

**Hillsdale County
Great Start Collaborative Meeting
October 23, 2017**

Location: HCISD Parke D. Hayes Building, 310 W. Bacon Rd. Hillsdale



Attendees:

Stefanie Rathburn - Great Start
Darcy Affholter - GSRP Reading
Clint Brugger - CAA
Jamie Harness - Center for Family Health
Kristyn Nichelson - Michigan Works South East
Nadia El Anani - Jonesville District Library
Mary Proctor - BHSJ Health Agency
Rozanne Pauze - Grandparent
Betty Elliott - Child Care Provider
Dan Moore - Parent Advisory Council; HCISD
Kristen Mesarosh - North Adams - Jerome GSRP
Sydney Alley - Domestic Harmony
Lona Carpenter - Parent
Shelley Hawver - CAA

Jen Houston - Highfields
Marylou Sitkiewicz - Litchfield Schools
Andrea Bricker - Integro
Kelly Castle - Parent
Kristy Storm - Child Care Network
Gina Fosdick - Great Start
Bennie Rice - Parent
Tonya McCallister - Parent
Mari Nunez - Family Counseling Center
Mindy Wilson-HCISD
Linda Wise - HCISD/GSRP
Cheryl Schaerer - Parent
Laurie Brandes - Substance Abuse Prevention Council
Andrea Bernard - Highfields

1. Welcome & Introductions: Mari Nunez called the meeting to order. Introductions by all attendees. Break down of meeting. Will wrap up around 10:45 to transition from meeting into In Utero film viewing happening after meeting.

2. Great Start Updates (Stefanie Rathburn)

- **Operating Guidelines**
 - Few Changes
 - Page 3: Executive committee structure. Previously had parents co-chair subcommittee, but due to change in committee structure, there are not parents chairing committees. Didn't want to lose parent representation on Executive Committee, so still maintaining a spot for at least 1 parent representative. Benny will serve in that capacity for this year.
 - Page 6: Description of Committees/Workgroups. Today we will break into subcommittees to start, so take a look to decide where you might fit.
 - Look at last few pages, fill out and return.
- **Trusted Advisor Update**
 - Granted funding for playgroups. Have had one in each site (Litchfield, Camden, Reading and Waldron). No one attended at two locations. Seven participating families total at all other sites. Please spread the work to your difficult to engage families in those communities so they can attend. Round 2 of these playgroup efforts start tomorrow.
 - Playgroups 1 ½ hours daytime, 2 hour evenings. Start with Music and then read a book. Break into activities designed around story read that day. Parents can do activities with their kids. Literacy backpacks are sent home each playgroup. Full of books and activities to do with families. New books and information to add to backpack each time. Meal offered during evening playgroup. Snack during daytime.
 - Waldron had biggest turn out. Expecting 6-7 families this round, and hoping to grow.
 - Unless it's a meal playgroup, you can just show up!
 - Variety from young ages to older children. Something for everyone.
 - Great way to get ideas!
 - Librarians from local communities are wanted to partner with. Have received commitments from most.
 - Grant for this year is coming. Up to \$60,000 can be obtained. Looking for ideas to apply for. Quick turn around. Application due Mid November. Already have data from strategic planning. Bring ideas to Stefanie.

- **Mini-Grant Updates**
 - Child Care & Early Education Subcommittee (Linda Wise reported): Encouraged parents to engage in literacy efforts throughout the summer. Put out a flyer with a pen that can be used on electronic devices. Flyer had websites to find & activities to do (See Handout by Child Care & Early Education Subcommittee).
 - Growing Safe Kids Subcommittee (Mary Proctor reported): Provided bag with info: Book, first aide kit, flyers. Are giving to parents, grandparents, childcare providers, etc. Tons of information about what is available in the community and information on things they may not know about. Having home visitor give out allows someone to go over the information with the family.
 - Pediatric & Family Health (Mari Nunez reported): Car air fresheners with non-smoking message. Smoke free cars & 2nd hand smoke brochures that are easy to read to accompany air fresheners. Wanted to start in one place... focus on car. Students at Greenfield helped in putting together. Getting to physicians and local agencies to get to people!
- **Parent Liaison Report (Gina)**
 - Had parent group on how to read to your kids. Small turnout, but good.
 - Mari will be presenting at next parent talk. (see flyer)
 - Great Start Hillsdale County on Facebook. Please like the page and follow. Will have updates on flyers and up and coming information.

3. Sub-committee work

- **Pre Info:**
 - Stefanie gave instructions for the committee efforts for day. committee chairs have agenda and focus page for the day. Break apart and make a plan to achieve these goals over the next year. Trying to get work done during this meeting. See brief description in back of operating guidelines just given today if uncertain which committee to participate in. If still uncertain, see Stefanie.
- **Break into committees**
 - Subcommittee work
 - Stefanie has copies of the strategic plan and supporting documents you may pick up.

4. Agency Updates

- **Highfields (Jen):** New community referral form for home based 0-3 mental health. Throw out old one and only use new one (See handout)
- **Highfields (Andrea Bernard):** Has resigned. Will be moving up north near Cadillac to pursue opening new crossroads program. Done on Friday.
- **Parent Talk (Mari)-** Parent Talk Friday. Still Prenatal Talk Tuesdays from 1 to 2, but not getting any turn out.
- **Early Head Start (Shelley):** Wait list lower, so refer for services now. Just call to refer.
- **Michigan Works (Kristyn):** Free workshops (see calendar handout).
- **GSC (Stefanie):** Fall Fest this Thursday from 4 to 7pm at the fairgrounds.
- **Hillsdale Assembly of God (Tonya):** Harvest night on Halloween evening. Hayride,
- **Jackson Hillsdale Infant Mental Health Chapter (Andrea Bricker):** In Utero Showing today following meeting. Jackson date in next Monday, 30th at CAA from 11:30 to 1:30.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 27th 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Hayes- Upstairs