



Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Agenda January 25, 2021 via Zoom

Attendees:

Stefanie Rathburn, GSC
Mindy Wilson, HCISD
Kayla Horton, HCISD
Yvonne Parker, CAA
Sharron Elliot, Michigan Works SW
Linda Wise, HCISD
Wendi Paradine, HCISD SW
Trista Rink, CAA
Kelley Mapes, BHSJ CHA
Wendy Playford, GSC
Mari Nunez, Counseling/Consulting

Christie Campbell, CAPA
Shelley Ellis, Hillsdale Schools
Laura Orłowski, Jonesville District Library
Maria Ansett, BHSJ CHA
Rozeanna Pauze, Grandparent
Lindsey Pung-Terry, MSU Extension
Kaitlyn Swick, HCISD
Sara Clark, Parent
Lanae Baker, Parent
Kara Carwell, HCISD
Kristy Wood, Child Care Network

Brian DeBussey, CPIF Resource Solutions
Shawn Vondra, Hillsdale Comm. Schools
Missy DesJardin, Hillsdale Comm. Thrift
Staci Miller, Hillsdale Comm. Thrift
Andrea Bricker, Integro

-
- I. Welcome/Introductions
 - A. First time guests shout out and introductions

 - II. GSC Office Updates
 - A. Director Report - Stefanie
 1. Home Visiting Needs Assessment
 - a) In the fall, several of us participated in a Needs Assessment with the state to determine where Hillsdale County is with home visiting
 - b) Draft has been received and is being reviewed
 - c) Plan to share with Collaborative in February
 2. Trusted Advisor Grant FY21
 - a) Received funding - to be spent by end of November
 - b) Activities:
 - (1) Talking is Teaching
 - (a) Targeting Dads
 - (b) Targeting families prenatally
 - (2) Parent Cafe efforts in outlying communities
 - (a) hope to hear from families about perceived gaps in community
 - (3) Provide support group or coming together opportunity for child care providers in our county
 - (a) need identified through Talking is Teaching training provided to child care providers in fall
 - B. Parent Liaison Report - Wendy
 1. Trusted Advisor Grant FY20
 - a) Ended in November

HCGSC VISION

To ensure every child in Hillsdale County is safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and in life.

HCGSC MISSION

The purpose of the Hillsdale County Great Start Collaborative is to assure a coordinated system of community resources to assist all Hillsdale County families in providing a great start for their children prenatal through third grade.

- (1) virtual Talking is Teaching parent training
 - (a) 60 families signed up with 35 completing training
 - (i) Of the families who completed, 33 had children aged birth - 3, 19 had children 4-5 years old, and 16 had children aged 6-12
 - (b) 5 unclaimed parent incentives; have reached out several times, but unable to connect
 - (2) Virtual Foster Parent Training prepared by Kelly & Mari and advertised with DHHS but no participation
 - (3) Face to face Talking is Teaching training provided to child care providers in fall
 - (a) 8 providers participated and completed
2. PLAY Pick up Events
 - a) Nov - 23 families picked up, 30 kids 3 or younger
 - b) Dec - 25 families picked up, 33 kids 3 or younger
 - c) Jan - event scheduled for tomorrow
 - (1) collaborating with CAA Early Head Start this month
 - (2) EHS will deliver directly to their families who don't pick up/providing financial support for bags for their families
 3. Read by 3rd Grade Series
 - a) Series of videos presented by Literacy Team at HCISD
 - b) Broken down by age group
 - c) Parents can focus on where their children are right now
 - d) Practical strategies/recommendations for parents that they can put to use right now
 4. Family Activity Challenges
 - a) Presented by Literacy team
 - b) Short, but packed with great ideas
 5. Great Start Hillsdale County Facebook Page
 - a) If you have not liked the Hillsdale County GSC page, please do. It will keep you in the loop with events happening in our county!
 - b) Great resources for everyone
 6. February Events
 - a) PLAY Pick-Up, Feb 3rd, 4:30 to 5:30 pm
 - b) Parent Meeting, Feb 16th, Julia Cook night. She will be live in our facebook group. Topic is Screen Time!
 - c) Need color copies of any event flyers, get with Stefanie or Wendy to request them

III. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Community Resources - Andrea
 1. Working to expand and constantly update the resource guide
 2. Did pandemic pages
 3. Looking to promote sections of guide on Facebook
 4. Looking to do some Noontime Knowledge Virtual events and increase awareness of the google group as well
- B. Early Care/Learning & Literacy - Kayla, Linda, Kristy
 1. Wendy covered much of what the Literacy portion of this subcommittee is working on

HCGSC VISION

To ensure every child in Hillsdale County is safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and in life.

HCGSC MISSION

The purpose of the Hillsdale County Great Start Collaborative is to assure a coordinated system of community resources to assist all Hillsdale County families in providing a great start for their children prenatal through third grade.

2. Looking for ways to share the content currently being posted to Facebook to have a broader reach - If you think of any ways to share the knowledge, please contact Kayla, Stefanie, Wendy or Linda to help.
 3. Kristy trying to collect feedback on child care provider staff shoutouts and celebrations
 4. GSRP Data dive will be increasing to being conducted 3 times per year.
- C. Pediatric & Family Health - Mindy
1. Bookmark update:
 - a) Working on website revisions
 - b) Reviewing for gaps and needed information
 - c) Hope to roll-out next month with QR code linking to website and additional information section

IV. Spotlight Presentation: Hillsdale Community Thrift - Missy DesJardin, Executive Director & Staci Miller, General Manager

- A. Located on Carleton
- B. Launched in Nov 2018
- C. Tons of donations, helped so many people in our community
- D. Missy has had a desire to help those in need since she was a young child. That is the basis of the creation of this store
- E. In 2020,
 1. Average price was 1.99 per item (big and small)
 2. Never over 2.49... period!
 3. Gave away over 15,000 items.
 - a) Nonprofit structures
 - b) State caseworkers
 4. Allow to shop just like everyone else that visits the store
 5. Exist to serve those in need
 6. Do best to make sure that customers feel good when they are there
 7. Ask questions:
 - a) I don't see clothing on the referral, but do you have any need for clothing for you or our family
 8. Check them out using register just like everyone else
 9. Just purchased building today, so not going anywhere
 10. Moving into a new warehouse building. Pushing their recycling initiative. Want to focus on making an impact on our community
 - a) Polyester will sit in landfill 200 years
 - b) Cotton in compost will decompose in 6 months, but a year to 10 years in a landfill.
 - c) Send some items overseas.
 - d) Right now could clothe Hillsdale county 3x over.
 - e) Trying to help every avenue
 11. In spring we will bring in nonprofit, True Charity Initiative
 - a) Help fight poverty
 - b) Day and a ½ training
 - c) Host at Dow Center
 - d) Training to support communication between non-profits in Hillsdale County
 - (1) find that many non-profits do not know about each other

HCGSC VISION

To ensure every child in Hillsdale County is safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and in life.

HCGSC MISSION

The purpose of the Hillsdale County Great Start Collaborative is to assure a coordinated system of community resources to assist all Hillsdale County families in providing a great start for their children prenatal through third grade.

- (2) The Resource Guide developed truly helped with connections. So thankful to see that come out
- (3) Really want to have this training to build fellowship, share their initiatives, what they do, and how we can all support each other.
- (4) Many shoppers don't even know about community resources
- 12. Raise money for the community, run a thrift store, no case management... let our community organizations lead that.
- F. Hours & Donation
 - 1. Monday through Saturday, 9am to 6pm. Can drop off donations anytime! Can drop off outside of business hours, but there has been a lot of theft. Looking to install a gate. Want to make it easy for the community, but want to make sure that we can use it to help others. Was going to donate to American Legion, but someone stole it.
 - 2. Brian DeBussey wants to connect to get more information
- G. Contact Information:
 - 1. Hillsdale Community Thrift 390 W Carleton Rd
 - 2. 517-513-1729
 - 3. Missy DesJardin and Staci Miller
- H. Needs?
 - 1. Can take anything or everything
 - 2. No weapons
 - 3. Try to use or donate anything that comes in

V. Community Updates

- A. Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) - Mindy
 - 1. Early On is currently servicing 82 families around the county
 - 2. Continue to support awareness and outreach through collaboration with CAPA sleep sacks to families who deliver at hospital.
 - 3. Outreach to physicians with info packet and marketing items.
 - 4. Transition Playgroup starts back up the week of February 1st. We added a session to reduce numbers per section.
 - 5. Utilizing mobile classrooms and drop in visits for families. Face-to-face home visits are being considered for the near future pending county status and Health department recommendation. A phase in plan is being scheduled which includes PPE and procedures that we opened with in the fall. (masks by all adults, completion of health screen form, limit daily visits, sanitization in between, no items reused before 24 hours (mats, eval materials, etc.)
- B. School Readiness - Mindy
 - 1. Preschool Connect is going virtual
 - 2. Next School Readiness Advisory Meeting Friday, February 5th from 8 to 10am via zoom.
- C. Agency Updates
 - 1. Brian DeBusey
 - a) Open enrollment non-profit
 - (1) Hats, scarves, car seats
 - (2) Tele-health and at home visits
 - 2. Community Action Agency Volunteer Tax Program
 - a) Families come in and get taxes done for free
 - b) Jackson, Hillsdale, Lenawee, have to schedule

HCGSC VISION

To ensure every child in Hillsdale County is safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and in life.

HCGSC MISSION

The purpose of the Hillsdale County Great Start Collaborative is to assure a coordinated system of community resources to assist all Hillsdale County families in providing a great start for their children prenatal through third grade.

- c) Will get number to post on GSC Facebook page
- 3. Jonesville Library
 - a) Tutor.com is being added by local libraries. available if you hold a card with a local library
 - b) Jonesville is rolling out a seed library
 - (1) giving out free seeds to plant gardens
 - (2) in the process of getting seeds to get it stocked
 - c) Inclusion wall installed
 - (1) Tactile pieces where kids can play
 - (2) Can't use yet due to COVID
 - (3) Great resource for kids who need it
- 4. Stefanie: Strategic Plan
 - a) Waiting to hear from MDE on if it will be required this year or not.

Next Meeting...February 22nd

HCGSC VISION

To ensure every child in Hillsdale County is safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school and in life.

HCGSC MISSION

The purpose of the Hillsdale County Great Start Collaborative is to assure a coordinated system of community resources to assist all Hillsdale County families in providing a great start for their children prenatal through third grade.