



Meeting Notes

Region 17 Family Council Meeting

Date & Time: Monday March 6th 5:00-6:30 pm

Council Members Present in Person: Teresa Cornejo, Jacqueline Sweat, Clymeshia Nelson
Council Members Present on Zoom: Ashley Giebelhausen, Lakeesha Smith
Council Members Absent: Kelly Rhodes, Alesia (Anna) Smith

5:00 Welcome & Review of Family Council Agreements

Facilitators: Becky Thacker, Monica Reed

Notes:

- Welcome to the seventh meeting!
- Reviewed Council Agreements

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: The Family Council Agreements can be found on our Google Drive and can be updated as we go.

5:10 Icebreaker: What is your favorite part of Spring?

Facilitator(s): Becky Thacker-Family and Community Engagement Specialist

Notes:

- Members and staff discussed their favorite part of Spring.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

5:20 Update from Action Council

Facilitator(s): Monica Reed, Regional Administrative Support

Notes:

- The Action Council had their eighth meeting last Wednesday and discussed the ECEC workforce from their perspective, focusing on their opinions of what they think parents/families look for when choosing care, key reasons for the workforce shortage, and achieving and maintaining a quality workforce. They reflected on the work they had done so far as members of the Council; what had surprised them the most so far and what they were feeling good about.

Decisions made: There will be ongoing updates from the Action Council Meetings

Next Steps: Set up date and time for both Councils to meet at the end of May



5:30 Discussion of Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce

Facilitator(s): Becky Thacker, Family and Community Engagement Specialist

Notes:

- What is the Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Landscape in Region 17?
 - Definition of ECEC workforce slide shared and members added their ideas to the list.
- How Diverse is the ECEC Workforce in Region 17?
 - Insights or concerns were voiced about the diversity in our Region.
- Is the Workforce Representative of the Communities they Serve?
 - Members discussed the ways in which the workforce was not representative.
- Questions to Consider
 - Members discussed their opinions as to why it is difficult to keep staff in ECEC.
 - Members discussed the causes of ECEC staff to leave the field and stay in field.
 - Members discussed what they thought the challenges facing the ECEC workforce in the Region were.
- Members discussed if they feel their child is receiving quality care within their ECEC program and what quality care looks like.
- Members discussed the quality of programs that accept CCAP compared to those that do not.
- Members discussed the strengths and weaknesses of ECEC staff.

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: N/A

6:15 Reflection Time

- Please continue adding thoughts to the Jamboard.
- To prepare for the next Family Council Meeting, Monday, March 20
 - What has been helpful in making ECEC successful for your family.
 - Please consider sharing your family story with Birth to Five Illinois on <https://www.birthtofiveil.com/storytelling>
 - Discussion for next meeting will be Parent and Family Engagement

Decisions made: N/A

Next Steps: Continue adding your thoughts to the Jamboard