



MEETING NOTES

Region 1 Family Council Meeting

Location: Hybrid via ZOOM and at 608 E. State St. Jacksonville IL

Date & Time: Nov. 12, 2023 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Council Members present: Carlee Jobe, Chandler Keltz, Meyonna Minner, and Sara Ogden.

Welcome/Introductions/Icebreaker Activity.

Brittany initiated the meeting with an overview of the agenda and icebreakers focused on celebrations. Members shared personal updates, including sports wins, positive school experiences, and wedding anniversaries.

Action Plan Recommendations Progress Update: Recommendations #1 and #2.

Recommendation #1, "support the formation of three new collaborations or subcommittees of current working groups in Region 1 that are specific to ECEC systems by Dec. 30, 2024." was discussed. Updates were provided on the progress of Brown, Cass, and Scott Counties (see below for more information). No revisions to this goal were deemed necessary.

Recommendation #2 involves facilitating events to educate providers on licensing requirements in high-need areas using Regional community colleges and CCR&R's to support events offered to prospective center and home based providers.

Family Council members reminded that they are welcome to attend Action Council meetings and that they will be consulted for input and participation on both of the above goals.

Action Planning Exercise - Recommendation #3.

Discussion turned to Recommendation #3, focusing on creating a database of resources by county. Jamboard activity facilitated brainstorming and notes for Recommendation #3 (see Jamboard link in shared Google Drive folder for more details).

SMART Goal Development: The group discussed the timeline for gathering information for Recommendation #3. A 9-month timeline (by August 2024) was agreed upon for each county, starting with Morgan/Scott and ending with Adams County. Categorization and formatting considerations were discussed, including color-coding and the possibility of a FAQ sheet to help parents navigate the guide.

Updates on Regional Work.

- Scott County - we did bring together folks identified by FC and AC members as leaders in the community; 7 people in attendance; 6 of whom want to move forward with the work; conversations after the meeting include the inclusion of additional community leaders at a second meeting to continue the discussions regarding resources and options for families; possible interest in community needs assessment.
- Bridget asks if council members want to be invited to these events - if so, please let Brittany know and we will add you to the invite list
- Cass County - two County Board members are trying to form a collaboration to start a child care center; second meeting of that group will be January 10. Talks with Virginia School District Superintendent to support expansion in 0-5 for district in possible collaboration with the only child care center in the county/ Both B'town and Virginia possibly interested in high school course to credential Level 1 high school students to be ready to enter the workforce upon graduation
- Brown County: we believe they are official
- Pike County: some preliminary information from Pikeland school officials that they may be collaborating for a child care center(?)
- Faith based orgs: Salem Lutheran 2's classroom; conducted a visit with them to learn more and providing resources as needed
- Resource guide: we are working on Morgan/Scott resource collection

*Update re: Governor Pritzker's announcement of the intent to form a new state department dedicated to Early Childhood and bringing services currently housed under ISBE, IDHS, and DCFS under one department. We will keep group posted as more information becomes available.

Next Meeting and Closing.

The next meeting on November 29th will be online, and future Sunday meetings' feasibility will be discussed. Stipend payments and meeting content will be addressed in the next meeting. Participants were reminded of the availability of resources in the Google Drive folder.

The meeting concluded at 4:05 pm.