



**Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2021 via Zoom**

Mackenzie Rickman, BHSJ CHA	Rozanne Pauze, Grantparent	Kris Dewey, BHSJ CHA
Stefanie Rathburn, GSC	Mindy Wilson, HCISD	Kayla Horton, HCISD
Linda Wise, HCISD	Wendy Playford, GSC	Abby Alley, HCISD
Angie Turner, CAA	Laura Orłowski, Jonesville District Library	Yvonne Parker, CAA
Maria Ansett, Karen's House & St. Anthony's Family Center	Sara Clark, Parent	Jen Houston, Highfields
Andrea Bricker, Integro	Amey Little, BHSJ CHA	Kelly Castle, Parent
Kaitlyn Swick, HCISD	Chara Halliwill, Integro	Abbey LoPresto, DHHS
Christie Campbell, CAPA	Mari Nunez, Jonesville Schools	

1. Welcome/Introductions

2. GSC Office Updates

- Director Report
- Funding - Share Screen of GSC Funding
 - \$8,000 Trusted Advisors Grant Additional Funding
 - Reading Station at WIC Office Waiting Room
 - Talking is Teaching Promotion with Family
 - Stocking up on marketing materials
- Trusted Advisors Fund
 - Increased to \$25,000
 - Goal is to do outreach and connect with families
 - Last round of TAF
 - Ideas landed on:
 - What's Next? Social Emotional Kits
 - Newborn Visits to families with a newborn in Hillsdale County
 - Purpose of visit to share resources

HCGSC VISION

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HCGSC MISSION

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- Connect with services and supports available to them
 - Pilot Programs - data to support future planning/efforts
 - Literacy Hub Grant
 - Approved for \$8,500
 - Newborn Literacy Bags for families that deliver at Hillsdale Hospital
 - Funds expended by December 31st, 2021
 - Giving Day
 - Participation
 - Donations to utilize as your non-profit
 - If you are aware of people that support the mission of the GSC - ask for donations
 - Solicitation donation Letter
 - Small Team to discuss marketing strategies
 - We do not have a full list to pull from of donors
 - If you are interested in helping, contact Stefanie.
- Agency Spotlights
 - Clarity on local agencies
 - Input on agencies or services that you would like to learn more about
- Parent Liaison Report
 - Second meeting last Wednesday
 - Little Free Libraries/ Text for Baby
 - Community presentation on topics that are needed
 - Parent table at Celebrate Babies Event
 - Current Trusted Advisor Grant
 - Talking is Teaching - prenatal focus (October)
 - Families involved at training
 - November 13th (morning and afternoon) offering prenatal up to the age of 1
 - RSVP on website

3. Subcommittee Reports: Work Plans 21-22

- Child Care - shared in September
- Community Resources
 - Improving health
 - Increasing the use of the food pantries with tip sheets and simple recipes
 - Increasing awareness between organizations
 - utilize resource guide
 - include some of the faith based community

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- Work with Pediatric and Family Health on agency involvement for next Community Baby Shower
- Literacy
 - Strategy 1
 - Family Activity Challenges
 - 3 times a year (Winter, Spring, Summer)
 - Incorporating Literacy into a normal routine
 - Literacy Lead/Contacts and Local Districts
 - Share all of our GSC/Literacy work to locals to reach more families
 - Expanding the audience
 - Creative ideas to extend our reach of audience
 - Strategy 2
 - Maintain Little Free Libraries (parent led initiative)
 - Plan and hold 4th Annual Story Walk
 - Host Parent Meeting focusing on “what reading looks like?” for each age range (follow up to Read by Grade Three Information Nights)
 - Host Literacy Pop-ups
 - Explore incentive program for families to encourage reading
- Pediatric & Family Health
 - Shifted focus or gears
 - Strategy 1
 - Educate on importance of prenatal care
 - Text for Baby - parent led
 - Coordination and hosting of Community Baby Shower
 - Strategy 2
 - Strengthen relationships with service providers
 - Starting with promotion and recognition of medical service providers - social media appreciation
- School Readiness Advisory
 - Four quarterly meetings
 - Address the needs of school readiness across the community
 - We are really focused on making sure the right members are at the table
 - Grow and enhance relationships
 - Joint recruitment and enrollment

4. Community Updates

- Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)
 - Support children at risk or showing delays
 - Currently in-person with 70 families throughout the county

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- Collaborating in the Celebrate Babies Event
- Fall Fest and Winter Fest
- Chosen for Improving Social Emotional Learning
 - Training
 - Devereux Assessment
- Please make a referral to Early On if you have any concerns
- Partner with Early Head Start - they too have availability
- Openings for preschool for 3s and 4s
 - Phone number and link in the chat
- Head Start Openings
 - Pittsford, Waldron, Jonesville, and Litchfield (4 year olds)
 - Waldron (3 year olds)
- Agency Updates
 - Yvonne Parker/CAA - Warm the Children (no walk-ins)
 - Number to call 437-3346
 - Making appointments October 27th-29th
 - Caveat - if selected last year, cannot participate; however, Hillsdale Thrift will provide for those families
 - Andrea Bricker - Jackson Hillsdale Infant Mental Health in collaboration with many of you on this zoom are partnering for a Celebrate Babies Event
 - Event is Friday DHHS
 - Celebrate Babies week long event
 - yoga
 - website with events all week long
 - Christie/CAPA
 - Safe Sleep Awareness Month - October
 - Facebook social media
 - Cutest baby in Hillsdale County
 - Winner of basket with materials to keep baby safe
 - October 27th at midnight
 - Fall Fest/Stefanie
 - October 27th 4:30-6:30
 - Drive thru fashion
 - If your agency is interested in a table contact, Stef and she will get in touch with Kim
 - Child Care Grant/Stefanie
 - Support providers with getting licensed
 - We have funds available
 - Encourage those interested to reach out to Stefanie or Kristy
 - We have funds to support about 10 more care providers

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- Mackenzie/WIC
 - Excited for the Literacy Tree being donated via the additional Talking is Teaching funds through GSC

Next Meeting...November 15th

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