

Great Start Collaborative
September 15, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Those present: Shirley Gillespie, Jill Haan, Marcia Campbell, Carolyn Belknap, Sommer Poquette, Mandy Peterson, Theresa Simons, Meagan Krzywosinski, Nina Wager, Beth Watts, Mary Martincheck, Jo Anna Kolodziej, Judy Wojcik, Cynthia Carpenter, Nicole Lindwall, Devanie Argetsinger, Megan Rapelje, LuAnn Ameluxen, and Phyllis Hess.

1. Introductions.
2. Strategic Planning: Audrey Shapiro has volunteered to facilitate the November Strategic Planning meeting since the library has recently participate in planning themselves. The meeting will be from 9a.m. – 1p.m on November 17, 2010. A yellow form was distributed to help generate ideas/questions prior to the meeting. If you are not able to attend the meeting, please complete the form and return it to Sommer prior to the meeting. The strategic plan will cover 2011-2013.
3. Implementation Fund Update:
 - a. A survey of net book results was distributed. The information was gathered from four of the home visit staff. 20 + families utilized the net books with lots of website connecting taking place. A verbal report regarding the HD net book was given. Lots of families they are seeing have internet but it is being used to take them quickly to different sites. One problem is that there is no printer capability. If additional funds become available we may look into the text capabilities and purchasing more net books.
 - b. Pediatrician Visits have been occurring. Early On and Great Start Director have been meeting with physicians as office staff. They have done this with 3 offices. It was a good opportunity to ask questions as well as gather questions and information from the physicians. Doctors indicate that they are seeing more preschool depression, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, transportation issues, and obesity. Each physician office gets a binder containing: child development wheel, resource directory, business cards, Great Start information, child care resources, Early On process sheet regarding referrals and services, text 4 baby information, samples of the ASQ's, and a material order form to request additional copies of items.
 - c. Head Start mentioned that staff is also setting up Physician visits and that maybe they could join Early On and Great Start with visits. This is something they will work on collaborating.
 - d. Sommer Poquette went to training held by the American Academy of Pediatrics and learned that doctors can bill for up to 3 developmental screenings per year. There is a training that physicians of billing staff can attend. Some of the offices have indicated an interest in this training.
 - e. Early On and the Great Start Director have been invited to attend a meeting at the hospital in the next month or so. It has been mentioned that Great Start information may be able to be included in the pre birth bags.
 - f. The On-Line Course that Great Start and Great Start Connect were creating is completed. The cost will be \$10 per class. It is a 3 hour online course that someone can start and stop when needed. It is projected to launch October 1st, 2010. Great Start will receive \$2 per course.

4. 211 update:
 - a. The database is up and ready. The 211 number until all funds have been raised. This area is set on funds but the Traverse area is still working on a bit of the funding. They should have it all very soon.
 - b. Operating cost fund raising will be taking place. Frey and United Way have committed operating cost funding.
 - c. They are hoping to do a regional launch.
 - d. 211 has been presented at local town hall meetings and has been well received.
 - e. The local 3rd Level Crisis center has been gathering the local data for the data base.

5. The Period of Purple Crying program was presented by Shirley Gillespie. Purple crying is period where babies cry relentlessly and can't be soothed. It can start around 2 weeks and occur through 2-3 months of age. It is not a medical condition it is something babies go through. There are 6 characteristics of the crying, they are: P- it has peak periods, U-unexpected, R-resistant to soothing, P-looks like the baby is in pain, L-long lasting crying, and E-tends to be in late afternoon or evening. Parents and caregivers can become very overwhelmed and frustrated during these periods. Shaken baby syndrome is something that could occur.
 - a. Great Start Connect is providing training on purple crying as it is a requirement for providers to be trained.
 - b. The packet consists of a 10 minute DVD and an 11 page pamphlet. It is \$2 for the DVD and booklet.
 - c. It is something that DHS is very interested in pursuing for this area. They have had 3 cases of shaken baby syndrome in the area in the last 2 years.
 - d. Some Head Start staff has received the training.
 - e. The website to visit for more information is www.purplecrying.info
 - f. Grand Traverse is giving out rattles that say shake this not your baby.
 - g. An MOU from the hospital may need to be obtained in order to bring the training and materials to this area.

An ad hoc committee titled the Purple Crying Committee has been established. This committee will meet and provide updates to the collaborative regarding progress made on bringing this program to the area. The committee will end when this has occurred. The following people have volunteered for the committee: Mary Martinchek (Health Dept.), Judy Wojcik (NMH), Nina Wager(Char-Em), Carolyn Belknap (Early On), Shirley Gillespie (DHS), Phyllis Hess (HS), and Sommer Poquette (GS).

6. Great Start Parent Coalition Update:
 - a. The Back to School Jam took place again this year. The Genesis church of Petoskey gave out backpacks to K-12 students and Great Start gave backpacks to the birth to five population. Hair cuts and face painting were also available. It was a good opportunity to share information about the collaborative with the community.
 - b. Festival on the Bay was very successful. Lots of recognition is out there in the community regarding Great Start. Great stories were shared by parents about the various programs and services from the community.
 - c. The Sand Box Party took place in Lansing, August 26th. Over 5,500 adults and children attended. Both candidates for governor presented.
 - d. Great Start was invited to attend the Grand Opening of the Archery Kick Off in Ellsworth. It was very successful. A lot of dads and grandpas were there. Lots of connections with this area took place.

- e. Upcoming activities and events are: Sept. 27 – 9-3p.m. stop in and help build a scarecrow for the Boyne City Harvest Festival at the Char-Em ISD Boyne City office. October 15th from 5:30-7p.m. there will be a pumpkin painting and costume exchange taking place at the Char-Em ISD Boyne City office. Legislative meetings will be set up from now until November 2 to talk with the potential legislatures regarding advocacy for early childhood.
7. Fund Development Update: A fiscal sponsor agreement will be signed by the Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency. This means that they will be the fiduciary for Great Start and that fund raising and grant writing are now able to occur. A copy of the agreement was passed out. The group was asked if anyone had questions. No questions were raised. Voting on having NMCAA as the fiduciary was motioned by Theresa Simons and seconded by Meagan Krzywosinski. All were in favor, none were opposed. This Great Start is 1 of 3 in the state to have a fiduciary established.
8. Early Childhood. What's it to you? Luncheon is taking place on September 24, 2010 from 11:30-1p.m at Stafford's Perry Hotel. Charles MacInnis will be the speaker. Collaborative members are free to attend everyone else will be charged \$15. Please invite people to attend. The target audience for this luncheon is the business community. RSVP by calling 582-8070. We were going to have the Virtual Bus Tour at the luncheon but it was way too long when everything was laid out. A virtual video/power point is being created and will be playing when people arrive to the luncheon. If you have pictures from your agency with picture releases for those in the picture send them to Sommer Poquette as soon as possible.
9. Round Table Sharing:
 - a. Head Start is having their Federal Peer Review on Oct. 17. They may be contacting people with requests for information needed for the review.
 - b. Planned Parenthood and MSU Extension are planning 4 Parenting Classes. MSU will be handling the food/nutrition part of the classes. They are thinking of offering 4 different classes and having the classes during lunch time. The classes would be 2 ½ hours long. They need help with locating someone to present on Conscious Discipline – Kaye Frang would be someone to talk to about it.
 - c. Boyne is having their winter job fair November 11 and 12, 2010. The 11th is at the Highlands and the 12th is at the Mountain from 2-4p.m. Recommendations to people attending would be to dress appropriately and not to smell smoky or unkempt. For more information about jobs and postings visit the website.
 - d. The Information Summit is taking place September 17th. Remember set up needs to take place between 7:30 and 8a.m. the morning of the event.
 - e. Project Free is once again in operation. The WRC received funding for this year. It is a Great Start Readiness Program for children who will be 4 by December 1st. They have 1 teacher but need to hire 1 more. The program will start Oct. 25.
 - f. WRC is looking for a Play Group Facilitator for Alanson, Boyne City, and Petoskey. It would be 12 hours per week. Contact Stacy Burns at WRC for more information.
 - g. The Great Parents Great Start grant for 2010-2011 is due Oct. 15, 2010. Jill Haan outlined what the program entails. It serves 10 target families and supplies some funding for the playgroup. There are no changes from last year's submission. Jill Haan asked for Great Start to approve the GSGS submission. Approval was motioned by Carolyn Belknap and seconded by BethWatts. All approved and none were opposed.

- h. Head Start's waitlist is at a low. Referrals are needed in order to maintain full classrooms in case children drop or move. Families should call 347-9070 to set up an appointment.
 - i. If anyone has an article or would like to write an article to be included on the website that would be great. It needs to be between 250 and 500 words. You could also include a bio and picture of yourself if you would like. Send articles to Sommer Poquette at greatstartforkids@gmail.com
- 10. The meeting was adjourned with the next meeting taking place on November 17, 2010 at North Central Michigan College from 9a.m. till 1p.m.