



Action Council Meeting #5

Action Council Members

Date: December 5th, 2023 1:00pm-3:00pm

Council members present: Hunter Stuckemeyer, Diane Schoenheider, Kanella Maniatis, Bob Spatz, Kathy Slattery, Glenda Thomas, Emily Norman, Chelsea Guillen, Vivian Palicki, and Shannon Ellison.

Council members absent: Ana Guevara, Angela Hart, Dot Lamshead Roche, Linda Rios, Precious Porras, Rosalind Banks, Sarah Weston, and Tiffany Lewis-Arima.

Agenda

1. Introduction/Icebreaker.
2. State Updates.
 - a. Birth to Five Illinois Mental and Behavioral Health Services Survey, the Council was invited to participate and share with their networks.
 - i. [Early Childhood Mental & Behavioral Health Needs Survey \(jotform.com\)](https://www.jotform.com)
3. Group agreements.
4. Review October Workgroup results/Action Plan.
 - a. Note: Review of the feedback provided by the Data Strategist from Birth to Five Illinois on the recommendation to increase service and delivery options for children with developmental delays/disabilities.
 - b. Note: Minor edits were made to the Action Plan based on feedback. Edits were shared with the Council members and a consensus agreement for edits was made.
5. Recommendation Recap for December.
 - a. Note: Feedback from the community birthed the recommendation to expand early childhood collaborations.
 - b. Note: Vivian Palicki from West40 ROE completed a feasibility assessment and found that for Region 1-B-B, over 80% of schools in the districts are without an early childhood collaborative support system.
 - c. Note: Supporting the need for early childhood community collaborations was the data from the 2021 Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) as it relates to the school readiness of children.
 - d. Note: Only five out of 30 municipalities in Region 1-B-B are served by a collaboration.
 - e. Note: Discussion on the Widen System Impact from the Collaboration for Early Childhood Oak Park and River Forest.



- i. Including participation from staff in the work of the Action Council and at other levels.
 - ii. The Collaboration is actively seeking funding opportunities to support the Widen System Impact.
 - iii. The Collaboration is seeking opportunities to build relationships with early learning professionals and families in surrounding communities.
 - iv. The Collaboration is available to provide support to agencies who request guidance.
 - f. Note: Community Systems Statewide Supports (CS3) through Illinois Action for Children is also available to provide foundational support for collaborations.
- 6. Root Cause Analysis.
 - a. Note: Challenge: Collaborations do not exist in any areas of the Region.
 - i. Root Causes discussed: Funding, lack of vision and leadership, and unfamiliarity with the collective impact model.
 - b. Note: Challenge: Lack of state structure for supporting community collaborations.
 - i. Root Causes discussed: State-level early childhood education is split between multiple agencies. There is a debate over who will provide support. There is no state funding model for community collaborations. Difference between community-school-based and/ or municipality-based.
- 7. Recommendation Think Tank.
 - a. What are the goals that must be achieved to implement the goal?
 - i. Note: Considerations: Facilitating connections with existing collaborations. Defining services that collaborations will/can/should provide. Defining "community" (to the point made in the root cause analysis above). Defining "success" (what services are provided where?). Prioritizing what services are needed where. Identifying funding sources. Identifying appropriate governance structure.
 - b. What funding would it take to implement the goal(s)?
 - i. Note: Considerations: School districts, municipalities, State Grants- All Our Kids Network (AOK), and philanthropic support.
 - c. Are there community groups, agencies, organizations, or individuals working on similar or related goals?
 - i. Note: Considerations: West40, CS3, AOK, the Collaboration for Early Childhood of Oak Park and River Forest, and the transition team for the new state agency.
 - d. Are there other community groups, agencies, organizations, or individuals that would be interested in working on similar or related goals/recommendations?
 - i. Note: Considerations: Center for Early Learning Funding Equity, Local Inter-Agency Council, STARNET, and health practitioners including mental health.
- 8. Next steps.



- a. Workgroup dates and times for December were shared with the Action Council.
- b. More details for the January meeting structures and the months to follow.
- c. Please share with us any potential guest speakers to join our workgroups where we will further discuss the SMART goals for the expansion of community collaborations.
- d. Think about how you would like to complete the following statement, "It is our hope that the Action Plan will...".

Before next meeting...

- Attend a workgroup meeting and be ready to participate!