



## Action & Family Council Workgroup Planning.

Date: November 14, 2023.

### Attendees.

Council members present: Abigail Beam, Tori Beaty, Kara Boozer, Kathy Brown, Jeffery Callahan, Ranzie Callahan, Emma Conway, Shirley Gordon, Jessica Hogg, Lexi Kanteres, Hannah Raney, Katie Schmollinger, Jill Wardlow.

### Agenda.

1. Introductions.
2. Group agreements.
  - a. Community Agreements were reviewed as a Council. Members agreed to abide by the current Community Agreements within our meeting space and know they will be shared every meeting to open them back up for discussion.
3. Guest Speakers/Information from other sources.
  - a. Speaker 1: Ashley Baldrige. Higher Education Navigator. Recommendation 2.
  - b. Speaker 2: Jill Wardlow. Regional Office of Education #13 Early Childhood Collaboration. Recommendation 3.
4. **Recommendation 2: Locally, efforts are needed to increase quality by promoting and sharing information about the State's current workforce initiatives, furthering the education of current staff, and expanding the workforce in the early stages of career development.**
  - a. What are the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?
    - i. Break down negative mindsets.
    - ii. Educating current staff might be challenging with the current staffing shortage.
    - iii. High schoolers are not eligible for the current scholarships.
  - b. What are some proposed solutions to the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?
    - i. Information sharing with navigators, students, and the community.
    - ii. Getting support from college directors.
  - c. What individuals and/or organizations/agencies should be included in meetings to meet goals, take the steps, and/or implement recommendations?
    - i. Directors, administrators, Women Infants and Children program, Family Community Guidance Counselors, and navigators.
5. **Recommendation 3: It is recommended that the Regional Office of Education #13 Early Childhood Collaboration continue its work to become a Coordinated Intake and**



family navigation system. The Collaboration should work with local ECEC providers and programs, as well as a wide variety of community partners, to break down the siloed programs and services often seen in this Region.

- a. What are the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?
  - i. Getting buy-in from a community that has been siloed for such a long time.
  - ii. Parents and families not knowing that the collaboration exists.
  - iii. Time.
  - iv. Having the opportunity to reach out to home school groups.
  - v. Future funding.
- b. What are some proposed solutions to the anticipated risks/barriers to meeting goals?
  - i. Information sharing about the collaboration and what their goal is.
  - ii. Using parent educators from the new grant will help with information sharing and time.
  - iii. Get buy-in from current partners for the first couple of years and then start doing a membership fee.
- c. What individuals and/or organizations/agencies should be included in meetings to meet goals, take the steps, and/or implement recommendations?
  - i. Health providers, dental health, mental health, Women Infants and Children program, free community events, speech therapy, local mom and kid groups, churches, libraries, Birth to Five Illinois, Young Men's Christian Association, and Coping for Life.

### Before next meeting.

- If there are any other ideas we would like to add please contact Heather & Brittany.
- Start thinking about the questions for our December meeting.
  - What funding would it take to implement these recommendations?
  - Are there other community groups, agencies, organizations, or individuals working on similar or related goals/recommendations?
- The next set of Workgroup meetings:
  - The November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting has been cancelled.
  - December 12, 2023, 7:00pm.
  - December 14, 2023, 1:00pm.
- There has been a date change for January.
  - January 11, 2023, 1:00pm.
  - January 16, 2023, 7:00pm.