



MEETING NOTES

Region 24 Action Council Meeting

Location: Hybrid: Zoom & 1304 Sunset Ave. Suite B, Yorkville, IL 60560

Date & Time: 1/5/23, 11:00am to 1:00pm

Council Members present: Cory Mehnert, Melissa Vargas, Nancy Beal, Glenda Love, Jami Mast, Stephanie Adamson

Council Members absent: Michelle Polivka, Jessica Kubiak, Ann Marie Kuta, Genny Haggard

11:00am: Welcome & Introductions (5 Minutes)

Notes: Welcomed back everyone to the third Action Council Meeting. Sharkisha checked in with members regarding how their holidays were.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

11:05am: Ice Breaker Activity (10 Minutes)

Notes: members were asked to name a famous/well-known person they admire and why? Some of the key description words that stuck out were:

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|---------------|-------------|------------|
| • Ambition | Progression | Support |
| • Culture | Advancement | Truth |
| • Authentic | Inspiring | Advocacy |
| • Giving Back | Role Model | Confidence |
| • Authentic | | |

Sharkisha wrapped up this activity by tying all the description words to the work we are doing with Birth to Five.

11:15am: Community Agreements (5 Minutes)

Notes: Council members over agreed upon Community Agreements.

Decisions made: Action Council members all agreed on the Community Agreements

Next Steps: Continue to have open communication in all meetings.

11:20am: Demographics (1hr 25 mins)

Notes: We reviewed a list of key terms with council members. Sharkisha spent a few minutes explaining what it means to be a licensed exempt provider. Members were then shown the front page of the IECAM website for Region 24. And they spent time reviewing the information.

Key Takeaways noted:

- No Early Head Start programs in the region.
- Programs available are only serving 1,335 children out of the 15,347 children in the region.
- How can we access funding for Prevention Initiative? What is the criteria for running/hosting a Prevention Initiative or Early Head Start program?
- “Out of the four programs available in the region, less than 12% of children are served. If there is no education from birth, a child’s educational foundation is rocky. It is not built on equity if it is not on a solid foundation. Until we fix the equity piece, we just keep using band aids.”
- Need to bring awareness of all resources to the community such as WIC (Women, Infant & Children), SNAP, Medicaid, and CCAP services (Child Care Assistance Program).

Questions council members were asked

- What do you notice about the location of different racial/ethnic families compared to the location of early providers?
- Are the early childcare providers near areas of high poverty, close to public transportation if available? Close to where children live?
- What is the current FPL (100/200%)? Can families within those ranges afford childcare in our region?
- What does the data tell us about what our region might need in the future?
- What does this information tell us about our region?

Decisions made: Add Licensed Exempt Family Childcare Provider to the list of key terms.

Next Steps: Sharkisha will email members key terms list to use for future reference, action council will revisit steps to home visiting reporting.

12:50pm: Action Council Logistics (10 Minutes)


Notes: Briefly went over the agenda, and logistics for next meeting

Decisions made: Action council dates and time s will remain the same 1st and third Wednesday of the month at 11:00 am.

Next Steps: Review Slot Gap data prior to next meeting

Next Meeting: Hybrid
Date: January 18th
Time: 11:00am-1:00pm

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If you need a page 3. The notes shouldn't be longer than 3 pages. If they are, please contact Jes at jscheinflug@birthtofiveil.com