



MEETING NOTES

Region 50 Action Council Meeting

Date & Time: February 14, 2023, 9:00am-11:00am.

Council Members Present: Jen Knepper, Gina Harding, Gina Ruther, Florence Cheers-Lawrence, Aimee Hart, Shamyra Brown, Kaelin Richardson, Jessica Segar

Council Members Absent: Regina Greer, Latoya Greenwood, Mark Eichenlaub, Angela Fraley, Janice Moenster, Chinita King, Kendall Perry, Carolyn Jason

Staff: Stephanie Herling, Shameka Brown, and Madeline Graham

9:00am Welcome & Introductions to Collaborations Discussion (15min)

Notes:

- Introductions were made, and announcements were given.

Decisions Made:

- N/A

Next Steps:

- N/A

9:15am Early Childhood Education and Care- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) (90 min)

Notes:

- Guest speaker Suzi Kollmann from CCAP spoke to present members about updates to qualifications for parents seeking childcare assistance.
- Discussion around questions that Council members and Staff had about CCAP for Suzi Kollmann.

Decisions Made:

- A copy of the presentations and flyers will be sent to region 50 Action Council members by Birth to Five Illinois: Region 50 staff.

Next Steps:

- Birth to Five Illinois: Region 50 Action Council members will review and share CCAP information and resources with their staff and families.

10:30am Small Group Discussion around CCAP (20 min)

Notes:

- Discussion was held surrounding the benefits and barriers of CCAP.

Decisions Made:

- Council members will reach out to families about barriers they have experienced with CCAP.

Next Steps:

- Suzi will check with the state team about Base Allowance for Housing (BAH) and Basic Allowance for Substances (BAS) being counted as income.

10:50am Report and Questions (10 min)

Notes:

- Information about the Week of the Young Child was given (April 1st to the 7th), and Birth to Five Illinois: Region 50 Council members were invited to share their organization's plans for the week.

Decisions Made:

- Belleville to Five Illinois: Region 50 Action Council members and staff will continue collaborating to create a cohesive Week of the Young Child for St. Clair County.
- Action Council members will share upcoming events with Region 50 staff in hopes that they may be able to attend.

Next Steps:

- Birth to Five Illinois: Region 50 will reach out to the Early Learning Partnership at the Madison County Coalition for Children and Families.
- Updates will be shared as Birth to Five Illinois: Region 50 Council members and Staff continue collaborating on events.