



Action Council All Member Meeting - Minutes

Action Council Members: Molly Allen, Melissa Breeden, Krissy Conklen, Ashley Dowd, Judy Engelbrecht, Debra Honegger, Lisa Hood, Kadi Juris, Miranda Lin, Kathleen Lorenz, DaWayne Morris, Kris Pennington, Maureen Sollars, Erin Weise-Reichert, Dawn Wickenhauser, Pam Womack

Date: September 20, 2023

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Attendees

Council members present:

In person: Kadi Juris, Miranda Lin, Erin Weise-Reichert

Zoom: Judy Engelbrecht, Ashley Dowd, Lakeesha Smith, Pam Womack, Molly Allen, Debra Honegger, Melissa Breeden, Kris Pennington, Lisa Hood

Agenda

1. Introductions

Notes: Members shared expectations about Action Council work and the excitement of the experience of the past year.

2. Group agreements

- a. RCM reviewed the agreements from last year and asked for any changes or additions.

3. Year 1 Overview

Notes:

- a. RCM reviewed the work done for the Regional Needs Assessment, reminded about the access link where members can access it, and mentioned that all members will have a hard copy.
- b. Dissemination events: RCM informed members of the City of Bloomington Council and Kiwanis meetings. Upcoming dissemination meetings: The Regional Office of Education (ROE), McLean County Directors of child care centers, and Unit 5 Administrators. RCM informed that the team was at



Livingston Mental Health and trying to meet with the Economic Development Councils in the 4 counties.

4. Addendum

Notes:

- a. RCM informed members of the highlights included in RNA Addendum which will be submitted to the State team on October 2nd.

5. Action Plan recommendations

Notes:

- a. RCM discussed the Action Plan to be developed for the work October to January. Two or three recommendations, selected by Action and Family Councils will be worked on through workgroups. The Action Plan will be submitted to the Illinois Department of Human Services, published, and distributed throughout the community.

- b. Instructions to vote: RCM had a link to a Google slide for voting and results were:

1st Choice: Ensure that salaries and benefits reflect the educational and training achievements of ECEC staff and are competitive with non-ECEC fields to attract more individuals to the ECEC field.

2nd Choice: Broaden public awareness of publicly funded state and federally funded ECEC programs, services, and resources.

3rd Choice: Develop a recruitment plan for family/group child care home providers in rural areas.

- c. RCM shared that the absent Action Council members will get a chance to vote., Family Council will vote, and the voting will be merged.

6. Meeting Schedule and Cadence

- a. Meeting dates, times, and details will be forthcoming via email after the Family Council meeting.

Next Steps

- Workgroups will begin the work on the recommendations.