



## MEETING NOTES

### Region 24 Action Council Meeting

**Location:** Hybrid- 1304 Sunset Ave. Suite B., Yorkville

**Date & Time:** 8/9/23, 11:00 am- 12:00 pm

Council Members present: Ann Marie Kuta, Cory Mehnert, Glenda Love, Jessica Kubiak, Genny Haggard, Melissa Vargas, Michelle Polivka, Nancy Beal  
Council Members Absent: Jami Mast

#### **11:00 am-11:05 am: Welcome & Introduction (5 Minutes)**

#### **11:05 am-11:30 am: Focused Conversation (25 Minutes)**

Notes: Action Council members were invited to think about racial inequity, its' impact on early childhood education, and care in the region and what actions can help promote racial equity. As we move into our next phase of work, our next Council meetings will focus on the Addendum. Council members were updated on details of the Addendum which will be adding and or clarifying information/ feedback on the Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment. The Council also discussed details of our Fall work, which is the Action Plan that we will begin working on locally as a Council.

#### **11:30 am- 11:50 am: Updates (20 Minutes)**

Notes: Action Council members were given updates on the Region's Dissemination Plan and the Family Council status. We shared the partnerships and community stakeholders we are presenting the Regions Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment. Council members discussed the current Council meeting logistics such as time and day to ensure that as we move into Year 2 meetings the cadence still works for all. Council members were updated on the progress and plan of the Region 24 Resource Binder! Each Council member will be sent a copy of the Resource Binder and encouraged to share any additional resources that should be added. Action Council members were also reminded about the closing of Interest Forms for both councils coming up and encouraged to invite people to fill out an Interest Form within the next week.

#### **11:50 am- 11:55 am: Questions to Ponder (5 Minutes)**

Notes: Action Council members were asked the following questions:

- What area of the Region was hardest to engage? What can we do to prioritize this area?
- What voices were missing from the Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment? What strategy can we use to engage them?

Some responses included:

- Families experiencing homelessness and Refugees have been the hardest groups to engage in our work. These voices are missing from our Early Childhood Regional Needs Assessment.
- The IRIS System (referral database) needs to be across all counties throughout the state, not a county-specific program.
- The need for more resources for areas that need it most is crucial to being able to engage them. Housing assistance is backed up and lack of transportation are big concerns and needs for families in the Region.

#### **11:55 am-12:00 pm: Follow-ups/Next Plans (5 Minutes)**

The council discussed the plans for council meetings after the summer and welcoming new Council members next month.

Next Meeting: Hybrid

Date: September 13, 2023

Time: 11:00 am -1:00 pm



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](mailto:jscheinflug@birthtofiveil.com)