



Region 53 Action Plan Workgroup Meeting

Thursday, October 12th, 2023

Workgroup 1- Council members present: Brenda Lee Smith, Katie Olinger, Heather Schichner, Irene Diep, Christina Hutter, Staci Coussens, Carla Bagwell.

Workgroup 2- Council members present: Michelle States, Courtney Long, Lynn Burgett, Doug Bury, Allisa List, Ashley Walls, Phyllis Bliven, Amy Sloan-Gray.

Thursday, October 19th, 2023

Workgroup 1- Council members present: Brenda Lee Smith, Julie Swoik, Donna Ashley, Katie Olinger, Heather Schichner, Irene Diep, Christina Hutter, Staci Coussens.

Workgroup 2- Council members present: Meredith Kerley, Courtney Long, Doug Bury, Ashley Walls, Nikki Bilbrey, Phyllis Bliven.

Agenda

Group agreements with both workgroups.

Revisit our group agreements for how we will best interact and partner with each other.

- Treat each other with kindness and respect.
 - Listen with compassion and curiosity.
 - Hold all stories shared confidential.
 - Be mindful that everyone's time is of value.
1. Workgroup 1: Recommendation: Raise awareness about CCAP among families in the Region and work with community partners to provide support to families as they apply for CCAP.
 2. Discussed and answered questions 1 through 4 on the Action Plan Goal Tracker.
 - Question 1: Review recommendation, why was this recommendation made?
The Child Care Assistance Program is underutilized in the Region.
 - Question 2: What data supports this recommendation?
The number of children/families that would qualify for CCAP is far lower than the actual use. Families have discussed the difficulty/confusion around the application process.
 - Question 3: What are the goals that must be achieved to implement the recommendation?
Workgroup 1 filled out the Smart Goal tracker giving us a path to implement our larger recommendation.
 - Question 4: What are the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?



Workgroup 1 discussed risks/barriers and will focus on solutions to those barriers in the next meeting.

3. Workgroup 2: Collaboration among community organizations and local governments to promote and provide resources that families in the Region have expressed a need for, such as gas vouchers, public transportation, trauma therapies, efficient referrals, developmental screenings, English language learner courses, etc.
4. Discussed and answered questions 1 through 4 on the Action Plan Goal Tracker.
 - Question 1: Review recommendation, why was this recommendation made?
Families in the Region reported not being aware of the resources that are available and there isn't enough collaboration between local government, collaborations, and agencies.
 - Question 2: What data supports this recommendation?
Erikson Risk/Reach Report shows a high number of children living in Mason County are experiencing the child welfare system, Kindergarten readiness in the Region is low, and poverty levels are significant.
 - Question 3: What are the goals that must be achieved to implement the recommendation?
Workgroup 2 brainstormed Smart Goals and created a plan of smaller goals to meet our larger recommendation.
 - Question 4: What are the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?
Workgroup 2 discussed risks/barriers and will approach possible solutions in the next workgroup meeting.

Before next meeting...

1. Gather your thoughts and be ready to discuss answers to questions 5-8 on the Action Plan Goal Tracker.
 5. What are some proposed solutions to the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?
 - a. Revisit the goal matrix, do we need to add any goals/steps to the list?
 6. What organizations/agencies are needed at the table to meet goals and implement the recommendation? (Local orgs and agencies: specific asks/role and State orgs/agencies: specific asks/role).
 7. What individuals are needed at the table to meet and implement the recommendation? (Local individuals: specific asks/role and State individuals: specific asks/role).
 8. What funding would it take to implement this recommendation? (Local, State, Private).
2. Next meeting, November 2nd on Zoom 5:30pm-6:30pm for workgroup 1 & 6:30pm-7:30pm for workgroup 2.