



**Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2022**

Sara Clark, Parent	Rozanne Pauze, Grandparent	Brooke Rains, Child Care Network
Andrea Bricker, Integro	Tonia Gier, Domestic Harmony	Sharron Elliott, Michigan Works
Anna Weide, CAA/Early Head Start	Laura Orłowski, Jonesville District Library	Mindy Eggleston, Hillsdale County Community Foundation
Jessica Fawley, Love INC	Mari Nunez, Jonesville Schools	Kelly Castle, Parent
Abbey LoPresto, DHHS	Angela Turner, CAA	Linda Wise, HCISD/GSRP
Chris Firestone, LifeWays	Trista Rink, CAA	Wendy Playford, GSC
Stefanie Rathburn, GSC		

1. **Welcome/Introductions** - Mari kicked off meeting with introductions and then a settling in activity to allow people to learn a bit more about one another that also incorporated a bit of movement.

2. **GSC Office Updates**
 - **Director Report**
 - **Spotlight on Initiatives of Trusted Advisor Grant**
 - **Welcome Baby Visits**
 - Trained home visiting staff in early May
 - Using May for soft launch
 - Marketing materials going out to stakeholder agencies this week
 - Full launch June 1st!
 - **What's Next? Social Emotional Kits**
 - 6 kits distributed since they were initially launched at Spring Fling
 - Promotion via newsletter, Early On, at Literacy Pop Up
 - Will be promoting on Facebook page

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- Dad Bags at Community Baby Shower
 - Effort to promote more of our male caregivers to attend and participate in the event
 - Currently researching actual bag options
 - Will be exploring different contents for dads bags versus bags provided to female caregivers
- **End of Year Survey Coming Soon**
 - Reminded group that a survey would be coming in early June that will gain feedback about the meetings over the past year and learn what folks would like to see when planning the 2022-2023 calendar
- **Retreat Planning**
 - Executive Committee will be meeting in early June to plan out summer retreat sessions. Members invited to provide “do’s” and “don’ts” regarding what they’d like to see with retreat sessions on sticky notes and place on large sheets on doors at end of meeting
- **Other**
 - Reminder to take new GSC trifold and replace in waiting rooms and office areas of members agencies
 - Programming Dollars Talking is Teaching Trusted Messengers
 - Environmental Prompts/Physical Spaces
 - Reading Nook at DHHS in one of their visitation rooms
 - Plan to furnish one for other visitation room
 - Will be developing a plan to have those agency providers share/distribute Talking is Teaching materials and messages
- **Parent Liaison Report**
 - **Save the Dates - Upcoming Opportunities**
 - Child Care Start Up Funds Grant
 - informational zoom: May 21st 11:00 a.m.
 - informal informational session at Baw Beese: Kristy will be there on June 4th from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
 - Summer Send Off hosted by HACC Early Childhood Program Students May 25th from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 - Parent Educational Zoom: How to Find Quality Child Care on June 9th from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

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- Family Game Day: June 13th 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - Summer PLAY events: June 28th 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., July 25th 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., and August 15th 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - all to be held at Baw Beese
 - Story Walk: August 13th
 - Community Baby Shower: August 20th from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- **Other**
 - Wendy provided an update on Literacy Pop Up indicating 45 families in attendance with 99 \$5 gift cards from the udder side handed out. Participation from multiple agencies with hands-on activities for kids and families to do.

3. **Spotlight Presentation**

Love INC - Jessica Fawley; loveinc@hillsdale.com;
517.235.5299

[Love INC Presentation](#)

Highlights:

- in Hillsdale for 3 years but part of national affiliate
- network of 17 local churches; volunteers connected to community organizations
- piece of work involves gap identification and partner identification
- accept referrals from anywhere; verification process typically takes about 2 weeks
- weekly email to all partner churches to identify who can help fill the need
- see attached tri-fold document

4. **Subcommittee Reports**

- School Readiness Advisory - Linda extended an invitation to members to join the next data dive on June 3rd from 9-11 am. She also referenced a flyer on the resource table (attached) for next year's School Readiness Advisory Committee meetings. Please reach out to her for more information and/or to be added to the email list.
- Pediatric & Family Health - Mari discussed the need for group members to consider reaching out to community connections for possible donations for the Community Baby Shower. Stefanie will be sending out a list of local businesses that were considered in previous years. Names can be added to new businesses. If someone has a personal connection to a business, we'd prefer they

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make the contact than have it be a cold outreach connection. When the list comes out, she is asking people to review it and put their name by anyone they're willing to contact. There will be a donation letter available along with a Save the Date to use when making the contacts.

4. Community Updates

- Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)
 - Stefanie reported the following on behalf of Mindy Wilson:
 - Completed monitoring for Early On with no findings (100% compliant), which is unheard of
 - Hillsdale County is at top of state for Child Find numbers
 - 263 referrals for year currently with 98 evals completed
 - Currently serving 116 children
- Agency Updates
 - Brooke/Child Care Network shared information on Tri-Share, including flyers. She indicated they have a dedicated staff member working on this initiative and they are currently seeking employers to partner with. She also shared that eligible programs (not including GSRP) can apply for stabilization grants. The spring deadline is May 26th.
 - Tonia/Domestic Harmony shared that the Annual Duck Derby efforts are in full swing. She noted that instead of being a part of River Fest this year, the Derby will take place at Stock's Park in July.
 - Stefanie shared that she had received information, anonymously, that the Hillsdale County Library Board of Trustees has added to their agenda for the May 20th meeting at 5pm at the Library a review of materials and potential for censorship/book banning. More information and the agenda can be found on the library's website at hillsdale-library.org.

Stay tuned for Summer Retreat details!

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