situations so the lack of community might be the direct correlation to the lack of community.**
 - **Things are fragmented, everyone has their own affinity group.**
 - **Rank the Identified themes from most important to least.**
 - **Slot gap, travel, special services, lack of support/trust**
 - **travel, slot gap, special services, lack of support/trust.**
- 1. Access to Care & Special Services**
 - a. Agree with the statements**



- i. with in a 100 mile radius we have ZERO available places for special care and services.

2. Lack of Spots

- a. Personal experience so the lack of spots have come up more.
- b. Even with publicly funded programs those spots are only half day so you would still have to account for the care that the children need.
- c. More populated counties like McDonough and Fulton have the lowest amount of Family Care homes.

3. Lack of Support Structure/Trust

- a. Loss of strong community,
 - i. lack of sense of belonging and not having a strong connection to your neighbors/ community.
- b. More programs are opening up then previously or being advertised better.

4. Transportation

- a. Although we have to travel, we are blessed with not having to deal with traffic like more populated towns.
- b. The average commute time is 22 minutes for our region.
 - i. Comments include
 1. if you live and work in Macomb that would make sense, if you were to take Macomb out of that equation we feel that that would double the travel time.
- c. Family council would like to see if the data is available for the travel time to childcare facilities from home.

5. Of note

- a. Providers-need startup seed money to open a home provider, it takes 8 months to recoup the money.



- b. Screeners more prevalent in the community/marketing with Medical systems.**
- c. Capturing a wishlist of the community**
- d. More programs for parents/family strengthening**
- e. What are the hours of operation of providers?**

Follow up:

- a. What is the long term trend line of special ed iep in the counties?**
- b. Is there a trend line of providers over the years?**
- c. Family Structure by county**

Share and Discuss Needs Assessment Outline (40 min)

- Family Council stated the following.**
 - They would like to note that the lack of data makes it difficult to fully access the needs of the Region.**
 - Family Council would like a community list of what people wish were in the area, “wish list items for classes and support”**
 - National statistics to compare**
 - Therapeutic daycares/services**
 - Note- There are ZERO available within 100 miles**

Next Meeting

Date: May 8 and 10, 2023

Time 6-730 pm

Location Zoom, and ROE 26

