



**Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2022 via Zoom**

Attendance:

Mackenzie Rickman, BHSJ CHA	Jen Houston, Highfields	Mindy Eggleston, HCCF
Stefanie Rathburn, GSC	Mindy Wilson, HCISD	Kayla Horton, HCISD
Linda Wise, HCISD	Wendy Playford, GSC	Tonia Gier-Domer
Angie Turner, CAA	Laura Orłowski, Jonesville District Library	Brooke Rains, Child Care Network
Maria Ansett, Karen's House & St. Anthony's Family Center	Yvonne Parker- CAA Children's Programs	Barb Brick, CPIF Resource Solutions
Andrea Bricker, Integro	Kaitlyn Reese-, HCISD	Bryce Asberg- Helping Hands
Alissa Harris- VA	Chara Halliwill- Integro	Trista Rink, CAA

Minutes:

1. Welcome/Introductions

Andrea invited new members to unmute and introduce themselves:

- Helping Hands - Bryce Asberg
- Alissa Harris- Ann Arbor VA

2. GSC Office Updates

- Director Report (Stefanie)
 - Great Give - GSC received just over \$3,600 in funds and incentives
 - Diligent marketing strategies for next year
 - Target specific things to use funds towards
 - Trusted Advisors Grant
 - What's Next? Social Emotion support
 - Kits that parents can sign up for
 - Kits designed for different ages from 12 months to 2 ½ years
 - Hillsdale County Residents
 - Welcome Baby Visits
 - Joint collaboration with Integro, Health Department, Early On, Early Head Start
 - Highlight Community Resources
 - Tips on keeping baby healthy and safe
 - Tips on adult health
 - Swag bag for families
 - Launch visits in the next few months
 - Funds must be utilized by Thanksgiving
 - Literacy Hub Grant
 - Books for Babies
 - First bag stuffing happened on 1/19/22
 - Contents:

- Crinkly Book/Cloth Book
- Board Book
- Let's Talk Literacy - Annie Spear
- Small One Pager - quarter page
 - English and Spanish Version
 - (a) Bilingual Indestructible Book
 - (b) Bilingual Book
 - (c) Spanish Resource Half Pager
- Board Book
- Talking is Teaching Burp Cloth
- Little Free Library flier
- County Library location flier
- Plan for 2022 Literacy Hub Funding
 - Funds are significantly more than 2021
 - Plan is to continue with hospital bags and supporting the introduction of literacy to the community.
- Healthy Senior Healthy Youth Grant
 - to fund Literacy Pop Ups in May and September
 - Application submitted to Community Foundation
- Parent Liaison Report (Wendy)
 - The Parent Meeting turnout was great!
 - Free Little Libraries - parent led strategy
 - Retrieved the Sidekick Cafe library
 - Exploring grants to support additional LFL
 - Parent Education Night
 - Gun Safe Home - Unlock the Conversation January 27th
 - Support the conversation about gun accessibility
 - Recognizing Stress in Young Children February
 - How to Read to your Child? March
 - Other Upcoming Events
 - Snow Day Play Day
 - Watch facebook for more details on this spontaneous event
 - Craft Night - Feb 10th
 - Same activity at every station
 - Time blocks similar to Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Craft, get a book, get a snack!
 - Three different time slots available and when you RSVP you register for a time slot

3. Subcommittee Reports

- Pediatric & Family Health (Mindy)
 - Beginning work on Community Baby Shower - to be held sometime before end of September
 - Work Group - if anyone is interested in joining the workgroup to plan and make decisions, choose dates, etc.
 - Drop your name into the chat box and Mindy will contact you to get the initial meeting scheduled

4. Spotlight Presentation

- Helping Hands Pregnancy Resource Center - Bryce Asberg
 - Previously Alpha Omega Women's Care Center; re-branded
 - Offer help and support that we can to families that pregnancy is a burden
 - Ultrasound services - NEW SERVICE

- All services free of charge
- Hillsdale Hospital volunteer time
- One-on-one parenting meetings/classes that earn Baby Bucks to buy baby necessities, games, puzzles, etc.
- Once a month families can get:
 - Two packs of diapers
 - Wipes
 - 6 outfits
- Blessed with volunteers to help support our non-profit
- Father Classes as well
- Capacity is not close to being reached - we can do more!
- Connect them with appropriate prenatal care

5. Community Updates

- Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC) (Mindy)
 - Early On - Grant System has changed
 - Mindy just wrapped up the grant monitoring process/has been submitted
 - February 1st virtual monitoring
 - Monitor with Zoom meetings of interviews with staff and families
 - Updated information on enrollment from Mindy in February
- Agency Updates
 - Yvonne Parker, CAA
 - VITA Volunteer Tax Assistance Program
 - Head Start
 - A couple programs closed to staffing issues
 - At this point, we will revisit in the Spring
 - Mindy Wilson, School Readiness Advisory
 - Preschool Connect
 - Planning and Recruitment and Enrollment for Preschool
 - Mindy Eggleston, Community Foundation
 - Online grant application
 - Learn about nex grant writing process - Grants 101
 - Stefanie on behalf of the Child Care Subcommittee
 - Join us tomorrow for the subcommittee meeting Zoom link in the agenda

Next Meeting...February 28th

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.