

Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.



Attendees:

Emmanuel Boyer - Hillsdale College	Jen Houston - Highfields	Candice Gardner - MSU Extension
Stefanie Rathburn - Great Start	Stacy Ansel - HCISD	Geri Neill - Parent
Yvonne Parker - CAA	Mari Nunez – Family Counseling Center	Laura Orłowski - JOnesville Library
Nancy DeBacker - Alpha Omega	Terrina Liogghio - Central MI 211	Mindy Wilson-HCISD
Angela Turner - CAA	Patrice Caldwell - Reading Schools	Cheryl Schaerer - Parent
Andrea Bricker - Integro	Christine Gjestland - Highfields	Linda Wise - HCISD/GSRP
Kelly Castle - Parent	Betty Elliott - ChildCare Provider	Clint Brugger - CAA
Rozanne Pauze - Parent	Sara Clark - Great Start	Laurie Brandes - SAPC
Lona Carpenter - Parent	Jonathon Tobar - HCISD	Roxanne Waldran - Integro
Kelley Mapes - BHSJ CHA	Marylou Sitkiewicz - Litchfield Schools	Kristy Wood - Child Care Network
Tonya McCallister - Parent	Donna Green - Lifeways	
Sonjalita Hulbert - Aetna	Gisele Sutton - Jonesville Library	

Agenda Items:

I. Welcome & Introductions- Mari calls to order and welcomes everyone.
Individual introductions.

II. Team Building Activity

- A. Mari introduces activity
- B. Members go question to question adding their number to each paper
- C. Take a look at the numbers
- D. Discussion of numbers and what it shows for our group

III. GSC Office Updates

A. ABC Soup - Battling the Acronyms!

1. Was brought to attention by relatively new member
2. lots of language that this member didn't know about
3. Collaborative used to develop and distribute a guide for this
4. Want everyone to be aware of the acronyms you use.
5. Call out members who use acronyms to clarify for yourself, or for others
6. We will document and pull together for future potential guidance

B. Grant Opportunity through Community Foundation - vote needed

1. Part of grant application for *GSC* requires use of funds for direct service.
2. We currently do Parents as Teachers with Integro & Highfields
3. Overall *GSC* allocation cut this year, so we reduced funding to support those contracts
4. To help support this service, we looked for and found a grant to apply for. In order to apply for this \$25,000 grant, we need a vote. These funds would allow us to at least match what we were able to do last year.
5. Questions:
 - a) From regular grant cycle of community foundation? Yes. This is due November 1st. Grant is written to support current programming. Expect quick turnaround time.

- b) Sustainability: Unsure what state will offer for GSC funding, but didn't think there would be another reduction. Funding from Community Foundation can be applied for every 18 months. Looking at other options for long term funding. Have a list of possible funding opportunities to consider pursuing.
 - c) More than enough families to service: Absolutely!
 - d) Asked: What do we do with caseloads we already have if funds don't last? Reduce intensity to allow more families to be serviced? or Not accept new? Hope this funding will come through so we can continue to service all interested families.
6. VOTE:
- a) Members who have signed the operating guidelines can vote
 - b) If new, cannot vote.
 - c) Integro, Highfield and Community Foundation must abstain from voting
 - d) Parents can all vote
 - e) All in support; vote passed

C. Parent Liaison Report

1. Fall Photo Booth at Fall Fest
 - a) Parents put a lot of work in to make this happen
 - b) Polaroid photos of everyone
 - (1) Great for kids to have the experience of shaking the polaroid.
 - (2) Great family interactions
 - c) Passed out magnets so families could put their photo up with the magnet.
 - d) Magnet was focused on Social-Emotional Development
 - e) 63 families reached
 - f) We had parents supporting each other. Helped families be able to have the opportunity. Lots of great stories
 - g) Parents:
 - (1) Kelly: Weather nice. Numbers were lower than last year, but still great turn out. Not complicated. Lines kept moving. Great fun for kids.
 - (2) Gerri: Brandy, her daughter, loved it and wants to be a part of all of this from now on. The parents feedback and talking to all the parents just made their whole night. Parents were so grateful for the opportunity. Hope to see all parents at Parent Coalition meeting.
 - (3) Lona: Neat to connect with community as well as connect with each other. Fun to see all kids excited. Great Job Sara for pulling it all together.
2. November 17th: Parent Coalition Meeting
 - a) Kindermusik
 - b) see flyer
 - c) eat lunch, see what we do at parent coalition and interact with parent and children.
 - d) RSVP is required since we are serving food.

HCGSC VISION

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HCGSC MISSION

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- IV. Subcommittee Work Time:** Hour of Subcommittee work.
- A. Pediatric & Family Health**
 - B. Community Resources** (dining room)
 - C. Early Care & Learning/Literacy** (Childcare, preschool, literacy, etc.)

V. Subcommittee Reports

A. Pediatric & Family Health

1. Community Baby Shower
 - a) Save the date donation letter- Goal to have it done to bring to you to get out to everyone
 - b) Feedback from Survey- Registration flyer being updated and modified
 - c) Confirmed date and location: Hillsdale High School, April 27th, 2019 from 10-1pm

B. Community Resources (dining room)

1. Better understand resources, what's available and how to access
2. Have more training, navigators and agencies
3. Development of resource guide- in full swing. First 18 pages drafted. (thanks to Emmanuel)

C. Early Care & Learning/Literacy (Childcare, preschool, literacy, etc.)

1. Stacy shared about book walk
 - a) Rotate through different stations of farmer's market
 - b) get read a story at each station
 - c) connect healthy food with literacy
 - d) get tokens to earn fresh produce
 - e) happening lots of other places around the state/country
2. Kristy Wood- Childcare and taking to ministerial group
 - a) Clint- Consider reaching out to Love Inc.
3. Several people signed up for Kindergarten Readiness Transition workgroup

VI. Community Updates

A. Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)

1. Hillsdale Early On was granted a portion of the \$5 million granted to counties of Michigan to increase support and services for Early On children across Michigan.

B. School Readiness

1. Transition Focus
 - a) 16 attended: Kindergarten teachers, preschool teachers, not a lot of parents... working on building that
 - b) From the work of the meeting, we have lots of ideas. We will be putting those together to discuss the information and make a plan for the future. There will be additional meetings. Linda would be the contact for those.
 - c) Next meeting: Thursday, February 28th, 5 to 6:30pm with the topic of "Wrap-Around Childcare"

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C. Agency Updates

1. Head Start- Openings for 4 year olds within Hillsdale. Greenfield location. Reading and Pittsford possibly have openings. 4 by December 1st and income eligible
2. CAA- 8 scattered sites across the county. Intensive case management for neediest of families who need housing support. Struggling to get landlords to participate. Please let Clint know. They get someone into their unit who will have rent paid for long term with intensive case-management. Not a lot of affordable housing in our community. Help get people out of housing crisis.
3. Hillsdale Assembly of God- Harvest night on Wednesday 6 to 8pm.
4. Laurie Brandes- Tuesday is big election. Proposal 1(legalizing recreational marijuana), if you don't know, take flyers off table and inform yourself.
5. Jackson-Hillsdale- IMH, Celebrate Babies event. Event to build partnerships and relationships. Partnered with Great Start Collaborative for a baby book drive (entire month of October). Boxes within Agencies in our County. Will collect numbers and report next month.

VII. Closing Reflections

- A. Sara led closing activity called "Share and Tell".
 1. Turn to a shoulder partner and share what you are going to do to support our work.
 2. Share out:
 - a) E-mail everyone to make connections
 - b) Get books to donate from Ollies
 - c) Post flyers & Post everywhere

Next Meeting...November 19th 9 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

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