

On February 20, twenty members of Thread came together at UMSL Grand Center for our first Member Meeting of 2019. Members helped to inform the program plan for the coming year and had the chance to reflect and learn more about the initial planning and evaluation efforts of the Regional Youth Employment Coalition over the past year. Highlights included:



- **A welcome to new staff!** Kiley Bednar is the new Associate Director of the Community Innovation and Action Center, and in that role she will be providing leadership and support to Thread STL. She is excited to get to know Thread Members and to continue to grow the professional learning community that Lisa Clancy has nurtured over the past three years. She's joined by Scott Winfrey, an UMSL Educational Studies intern who is working with UMSL's Community Innovation and Action Center two days a week. Welcome Kiley and Scott!
- **Input in to programming for the coming year** – Like last year, we will move forward on a "Choose-Your-Own Adventure" approach to programming this year ([handout from meeting](#)). To help us determine what programs to launch and what the focus topics will be, we're asking you what your needs are.

During the meeting, members reflected on top topic areas from the 2018 survey: Sustainability, Evaluation (Part 2) and Leadership. The results are below. For members who were unable to attend, please share your input [here](#).

We will take a look at your responses over the coming weeks to identify where your greatest interests and needs are and match that with our capacity to implement each program.

	Sustainability	Evaluation (Part 2)	Leadership
<i>"I have a time-sensitive priority or problem to solve related to [Data'...etc.] within the next 60-90 days..."</i>	1		
<i>"I'm uncertain about skills/processes related to [Data'...etc.] and want to become more confident..."</i>	2	4	1
<i>"I would like to strengthen my skills related to [Data'...etc.]..."</i>	8	8	9
<i>"I want an ongoing opportunity to work on whatever feels most important to me at the moment..."</i>			

- **Regional Youth Employment Coalition Presentation** – Shanise Johnson of the [St. Louis Internship Program](#) and Nataly Garzon and Joe Monahan of [Ready by 21 St. Louis](#) shared planning and evaluation efforts over the course of their initial year as new coalition. They highlighted collaborative strategy and action planning work based on the Results Based Accountability framework, as well as shared meeting and process evaluation resources,

including a report-out about the Coalition Kaizen pilot that they tested, in partnership with UMSL's Community Innovation and Action Center.

- **Thank you to Lisa Clancy!** As the founding coordinator, Lisa established Thread and the Steering Committee, grew the membership and developed the learning community programming over the past three years! [We are wishing her the best as she takes her seat on St. Louis County Council.](#) Thanks for your great work, Lisa!
- **Feedback and Input on Next Steps** – Members shared feedback in two ways – through the Meeting Evaluation as well as through the Coalition Kaizen Feedback Form. Summaries are below. For participants who were unable to attend, please share your input [here](#).
  - Summary of Meeting Evaluations:
    - + Loved the RYEC presentation, the detail and the tangible tools
    - + Very informative about the workings of a coalition
    - + Great information, looking forward to further involvement
    - + Signing up for new opportunities & inspiring exciting RYEC work
    - + Very timely information, always informative
    - + Great presentation by RYEC!
    - + Liked opportunity to give feedback for cohorts & Great presentation!
    - + Great to meet Kiley
    - + Yummy food, great presentation from RYEC
  
    - △ Room was too cold
    - △ Time to interact with participants
    - △ Room was too cold
  - Summary of Kaizen Feedback Form:
    - On a scale of 1-4, please circle your interest in a continuous quality improvement process aimed at supporting coalition and partnership leaders' growth in best practices:
      - 1- Not Interested Right Now
      - 2- Probably Not Interested, but I would like more information – 14%
      - 3- Somewhat interested and curious – 50%
      - 4- Sign me up! – 36%
    - Although it is not a heavy lift, a commitment to the process would require some time and engagement from you and your coalition and partnership members. This includes dedicated meeting time for data collection and discussion. On a scale of 1-4, please circle your coalition or partnership's readiness to engage in a reflective process in the coming months.
      - 1- Definitely not ready
      - 2- Likely not ready for this now, but maybe down the road 25%
      - 3- This seems doable but I need more information – 68%
      - 4- We are ready to go! 7%

- What further information do you need about this opportunity?
  - Timeline
  - Time Commitment
  - More details on the process, timing and goals, but I can imagine this would be very useful
  - Meeting schedule
  - Timeline
  - Which stakeholders to target
  - How to pitch to board and members
  - What size coalition is appropriate?

**Save the Date - Next Meeting: April 17, 2019, 11:30-1 PM**

**Featured Speaker –TBD Please send suggestions to [threadst1@gmail.com](mailto:threadst1@gmail.com)**