

2009-2010 Updated Action Agenda and Strategies with recent reports on progress achieved from September 2009-November 2009.

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

Objective:

Maintain or reduce the infant mortality rate for Charlevoix, Emmet and northern Antrim counties.

Strategies:

1. What is the infant mortality rate currently; what is the cause and how can we have an impact as a collaborative?
2. Assess current cuts and take preventative measures to head off a potential increase of infant mortality (i.e. intervention services cuts with teen parenting program).
3. Public awareness for infant and child safety and possible partnerships with Safe Kids Coalition and/or the Michigan State Police.
4. Medication awareness and safety for infants and young children.
5. Food insecurity and WIC data - promote breast feeding and correct formula/water amounts.
6. Connect families to the Great Start Network and website which can help connect them with resources, services and information relevant to this objective.

Objective:

Increase public awareness on the dangers of lead and early childhood.

Strategies:

1. Link to information on lead dangers, find data and partner with educational programs in existence.

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 which will increase awareness and use of these programs for each child to have a medical home.
3. Increase enrollment in the MI child and Healthy Kid programs.

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 Chamber.

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

Objective:

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

Strategies that merge with previous strategies:

1. Continue to work with Frey Foundation on the S/E grant.
2. Continue work a question and answer resource library.
3. Provide a 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.
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.

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.

Objective:

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

Strategies:

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.

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.
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 objective.

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
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- 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](#)