



Action Plan Workgroup Agenda

Action & Family Council Members.

Tuesday, October 17th, 2023

Attendees

AM Workgroup present: Kristin Ford, Bettye Cohns, Maureen Hallagan, Kate Warach, Michele Ramsey, Lisa Merdinger, Yazmin Tajeda, Sharmishtha Goel, Wendy Mamola, Keith Thompson.

Agenda

1. Welcome/ Group agreements.
 - o Today marks the kickoff of our first workgroup meeting.
 - o Members can attend either AM or PM sessions once a month, with one full council meeting (Action or Family Council).
 - o Emphasis on new group agreements to foster a fresh approach.

Created group agreements:

- o Be respectful and show grace, acknowledging diverse perspectives.
 - o Actively listen without judgment.
 - o Stay committed to the process, embracing potential discomfort.
 - o Ensure everyone has an opportunity to share ideas.
2. Review of SMART goals- reviewed SMART goals as a group before going into breakout rooms.
 3. Review recommendations, why the recommendation was made, and quantitative and qualitative data to support the recommendation.
 - o Discussed that we will be splitting into two breakout rooms based on the council members preferred recommendation
 - i. **Recommendation 1:** Build partnerships with health care providers such as developmental/mental health providers and local pediatricians. Increase access to early screening and resource sharing.
 - ii. **Recommendation 2:** Create a path for information sharing with families and help families make connections to community resources, such as:



- A comprehensive list of educational options for families.
 - A family and primary care friendly resource list of referrals that includes Early Intervention opportunities and locations.
 - Family and educator information events to build community, trust, and value of ECEC as well as parent/caregiver input.
 - Linking Child care homes, centers, and families with intervention services in the community.
 - Linking Families with educational videos and resources on developmental activities.
4. Member Share-out
- **Recommendation 1 workgroup:**
 - i. Why was this recommendation made?
 - Anyone caring for a young child goes to see a pediatrician.
 - Many programs are working in silos, a great way to bring everyone the same information; to refer families.
 - Families shared stories about important relationships with their pediatrician.
 - Opportunities for earlier referrals.
 - Coordination of services.
 - Lack of awareness about Early Intervention or the process of requesting evaluation for Part B services.
 - Well baby visits.
 - Untapped potential with Early Intervention, and prenatal care.
 - ii. What are the SMART goals that must be achieved to implement the recommendation?
 - Get feedback on the groups listed and add others missing in Action Council and Family Council meetings.
 - Find out if other organizations have a list of healthcare providers in the area.
 - Google search and see what the internet has to offer.
 - Look into public health departments and the information they have.
 - Ensure the message is clear:
 1. increase access to developmental screening.
 2. Resource sharing: define.
 3. Share the message of empowering parents.



- **Recommendation 2 workgroup:**
 - i. Why was this recommendation made?
 - Based on findings from the Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment. Families expressed concern that they didn't know how to access the information & resources they needed- would like a central place to get the information they needed- expressed by families as well as providers.
 - ii. What steps within each SMART Goal must be achieved to meet the goal?
 - **Improve communication-** Need a pathway for communication.
 - The child's teacher is often the first contact
 - It is hard for families to connect to lots of people,
 - A strong connection is made between teacher & family.
 - **Family Navigator**
 - Family Navigator could be the trusted person to assist families.
 - The teacher could facilitate an introduction to Family Navigator to help with trust and support the relationship.
 - Need for authentic relationships with the child's entire family.
 - Would help the child feel comfortable.
 - The first step might be to help families **first connect to a program/school.**
 - How are families finding out about resources?
 - Some areas have networks to help with this
 - Word of mouth.
 - Social media recommendations from other families.
 - Create a list:
 - possible ways to help families make community connections, considering those that don't have family/support around them.
 - possible avenues of information sharing.
 - local collaborations/coalitions that are connecting/ working with families
 - Look through data that we have on current services offered in our region.
 1. Make a list of possible Family Navigators.
 2. Think through their role.

5. Next Steps:

The PM Workgroup will meet on Monday, October 23rd, for further collaboration with other Family and Action Council members on Recommendation 1 and 2.