



Meeting Notes

Region 17 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: Thursday, February 15, 5:30-7:30pm

Council Members present in person: Sam Farris, Debra Honegger

Council Members present online: Lisa Hood, Krissy Conklen, Miranda Lin, Kris Pennington, Maureen Sollars, Pam Womack

Council Members absent: Molly Allen, Melissa Breeden, Kim Burton-Wernecke, Ashley Dowd, Judy Englebrecht, Kadi Juris, Kathleen Lorenz, DaWayne Morris, Sarah Shields, Dawn Wickenhauser

5:30 - 5:45 Welcome/Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Facilitator: Carol Weisheit, Regional Council Manager

Notes:

- Welcome to meeting seven!
- Community Agreements were reviewed.
- Icebreaker activity – If you could be a superhero for early childhood and early care field, what would your superpower be?
- Discussed the Governor's address and members were encouraged, but nervous wondering about the details and how it would all play out.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

5:45 – 5:50 Family Council Update (5 minutes)

Facilitator: Becky Thacker, Family and Community Engagement Specialist

Notes:

- The Family Council just finished its fifth meeting. Members have been shocked to learn details about different barriers to early childhood care and education.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Family Council meeting Monday, February 20, 2023

5:50 - 7:00 Continue Discussion of ECEC Programs (70 minutes)

Facilitator: Carol Weisheit, Regional Council Manager

Materials: Power Point

Notes:

- Head Start/Early Head Start additional information.
- Bar chart shared – capacity by publicly funded program type: 2020 data. Prevention Initiative data is outdated.



- Home Visiting Programs at Children's Home and Aid – funding for Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program will lose funding June, 2023.
- Discussion of Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) by Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies shared information on # of families who qualify for CCAP in McLean, Livingston and DeWitte counties; shared information on centers and home providers for # of children enrolled and wait lists.
- ISBE Programs (Pre-K and Prevention Initiatives)

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

7:00 - 7:15 Focus Groups and Interviews (15 minutes)

Facilitator: Carol Weisheit, Regional Council Manager

Notes:

- Focus Groups were discussed and several are in the works

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

7:15 - 7:30: Next Steps- (15 minutes)

Facilitator: Carol Weisheit, Regional Council Manager

Notes:

- RCM shared document about Regional Scan
 - Done writing by end of May.
 - Will delve into workforce at March 1 meeting.
 - April is regional strengths and needs/recommendations.
- Family Council and Action Council will meet, maybe at end of May. Will have to decide where and exact date at next meeting.
- What comes next?
 - The State Team will take our report at the end of May and use June to put it all together. In July it will be sent out to state agencies, the Governor's Office, and legislators. Regional staff will spend the summer out in the community sharing information from the Regional Scan.
- Thank you for your time and flexibility to make an evening meeting.
- EC Workforce March 1

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: visit the Jamboard and add any more ideas you have.

Next Meeting:

Date: March 1, 2023

Time: 1:15-3:15pm