

Component: Infants, young children and their families are physically healthy

Objective: Increase young children's exposure to healthy and fresh food choices to help combat childhood obesity.

Strategies:

1. Collect current data on WIC participants 0-5 that are obese or at risk.
2. Integrate a comprehensive learning program for child care providers, directors and GSRP on providing healthy snacks on a tight budget from a registered dietician, utilizing current trainings and programs.
3. Provide sample policies for childcare providers and daycares for healthy lunches and snacks.
4. Partner with current programs and initiatives educating parents and the community on healthy and fresh food choices to combat obesity.
5. Help increase awareness for those on WIC of ways to create healthy meals and snacks utilizing food from the WIC program.
6. Connect parents to the Great Start website and network to provide them with resources, programs and ideas on healthy eating and fresh food choices.
7. Integrate information on healthy eating and programs through the Great Start Network Newsletter when possible.
8. Weave GSPC meeting locations, snacks and information provided in support of this objective.
9. Connect with local pediatrician offices on our efforts and get their input and feedback.

Objective: Increase early childhood activity to help decrease childhood obesity.

Strategies:

1. Collect information on all 0-5 aged physical activity opportunities in Charlevoix, Emmet and northern Antrim Counties.
2. Partner with programs and initiatives to help develop or enhance 0-5 aged physical activity and outdoor programs.
3. Connect parents to the Great Start website and network to provide them with resources, ideas and programs that help encourage physical activity and healthy living.
4. Increase access to State Parks and programs for children and families to encourage physical activity.
5. Connect with local pediatrician offices on our efforts and get their input and feedback.

Objective: Decrease the incidence of low birth weight infants.

Strategies:

1. Determine data for the number of low birth weight babies born in Emmet, Charlevoix counties
2. Increase awareness of the effect of prenatal smoking through face to face encounters, through the Smoke free for Baby and Me program, Early Head Start and New Horizons.
3. Consult with the local tobacco expert that works with the health department for more strategies and ideas.
4. Explore becoming a local partner of the national text4baby program for pregnant women.

Objective: Every Child birth to 5 has a medical home (2010 centered care and 2010 have health care).

Strategies:

1. Talking Point Sheet for Free or low cost and eligibility.
2. Focus on Current programs such as MI child and Healthy Kids.
3. Promote the new Community Health Clinic, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), in Emmet county and the East Jordan Family Health Center, an existing FQHC in Charlevoix county, for families who have financial barriers to care and need a medical home for their 0-5 aged child.
4. Promote the new Child and Adolescent Health Center in Pellston, the Hornet Health Center, to increase access to care in northern Emmet county for youth ages 5-21 and their children.
5. Update the current Early On system of pediatrician referral to include one-on-one education about the ASQ screening process, providing the tools, training and guidance as needed.

Objective: Increase knowledge and exposure of infant and child car seat safety.

1. Support the work of the Safe Kids Coalition and possibly partner with the coalition.
2. Provide a car seat safety inspection for families with young children.
3. Collaborate with the Health Department and the Safe Kids Coalition to provide free material and resources from the department of transportation on car seat safety at local fairs, venues and meetings.

Recent Updates:

- ✓ 800 Brochures created for area agencies, churches, schools, etc to be passed to all free health care services for increased exposure.
- ✓ Radio advertisement to increase awareness of MI child and Medicaid with updates on the website.
- ✓ United Way Newsletter– link to the information and this was distributed to 1200 people.
- ✓ Electric copy distributed to SHERM and Chambers

Component: Infants, young children and their families are socially and emotionally

Objective: Advocate for increased access and availability of an array of mental health services for 0-5 aged children and their families.

Strategies:

1. Continue to work with Frey Foundation on the S/E grant.
2. Continue work a question and answer resource library.
3. Provide on s/e screening and behavioral service provision training.
4. Work on writing grants to fund the Great Start Network.
5. Connect with Child Care Enhancement Project and utilize the services.
6. Seek out funding from the Kellogg Foundation for reinstatement of the Great Start.
7. Connect families to the Great Start Network and website to help direct parents to services, resources and programs; including working on a localized social networking site for parents.
8. Focus on fatherhood in relation to healthy development of a child; more specifically with data surrounding the Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative and The Department of Health and Human Services fatherhood initiative, collaborating with the current work of the Birth to 8 Group.
9. Utilize technology tools and training to help the appropriate staff connect families of young children to the Great Start Network, social networking sites, and appropriate resources as well as conduct assessments quickly and increase a productive and timely workflow.

Component: Families support and guide the early learning of their infants and toddlers

Objective: Advocate for grass roots efforts for parent/business involvement.

Strategies:

1. Parent Pizza Patrol will choose 5-10 business/local chambers to buy pizza for and give a brief presentation on Great Start; Multi-facet approach that is theme based but educational to employers.
2. 0-5 Family Friendly business seal of approval to engage business and parents.
3. Create a packet for homeless families.
4. Meet with the court on court ordered childcare.
5. Utilize technology tools and training to help connect families, business leaders and legislators to online resources for advocacy and education.

Objective: Create a parent education resource directory of parenting classes, videos, etc. surrounding issues of early childhood and child development.

1. Create a parent and childcare educational resource directory (i.e, parenting classes, child development information, provider training, video check out, etc.)
2. Investigate and update current resource directories to assist in the 2-1-1 efforts and to distribute to 0-5 families.
3. Connect Parents to the Great Start Network and website which will help us share the resource directory, parenting information and child development information
4. Utilize technology tools and training to help connect families to the Great Start website, network and Great Start Connect childcare website.

Recent Updates Reported:

- ✓ Presentation is being revised by the communication team; continue work and support of this development.
- ✓ Business seal of approval is complete, application finished and outreach has begun. Great Start Parent Coalition will give update on this.
- ✓ Marcia contacted the homeless shelters.

Component: Families have access to high quality early care and education

Objective: Every child has access to affordable increased quality child care.

Objective: Every 3 & 4 year old child has access to affordable high quality preschool beginning with those most at risk.

Strategies:

1. Gather data on number of children being served in child care, family group homes, and center and relative homes –revisit this data based on the current cuts and report out on these numbers.
2. Gather data on number of children being serviced in preschools (GSRP, HS, EHS, and District, private). Revisit these numbers due to the cuts and report out on the new data.
3. Gather data on number of childcare and early education costs.
4. Gather data on training attendance and content.
5. Work directly with the Great Start Regional Resource Center and Great Start School Readiness program.
6. Present to other chamber boards.
7. Connect parents to the Great Start Network and website that can help us communicate information related to the objectives.
8. Utilize technology tools and trainings to help connect parents, childcare providers and teachers to the Great Start website, network and Great Start Connect childcare resources and training as well as online advocacy tools.

Recent Updates Reported:

- ✓ ECIC quality improvement grant will guide us through this scope of work.
- ✓ Bill Lovett spoke with the Charlevoix Chamber the first week of August and we need an update on this.
- ✓ Link MI works and the Jet Training – 30 hours of required training was reported.
- ✓ Update was given on numbers but we need a new update with the changes that took place with funding.
- ✓ Communicate current services and needs for child care and early education to business and foundations.

Other updates on the component areas can be seen by viewing the minutes from 2008-2009.