



## Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Minutes December 4, 2023

Bryce Asberg, Helping Hands Pregnancy Resource Center	Janel Morse, Calming Breath Doula	Rebekah Dobski, Hillsdale Community Library
Mari Nunez, Community	Laura Orlowski, Jonesville District Library	Stephanie Hines, HCISD
Kevin Knapp, MSU Extension	Allison Wirick, Hillsdale Community Schools	Anna Weide, CAA/Early Head Start
Abby Alley, HCISD	Wendy Playford, GSC	Linda Wise, HCISD
Shelley Keller, HCISD	Christie Campbell, CAPA	Andrea Bricker, Integro
Chris Firestone, LifeWays	Stefanie Rathburn, GSC	Heather Upton, CASA

1. Welcome/Introductions/Opening Activity : *Mingle Bingo*
2. Resource Sharing from Jackson Hillsdale Infant Mental Health Chapter:
  - *Andrea and Anna shared infographics 10 Ways to Support Your Child in Tough Times and Building Your Child's Brain. Stefanie will attach digital copies to minutes. Please print and share with families*
  - *Shared information about a Connect & Care event being held in January for service providers in Hillsdale County*
3. GSC Office Updates (*Stefanie and Wendy*):
  - *The Strategic Plan is very near completion. Link will get emailed out once submitted and copies will be available at the January meeting.*
  - *Funding*
    - *Literacy Hub Regional Grant*
      - *Continuation of Books for Babies*
      - *Literacy Essentials Birth - 3 Training for Child Care Providers*
    - *Advancing Healthy Births - Region 9 Perinatal Quality Collaborative*
    - *Great Give*

### 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.

- Totals: \$3455
    - 11 new donors!
  - *Marketing*
    - *Michigan Parent Winter Issue*
    - *Hillsdale College Child Abuse/Trauma presentation*
  - *Events since last meeting*
    - *Get Your Game On - 9 families with 16 kids*
      - *Plan to have discussion at future meeting about use of RSVPs and challenges in planning based on numbers who RSVP and don't come and numbers who attend who don't RSVP*
    - *Family Coalition - 5 parents (4 new)*
      - *Little Free Library - new location in the works - CASA, Mi Works, Waldron resident, Litchfield City Offices, DJ's Family Restaurant. Need Camden location idea.*
      - *Winter Activities - Parents discussed possible low-effort ideas for upcoming months*
  - *Upcoming Events*
    - *Winterfest*
      - *Dec 7 from 5 - 6:30 pm at Dean Jennings - Drive-thru event*
      - *Registration is requested*
      - *Agency volunteers wanted*
    - *Family Coalition Meeting*
      - *Dec 19 from 4 - 5 pm in the lower level of the Hayes building*
      - *Registration is requested*
      - *Pajama Party*

4. *The Future of What's Next? Social Emotional Kits*

- *Discussion centered around continuing or not. Received feedback from a couple of parents that was helpful. Decision to look at attaching to something we are already doing*

5. *Subcommittee Reports*

- *Community Resources:*
  - *Community Resource Guide updates—new format*
  - *Continuing to explore idea of recipe cards in partnership with MSU for use with food pantries*
- *Literacy:*
  - *Working to develop marketing plan for Talking is Teaching*

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- *Exploring options for expanding Hillsdale County Kids Read Initiative*
- Prenatal & Pediatric Health
  - *Community Baby Shower - date is tentative for May 18*
  - *Next planning meeting 1/9 @ 1p*
- Preschool Leadership & Advocacy
  - *Preschool Connect, virtually with Facebook as platform in Feb*
  - *Kindergarten Roundup with Preschool Roundup*
  - *Extended School Year is being discussed*
  - *Data Dive recently conducted*

#### 6. Community Updates

- Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)/Abby:
  - *prepping for Winter Fest, expecting 250 kids*
- Agency Updates
  - *Linda: GSRP and HS both have a handful of openings*
  - *Janelle: Mom Meet Up Fridays and Saturdays (resource attached)*
  - *Christie: CAPA Ball Feb 10th , Tix \$60, Nautical Cruise*
  - *Bryce: Layette Box partner with Hillsdale Hospital, Parenting partnership with Court, Early 2024 more parenting/mentorship parent group opportunities*
  - *Stefanie: Reminder of Hillsdale County Resource Google Group - shared flyer and encouraged to share with coworkers who might not be signed up for use*

#### 7. Closing Festivities!

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