



All Action Council Members.

Date: November 08, 2023.

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

Council members attendance: Ashley Dowd, Debra Honegger, Judy Englebrecht, Miranda Lin, Kathleen Lorenz, Pam Womack, Lakeesha Smith, Erin Weisen-Reichert.

1. Introductions & Group agreements reviewed.
2. Guest Speaker - Kadi Juris, BA in Early Childhood Education and M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning from Illinois State University; Director of the Child Development Lab at Heartland Community College.
  - a. Discussed the Great Start Wage supplement scale.
  - b. Shared what other non-profit director's perspectives and issues faced.
3. Small Groups address the Action Plan.
  - a. Members agreed that the word "Ensure" in Recommendation 1 stays as it is written since it is the ultimate goal to achieve. Action Council member: "We have to make sure that people understand the importance of early childhood before we can ever get to this ultimate goal."
  - b. Group 1 discussion.
    - i. Teachers are out there but have moved on to other careers and are doubtful they will be able to come back to ECEC due to the pay.
    - ii. Need for public validation through using social media to lift the teachers staying in the field while adjusting the public opinion of ECEC.
    - iii. Cause and effect of child care was seen on the economy during COVID.
  - c. Group 2 discussion.
    - i. What are the careers to compare with ECEC for pay?
    - ii. Utilizing comparable fields of research already done.
    - iii. Changing/educating the mindset of those in ECEC that it is not just play it is learning through play.



Next steps: Review Action Plan document in Google Drive.

Next meeting.

Dec 13, 2023, 01:00 PM

Jan 10, 2024, 01:00 PM