



Great Start Collaborative (GSC) Meeting Minutes: January 8, 2024

Attendance:

Abby Alley, HCISD	Andrea Bricker, Integro	Stephanie Hines, HCISD
Isabella Stycos, BHSJ Community Health Agency	Rebekah Dobski, Hillsdale Community Library	Janell Morse, Calming Breath Doula Services
Tonia Gier, Domestic Harmony	Abbey LoPresto, DHHS	Brooke Rains, Child Care Network
Christie Campbell, CAPA	Heather Upton, CASA	Yvonna Parker, CAA
Anna Weide, CAA	Mindy Wilson, HCISD	Linda Wise, HCISD
Angie Tuner, CAA	Wendy Plaford, GSC	Shelley Keller, HCISD
Bryce Asberg, Helping Hands Pregnancy Resource Center	Shelby Ward, CHSJ Community Health Agency	Sarah Greeley, Community Choice Credit Union
Allison Wirick, Hillsdale Community Schools		

Minutes:

I. Welcome/Introductions/Opening Activity

- A. Introductions
- B. Opening Activity: This or That

II. GSC Office Updates

- A. Transition to MiLEAP (Office of Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program) effective December 1st
 1. Contacts, operations stay the same, acting director in place
 2. So far, only implication we've seen is the required language on documents we produce
- B. Strategic Plan - Submitted; copies available at sign-in
- C. Funding
 1. Advancing Healthy Births - Region 9 Perinatal Quality Collaborative; grant submitted to support safe sleep efforts; should hear back by 1/12 with funds needing to be spent by end of September
 2. Community Health Impact & Capacity Building - will be exploring this grant further based on recommendation from Hillary at Hillsdale Hospital
- D. Marketing

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1. Michigan Parent Winter Issue
- E. Events since last meeting
 1. Winterfest - we participated. It was a great event pulled together by the Early On/early childhood team at the ISD! Shout out to them!!
 - a) 86 families - 189 children - 125 adults
 - b) 13 partner agencies/organizations
 2. Family Coalition -
 - a) Little Free Library -
 - (1) LFL ordered and waiting on install: CASA, Mi Works, Waldron resident, Litchfield City Offices
 - (2) LFL inprogress: DJ's Family Restaurant. Have some Camden locations to check into.
 - (3) LFL interested location: King's Kupboard, Adventures of the A Team, an additional Waldron resident
 - b) Winter Activities -
 - (1) Continue to work on a one-page to give out to families with winter resources/ideas
 - (2) In discussion with Hillsdale Library regarding offering additional free play Friday playgroups in Jan and Feb
- F. Upcoming Events
 1. Family Coalition Meeting
 - a) Jan 16 from 4 - 5 pm in the lower level of the Hayes building
 - b) Registration is requested
 2. Pajama Party
 - a) Jan 23 from 4:30 - 6 pm in the lower level of the Hayes building
 - b) Registration is requested
 3. Talking is Teaching parent training
 - a) Feb 3 or Feb 10 from 9 - 11:30 am at the Hayes building
 - b) Registration is requested

III. Community Spotlight: Shelby Ward- WIC: Branch Hillsdale St. Joseph Community Health Agency (SEE HANDOUT)

- A. Supplemental Health Program
- B. Pregnant Moms & Children 1 through 4 years
- C. Lots of resources and community connections through this program
- D. Postpartum component
- E. Lead Testing at 12mo & 24mo
- F. Testing support for Hemoglobin, Height/weight, Head circumference, Fluoride and varnish, Project Fresh in June, etc.
- G. Income Eligibility Guidelines (see handout)

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- H. Can do virtual visits under rare circumstances, but really want to see families in the office. Don't want to lose just because they can't get in. Would request data from the pediatrician to have that.
- I. Common FAQ's
 - 1. Foster Children are Eligible
 - 2. Single Fathers raising children can be eligible
 - 3. Miscarriage- support available
 - 4. Transfer from one state to another
 - 5. Multiple types of formula
- J. Numbers were down, but they are starting to climb back up
- K. If you have waiting areas, please post and check that you have the most recent flier.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- A. **Child Care** - Stefanie reported
 - 1. Last Year launched the Child Care Chirp Newsletter
 - a) asked the economic group to send out
 - b) exploring additional ways to get this out
 - (1) Working with Michigan Works to see if they could push it out through their Listserv.
 - 2. Regional Child Care Planning Coalition (Monroe, Hillsdale, Lenawee counties)
 - a) Looking at child care perspectives from parents, businesses, and providers. A much broader lens and picture painted
 - b) Last planning meeting Hillsdale Hospital was represented on the call. Hopeful that this might promote expansion in our community
 - 3. Starting to explore Childcare Provider Recognition Month in May
 - 4. Smaller Committee. Everyone is welcome to join us!

V. RSVP Challenge Discussion

- A. Struggling with getting accurate RSVPs(Data Handout)
 - 1. We ask for RSVPs to make sure our space is big enough, we have activities to support children ages in attendance or child care needs, right fit activity materials, snacks, etc.
 - 2. People register and do not come, or do not register and come...
 - 3. Not expecting it to match perfectly, but need to try to get a bit closer
 - 4. Has anyone seen anything successful in supporting accurate RSVPs?
 - a) Require registration to participate? Turn away if not registered?

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- b) Once Registered... a day or 2 before, we would call to confirm they are still attending. This would let us know if people had something come up.
 - c) Family Coalition Meeting Discussion
 - (1) They suggested a text reminder for events
 - (2) Bryce suggested a texting program
 - (a) Text and reply "C" to confirm or "P" for a phone call.
 - (b) Only costs them \$15 per month
 - d) Google Phone number is free, it may have more options
 - e) Remind App
 - (1) Another thing parents have to sign up for and you have to give them a code for an app
 - (2) Free, but more of a process for families
 - (3) Different codes are needed for every event
 - f) Texting Base
 - (1) Buy (X) units (a certain number of texts)
 - (2) Worked nicely
 - (3) Text mas announcements
 - g) Reminder Call.com (Bryce Asherg uses)
 - (1) Can read a spreadsheet
 - (2) 15.50 per month
5. Are going to use text on their own to start and see if it changes things for the next 3 events before we jump into the system or a new app, etc.

VI. Community Updates

A. Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)

- 1. 1st Day back from the break
- 2. Referrals are down
- 3. 130-ish referrals
- 4. Winterfest before break went great
- 5. Spring Fling coming
 - a) April 18th 4:30 to 6 pm
 - b) Drive through event

B. Agency Updates

- 1. GSC (Stefanie)- 2024 Safety Fair Planning- Sign up if you would like to help plan. Early Feb for 1st meeting
- 2. Heather- CASA
 - a) CASA/Domestic Harmony/Hospital- Teaming up for Volunteer Fair January 16th. Flier on CASA Facebook page. Spread the word.

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- b) New Volunteer Training January 30th to Feb 9th- Branch County will be joining the training too.
- c) Fundraisers coming
 - (1) Comedy Show @ Johnny T's. Must be 18. Tickets in advance. January 20th
 - (2) Pizza Hut Fundraiser- January 30th
- 3. Helping Hands (Bryce Asberg)- Earn A Free Car Seat Flier
 - a) Lots of Programs to earn "Baby Bucks" and able to purchase different needed items for babies, children, and families.
- 4. CAPA- Christie Campbel
 - a) Triple P- Positive Parenting Program starting tomorrow- Send to Christie to register. 3-week session via zoom
 - b) Annual Charity Children's Ball
 - (1) Cruise Theme
 - (2) \$60 per ticket/person
 - (3) Giving away a cruise
 - (4) Not as dressy as normal- can dress up & down
 - (5) At Searle Center
 - c) Cash Raffle- Don't need to be present to win
- 5. Domestic Harmony
 - a) Christmas Program- served 29 families with 85 kids!
- 6. HCISD- Early Childhood Department
 - a) Preschools are available throughout the county. Family can apply to see what programs they may be eligible for
 - b) Early On is available if families have concerns for their child's development, they may be eligible for support through Early On.
- 7. Child Care Network
 - a) Childcare and Preschool Options available
 - (1) Child Care can be found at Great Start to Quality
 - (2) Quality Level
 - b) Tri Share through Employers
 - (1) Childcarenetwork.org/trishare for more information (flyer attached)
- 8. Jackson-Hillsdale Infant Mental Health
 - a) Connect & Care event
 - (1) Focus on workers that directly work with the families
 - (2) E-mail will be coming today
 - b) Integro
 - (1) Stepping into Case Management Services

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- (a) Need Numbers (Phone numbers, fax numbers, contact information for schools and people)
- (b) HCISD has some lists we can share

VII. Closing

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