



Action & Family Council Workgroup Meeting

Action & Family Council Members

Date: December 19th, 2023 5:00pm-7:00pm

Attendees

Council members present: Glenda Thomas, Shannon Ellison, Roxana Avila, Jukselin Nunez, Juana Avila, Azucena Galvez, Heather Stokes, Angela Hart.

Agenda

1. Introductions.
2. Welcome guest speaker Brittain Ayres!
 - a. Introductory presentation on the overview of Community Systems Development.
 - b. Definition of Collaboration per Partner, Plan, Act: a shared vision of goals, jointly developed structure, shared responsibility, shared resources, and it is a working definition as community needs also define it.
 - c. Brittain shared with the Council a visual of the Illinois Early Childhood Collaborative Landscape.
 - d. Partner, Plan, Act has initiated a project, mainly covering the City of Chicago, though it may be a good resource for other counties. Through this project, there are four identifiable types of Early Childhood Collaborations.
 - i. Early Childhood Collaborations for System Change.
 - ii. Early Childhood Direct Service Partnership.
 - iii. Health Collaborations.
 - iv. Kindergarten Transition Collaborations.
- e. Q&A:
 - ii. Can you share any insight on the impact the new unified state agency may have on the community systems work we are doing? Brittain shared optimism as the state of Illinois is demonstrating dedication to early childhood and has its goals in the right direction compared to other states.
 - iii. What are some lessons learned that we could keep in mind as we work on our Action Plan? Relationships with people are key to this work. Connecting with families, listening to what families need, and building relationships with other people is important.
 - iv. Referencing the four types of Collaboration, in the survey done, did the survey identify which agencies are holistic Collaborations vs.



targeted Collaborations? These are not mutually exclusive, the updated map to be released next month will list the type of information on what type of Collaboration each recipient will fall into/self-identify.

3. Group agreements.
 - a. Group reminder of our group agreements.
4. CQI Model-Steps.
 - a. Visual reminder of the CQI Model for reference.
5. SMART Goals.
 - a. Visual reminder of what makes up a SMART goal.
6. December's Recommendation (Problems Recap/Root Cause Analysis).
 - a. The Regional Council Manager (RCM) highlighted the data findings as to why this recommendation was made while identifying key problems.
 - i. Lack of vision and leadership.
 - ii. Funding: the skill of blending and braiding funding is not there. Many school districts/ early childhood programs are not properly funded. And there is no State funding model.
 - iii. Collective impact vs. direct services, harder to understand.
7. Previous Council Brainstorm share out.
 1. The RCM reviewed the previous brainstorm of goals/ideas.
 2. A Council member recommended including Child Care Associations as key stakeholders to gather data/feedback on community needs and inform community needs for Early Childhood Collaborations.
8. SMART Goal Breakout rooms
 1. The Council members provided input on goals and recommendations.
 1. Open dialogue on defining "community" outside of geography in addition to adding the context of fostering local connections and collaborations. Input was added to the Action Plan working document.
 2. Additional edits were recommended for goal #2.
9. Group Discussion
10. Next Steps
 1. Mid-year survey for Council members, link will be shared soon.



Before next meeting...