

Eaton County's



Collaborative
Strategic Plan

September
2011

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A. Letter to the Community

The letter signed by the Great Start Collaborative partners and supporting agencies is on file in the Great Start office at 311 W. First St., Charlotte, MI 48813. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to view the original letter.

B. Executive Summary

1. Mission statement:

To insure that every child in Eaton County enters school optimally prepared to learn and grow to the best of his/her ability; agencies, parents, caregivers, and the community commit to providing a supportive environment characterized by respect and by the provision of accessible and coordinated services.

2. Vision:

- All children will be seen and treated as important and valued.
- The community will support the first years of life (0-5) because they substantially affect lifelong emotional, social, intellectual, and physical well-being.
- Children will be raised in families where they can experience positive relationships characterized by love and respect.
- The community will support families because they desire the “best” for their children but experience challenges.
- Communities will support families to help children successfully learn and grow.
- All children will have equal access to community resources.
- The community will help parents access support and information because it directly impacts children.

3. Major issues identified through the Local Early Childhood System Assessment

In 2008, the Great Start Collaborative identified the following issues through the identified processes:

Data Assessment

In reviewing the data matrix for Eaton County, frequently identified issues lacked available data, or low data frequencies making it impossible to calculate meaningful statistics.

Community Meetings

The major issues identified through community meetings included: parent education and support classes/workshops, information dissemination about events, services, issues and programs; and the continued needs in Eaton County for more affordable housing and transportation options.

Gap Analysis

The gap analysis undertaken by the Great Start Collaborative reiterated many of issues including housing, lack of health care and health insurance options, the need for additional childcare options, the need for additional/expanded parent education options, and the need to expand child and family mental health services.

Infrastructure Review

The infrastructure review was a reminder of the many collaborative systems already within the Eaton County services and programs. Eaton County has a history of working together to provide what its citizens need. Many of the collaborative agreements are on a verbal basis due to the familiarity of programs with one another. Therefore, there is a lack of formal documentation including contracts and agreements.

For the 2011 Strategic Planning, the collaborative as a whole felt those attending the committees and collaborative meetings reflected the demographics of our community, or were connected to unrepresented entities, and would be the conduits for reviewing the work of the committees and collaborative. A part of the responsibility of members was to gain input from their connections in the community and make sure those views were represented during the process. The committee structure, which is divided by Great Start STAR areas, that was implemented in 2010 was utilized for much of the strategic planning work.

Data Assessment

Each committee was provided the new data sheets from Jane Zender-Merhle to review during committee meetings. Although there was some data of concern, much of it revolved around issues of the local, state and national economy.

Child Care And Early Education:

- More children are being served by Early On, less by Special Education
- Less children are receiving DHS child care assistance (economy)
- Number of child care centers has remained stable, while group and family homes have decreased (economy)

Family Support

- Number of children receiving assistance has increased (economy)
- Number of substantiated abuse and neglect cases continues to rise (economy?)

Parent Leadership

- Number of births to teens and to mothers without a high school diploma continues to be an issue

Pediatric And Family Health

- Prenatal care continues to be an issue
- Increase in numbers of mothers who smoke is probably related to low birth weight issues.
- Immunization numbers are down according to MCIR

Social Emotional Health

- Number of children in foster care has risen (economy?)
- Lack of local data available in many of the data fields

Community Meetings

It was the consensus of the collaborative that the data received from the community meetings during the 2008 strategic planning process did not support the cost and time involved to implement this strategy. It was decided that the members would work with their constituents to make sure community views were reflected in the strategic planning process.

Gap Analysis

Each committee reviewed the 2008 Gap Analysis document and updated the document to reflect current community conditions. At the following meeting of the whole collaborative, the documents were reviewed and collaborative members had the opportunity to add to the list of gaps and prioritize the lists.

The following are some of the general topics that came to the top of the gaps/needs lists:

Child Care And Early Education

- There is a need for more preschool and early education experiences for children
- There is a need to continue getting information out to the community

Family Support and Parent Leadership

- Parent education in various forms, classes and information, continues to be needed
- There continues to be a need for support groups and settings where parents can come together

Pediatric And Family Health

- With the rise of child obesity and busy families, parents need nutrition education and easy meal ideas
- There is a need for the promotion and inclusion of programs that inform and include health and physical activity – home visitation, activity times, exercise programs, health fairs, etc.

Infrastructure Review

The process for revising the Infrastructure Review included input from the collaborative partners. The 2008 document was sent out to all members to review. At the collaborative meeting, the group reviewed and edited the document to reflect current service integration.

The process indicated that the past years have not been good for programs that have worked together in the past. Eight “Projects or Agreements” that were noted in 2008 as working collaboratively have been deleted from the matrix. Many of these services for families lost funding, which was noted as related to the economics of our state and

community. On a positive note, there were new partners who joined existing projects.

4. Goals and Key Strategies

Eaton Great Start, recognizing the changes in the state-wide system that have taken place since our original Strategic Plan, chose to review our former goals and tweak them to meet the new Great Start STAR areas and definitions.

System Area: Family Support

Goal: Families of infants and young children are economically stable. Infants and young children live in safe families.

Strategy: Eaton County **will empower** families of young children to aspire to provide basic needs, economic security, and safety for all their children.

System Area: Parenting Leadership

Goal: Families support and guide the early learning of their infants and young children.

Strategy: Eaton County **will provide** opportunities and resources for parents to advocate for and become actively involved in their children's education.

System Area: Child Care and Early Education

Goal: Families have access to high quality early care and education. Children are ready to succeed in school and in life.

Strategy: Eaton County **will advocate** for quality care and educational experiences for all children beginning at birth.

System Area: Social and Emotional Health

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

Strategy: Eaton County **will promote** a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for all children, by providing opportunities for positive social growth and awareness of community resources for social-emotional health.

System Area: Pediatric and Family Health

Goal: Infants, young children and their families are physically healthy.

Strategy: The Great Start Collaborative **encourages, challenges, and supports** Eaton County to address all areas of health including environmental and personal well-being for children and their families.

System Area: System Infrastructure

Goal: Eaton County will have an inclusive and representative Great Start Collaborative and early childhood system.

Strategy: The Eaton Great Start Collaborative **will be** representative of and communicate effectively with the community; while striving to provide a comprehensive early childhood system for Eaton county families.

C. Great Start Collaborative Profile & History

Collaborative Beginnings

In the fall of 2006, Eaton Intermediate School District was informed they were awarded a Great Start grant from the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC). Eaton County was known for having strong interagency early childhood collaboration. In 2001 Early Childhood Connections of Eaton County was born as a result of a Michigan Department of Education All Students Achieve/Parent Involvement in Education grant. Unlike many grantees, Eaton County used the grant to stabilize a true collaborative early childhood system that weathered the storms of funding and maintained its existence through economic downturns. When the Operations Committee met to discuss the grant from the ECIC, it was decided that the opportunity to establish an even more influential and substantial collaborative existed. Thus, the Great Start Collaborative Council was commissioned as a sub-committee of the Eaton County Human Services Collaborative. In doing so, existing early childhood workgroups became committees under the Great Start Collaborative Council (GSCC). The first official meeting of the GSCC was April 2007.

In 2008 the Great Start Collaborative Council proceeded through a strategic planning process that produced the first comprehensive early childhood strategic plan for Eaton County. The plan included short term goals as well as future “dreams”. This was a working document that was adjusted over the years to meet the needs of the community. Hence, goals and objectives were added and deleted over the years.

Accomplishments over the first three years included:

Child Care and Early Education

- Development of an Eaton County recommended book list brochure entitled “Looking for a good book to share with your infant, toddler, or preschooler?”
- Collaboratively provided parents, child care provider, and agency staff trainings that focused on child abuse, effects of trauma, behavioral issues, emotion coaching, County Bench Marks, science, literacy, health issues, brain development, CPR/First Aid, Conscious Discipline, Creative Curriculum, and safe sleep.
- Acknowledging the importance of child care providers with a Provider Tea that included training hours for child care licensing.
- Child Care Center Crib Swap to provide centers with cribs that meet the new laws, and state licensing requirements
- Provide parent-child activities and events that foster early learning and provide parents with replicable ideas:
 - Early Childhood Literacy Weeks Character events
 - Early Childhood Author visit
 - Fun to Be Me
 - Toddler Time
 - Toddler Time in the Park

- Expand Great Start Readiness Preschool consortium in order to offer the preschool option to more children

Family Support

- Establishment of a cross-agency Parents As Teachers Home Visitation Program and began the Parents As Teachers program in Eaton County
- Established trained car seat safety technicians within Eaton Great Start and secured car seats to provide families with safe transportation options
- Work with local community action teams in each community to provide local supports, events, and activities for families with young children
- Participation in Project Homeless Connect to provide resources, information, and child activities
- Provide opportunities for parents that give information and connect them with resources:
 - Early Childhood Literacy Weeks Character events
 - Early Childhood Author Visits
 - Placemats for month of the young child at local restaurants
 - Eaton County Fair Booth
 - Local parades/festivals
 - Fun to be Me
 - Toddler Time in the Park

Parent Leadership

- Realization of state-wide early childhood recognition through the efforts of our parents and partners
- Supported parents in attending legislative town meetings with policy makers within their local communities
- Support parents to attend state level advocacy efforts such as STAR Power and Sandbox Party events
- Worked with ECIC and television station to make PSA with local children featured with Jason Colthorp
- Organized a “Round Table” event, inviting individuals running for office to come and talk with parents and collaborative members
- Collaborated with local Kiwanis to provide Shots for Tots
- Provide opportunities for parents to learn about advocacy efforts and engage their participation:
 - Early Childhood Literacy Weeks Character Events
 - Early Childhood Author Visits
 - Placemats for month of the young child at local restaurants
 - Eaton County Fair Booth
 - Local parades/festivals
 - Fun to be Me
 - Toddler Time in the Park

Pediatric and Family Health

- Development of “Keeping Your Family and Home Safe from Environmental Hazards” brochure that encompasses various safety issues including lead poisoning, second-hand smoke, mercury poisoning, safe drinking water, radon, and hand washing.
- Provided a training for child care providers and agency staff on enrolling children in Medicaid and MiChild.
- Advocated with partners for dental health options for families and saw the Dental Health Clinic become a reality
- Participation in regional safe sleep and infant mortality planning groups, with local implementation including information in Welcome Baby Bags, newspaper articles, and newspaper insert information.
- Developed the idea of having a children’s emphasis included at the Hayes Green Beach Health Fair and provided expertise and staffing to make it happen
- Collaborated with local Kiwanis to provide Shots for Tots
- Provide opportunities where parents can get information on issues and resources related to family health issues:
 - Early Childhood Literacy Character events
 - Early Childhood Author Visits
 - Placemats for month of the young child at local restaurants
 - Eaton County Fair Booth
 - Local parades/festivals
 - Fun to be Me
 - Toddler Time in the Park

Social Emotional Health

- Provided two sessions of “Challenging Behavior” training for child care providers and parents
- Held meetings regarding family violence concerns and collaborated with domestic violence groups to present violence prevention and reporting training
- Provided early childhood perspective in the Mental Health Systems of Care meetings
- Provide opportunities where children can experience healthy social and emotional learning:
 - Toddler Time
 - Early Childhood Literacy Character events
 - Early Childhood Author Visits
 - Placemats for month of the young child at local restaurants
 - Eaton County Fair Booth
 - Local parades/festivals
 - Fun to be Me
 - Toddler Time in the Park

System Infrastructure (success that cross STAR areas and/or strengthen collaborative links)

- Development of a website that provides information to parents and partners
- Enhancement of a list serve and e-mail list that informs parents, community partners, and interested individuals
- Building of a Facebook page that provides current updates on events, information, and happenings
- Development of a brochure that describes the different “Great Start” entities in the county – Great Start Collaborative, Great Start Parent Coalition, Great Start Readiness Preschool, and Great Parents Great Start Parent Education.
- Continued support from the County Juvenile Justice millage for early childhood despite economic challenges
- Development of a Three-Year-Old Preschool Scholarship Fund supported by local businesses, individuals, foundations, and grants.
- Realization of state-wide early childhood recognition through the efforts of our parents and partners
- Provided a business breakfast to engage business in the work of early childhood
- Provision of opportunities for networking and sharing in the collaborative spirit
- Collaborated with Barnes and Noble to do an annual bookfair fundraiser during the holiday season
- Formed connections with local chambers and business organizations
- Participated in the Eaton County Frontline Workers committee to offer quality collaborative training opportunities that would be available for all Eaton County frontline workers
- Work collaboratively to provide a quarterly newspaper insert that meets the needs of multiple partners regarding grant requirements to inform the public and provide information to parents
- Collaboratively develop a communications plan to provide local newspapers with articles that inform the community on topics that are of priority across systems and areas
- Support multi-county and state advocacy and programmatic initiatives – STAR Power, Sandbox Party, League of Women Voters events, Community Forum in Okemos, multi-county Parent Coalition events,
- Developed a Family Friendly Business initiative to recognize businesses that go above and beyond to make families with young children feel welcome

Strategic Analysis Findings

Data Analysis

1. Many data pieces are lacking for Eaton County due to its small population size and/or the lack of availability of data from state resources.
2. Eaton County has made significant progress on behalf of children and families.
3. Lack of quality health care continues to be an issue for families that rely on Medicaid for treatment. This specifically affects prenatal care for women. The number of children receiving Medicaid coverage has more than doubled.
4. Social-emotional data is lacking for Eaton County. However, Eaton County has received funding from the county Juvenile Justice Millage to maintain the Parent-Young Child Program, creating therapeutic opportunities to positively effect the social-emotional growth of children birth to five years of age.
5. Adequate and ample quality child care continues to be a concern as 2/3 of the children less than six years of age reside in households where both parents work.
6. Child abuse and neglect statistics indicate an increase in substantiations in an economy that is seeing more families experiencing financial hardships and needing public assistance.

Infrastructure Review

Eaton County continues to have many early childhood projects and programs that are accomplished through collaborative efforts. From simple sharing of space to sharing staff and funding, the community works well together to make things happen. By updating the Infrastructure Review, we were able to note areas of collaboration and cooperation that individuals had not perceived before. During the review process, it was noted that several of the initiatives that were previously noted have discontinued. Some of them lost funding, others were incorporated in to other initiatives as we looked toward better efficiencies related to staff time and resources. There continues to be a strong collaborative effort to build upon for continued and expanded opportunities in addressing the needs of early childhood in Eaton County.

E. Goals & Strategies

STAR Area: Child Care and Early Education

Goal: Families have access to high quality early care and education. Children are ready to succeed in school and in life.

Strategy: Eaton County will advocate for quality care and educational experiences for all children beginning at birth.

Objective #1: Promote parenting classes by meeting with collaborative agencies.

Objective #2: Promote new and existing programs to new moms.

Objective #3: Increase community awareness of children's programs such as Toddler Time

STAR Area: Family Support

Goal: Families of infants and young children are economically stable. Infants and young children live in safe families.

Strategy: Eaton County will empower families of young children to aspire to provide basic needs, economic security, and safety for all their children.

Objective #1: Provide parent education on safe environments.

Objective #2: Promote economic resources available: Housing services, food banks, DHS, budgeting classes, 211.

STAR Area: Parent Leadership

Goal: Families support and guide the early learning of their infants and young children.

Strategy: Eaton County will provide opportunities and resources for parents to advocate for and become actively involved in their children's education.

Objective #1: Increase support to GSC/GSPC

Objective #2: Educate & Increase public knowledge of policymakers

Objective #3: Promote parenting workshops, events/happenings

STAR Area: Pediatric and Family Health

Goal: Infants, young children and their families are physically healthy.

Strategy: The Great Start Collaborative encourages, challenges, and supports Eaton County to address all areas of health including environmental and personal well-being for children and their families.

Objective #1: Provide nutrition education and opportunities that include easy meal ideas for the whole family.

Objective #2: Provide more community education opportunities on healthy family lifestyles including physical fitness and nutrition.

Objective #3: Incorporate more children's health and activities into the HGB Healthfair.

STAR Area: Social and Emotional Health

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

Strategy: Eaton County will promote a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for all children, by providing opportunities for positive social growth and awareness of community resources for social-emotional health.

Objective #1: Promote mental health services for families of infants and children in Eaton County.

Objective #2: Provide opportunities for education and resources to foster positive parenting skills.

STAR Area: Infrastructure

Goal: Eaton County will have an inclusive and representative Great Start Collaborative and early childhood system.

Strategy: The Eaton Great Start Collaborative and system will be representative of the community, communicate effectively with the community, and work together to provide a comprehensive system.

Objective #1: The Great Start Collaborative Council will work to increase active council participation by under-represented populations.

Objective #2: The Great Start Collaborative will keep the community informed of early childhood issues through increased utilization and promotion of all media sources.

Objective #3: Members of the Great Start Collaborative will work together to support families of young children by working together collaboratively to fund services and support programs.

F. Action Agenda

Goal and Strategy	Objective	Action Steps	Progress Measure	Target Date	Resources Needed	Roles/ Responsibility		
Child Care And Early Education								
Goal: Families have access to high quality early care and education. Children are ready to succeed in school and in life. Strategy: Eaton County will advocate for quality care and educational experiences for all children beginning at birth.	1	Promote parenting classes by meeting with collaborative agencies.	a	Promote CRRC Reality Babies Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Surveys 	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flyers • email/phone • time 	subcommittee
			b	Promote Eaton GS Build My Brain trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance • Surveys 	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flyers • email/phone • time 	subcommittee
			c	Promote/distribute information on classes for parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • numbers mailed out • number hits off website • times viewed on Facebook 	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers • email/phone • time • link to website • Facebook 	subcommittee
	2	Promote new and existing programs to new moms.	a	survey new moms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attendance sign in sheets • returns • hits on Survey Monkey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Fall 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agency collaboration • data collection • create survey 	subcommittee

			b	survey in insert for parents to fill out and send back	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> by returns attendance sign in sheets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Fall 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> agency collaboration data collection create survey 	subcommittee
	3	Increase community awareness of children's programs such as Toddler Time	a	Advertise on website, insert, and at doctors' offices and hospitals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration cards sign in sheets 	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> flyers websites 	subcommittee
Family Support								
		Provide parent education on safe environments.	a	Provide car seat safety inspections	how many seats inspected	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> car seats techs maintain certification of techs 	Cindy Van Neste
			b	Provide info from partner agencies at healthfairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> who presents how many agencies attend 	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lists of fairs list of who to ask 	committee

		c	ACTS or similar parenting class in Eaton County (child abuse prevention)	how many attend	October 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> qualified instructor classroom materials ABC sign up/211 	FS committee
	2						
		a	gather sources that exist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> website 211 # of calls 	April 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> internet phone newspaper 211 facebook put 211 on all new flyers 	Shelley Miller
		b	promote resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> articles written website hits 	April 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> articles lists 	committee
		c	provide articles for insert	# of inserts printed	ongoing April 2012	articles	Cindy Van Neste
Parent Leadership							
Goal: Families support and guide the early learning of	1						
		a	Contact PK-K teachers for parent meetings	Have list of upcoming meetings	Ongoing	EATON ISD for list of all schools and contacts	PL and CAT Coords

their infants and young children. Strategy: Eaton County will provide opportunities and resources for parents to advocate for and become actively involved in their children's education.		b	Attend Great Start events to build relationships	List of upcoming events	Ongoing	List from CAT coordinators	PL/Members	
		c	Attend current parent groups	Have list of upcoming meetings	Ongoing	List from 211 and/or GSC partners	PL/members	
	2	Educate and increase public knowledge of policymakers	a	Contact local and state policymakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of events and happenings, join their FB, WS, newsletter 	Aug 12	Email, phone numbers	PL/PC Members
			b	Attend current workshops	Have list of dates and forward to the community	Ongoing	List of current workshops	PL/PC members
			c	ECIC list of workshops or create/setup what is needed by PC	Have list of date and forward to the community	Ongoing	List from ECIC	PL
	3	Promote parenting workshops, events/happenings	a	Distribute all info: FB, website, flyers, word of mouth	Count from all trainings – attend sheet	Ongoing	Forward to contact list	PL/Partners
			b	New workshop – Reality Babies	Attendance sheet	Aug 12	Forward to contact list	CRRC - Nancy
			c	Emotion coaching Workshop	Attendance sheet	Aug 12	Forward to contact list	Donna Turner - MSUE

Pediatric and Family Health

<p>Goal: Infants, young children and their families are physically healthy. <i>Strategy: The Great Start Collaborative encourages, challenges, and supports Eaton County to address all areas of health including environmental and personal well-being for children and their families.</i></p>	1	Provide nutrition education and opportunities that include easy meal ideas for the whole family.	a	Utilize ALIVE demonstration kitchen	Sign in sheet and survey	Nov. 2011-April 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALIVE kitchen presenter: Melanie Shehan 	Melanie Shehan
			b	Utilize community partners	Sign in sheet and survey	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participating partners, flyers, handouts refreshments/sample recipes. 	Heather Sanders and subcommittee
			c	Provide recipe/tip/meal ideas in each insert	Quarterly inserts include meal tip/recipe	Quarterly inserts beginning with publication of next insert.	1 person from committee quarterly to write article.	Nikki Selleck
	2	Provide more community education opportunities on healthy family lifestyles including	a	Add more to the Build My Brain Training on physical fitness and nutrition.	Attendance (sign in sheet) and survey	July 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning time, BMB trainer, nutrition and fitness resources 	Nikki Selleck (Heather as speaker/info.)

3	physical fitness and nutrition.					for 0-5 year olds from Melanie.	
		b	Incorporate more on physical fitness and nutrition into Toddler Time program.	Sign in/attendance	ongoing target Start date Sept 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cindy Van Neste • TT Volunteers • handouts • resources on Toddler fitness 	Kimi Mead
	Incorporate more children's health and activities into the HGB Healthfair.	a	Identify possible information booths.	increasing past HGB attendance	March 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • phone • email 	subcommittee
		b	identify possible partners/contacts	increasing past HGB attendance	March 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • phone • email 	subcommittee
c		subcommittee play more active role in planning Healthfair.	Use book giveaway, stickers, or survey as means to count people with children	March 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthfair committee • GSC Basic Health subcommittee 	Melanie Shehan	

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH

<p>Goal: Infants, young children and their families are socially and emotionally healthy. Strategy: Eaton County will promote a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for all children, by providing opportunities for positive social growth and awareness of community resources for social-emotional health.</p>	<p align="center">1</p>	<p>Promote mental health services for families of infants and children in Eaton County.</p>	a	Develop a plan to promote and track mental health services.	Plan would be developed.	Summer 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner Input, • Current existing media contacts, • collaborative input, • 211 	Fran Jozefowicz - Committee Chair
			b	Identify gaps	Plan would be developed.	ongoing	TBD	Social Emotional Committee
			c	Implement Plan with data collection	Collaborative partners informed and engaged	Fall 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner participation, • manpower, • brochures • pamphlets • using communication venues (i.e. listserv) 	Social Emotional Committee
			d	Evaluate	Review data and adjust plan as indicated	Winter 2013	Data	Workers

	2	Provide opportunities for education and resources to foster positive parenting skills.	a	Continue Toddler Time	Number of groups, Number of attendees	ongoing	Volunteers working with Toddler Time Supervisor	Toddler Time Volunteer Supervisor
b			Identify parenting groups and gaps for Eaton County	Create Survey; compilation/results	April-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information from workgroups, others in community 	Danijela Crvlejvic	
c			Disseminate Information	Multi-Media, places and method	Fall 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manpower, EGS Collaborative contact network, workgroup volunteers 	Social Emotional Chair	
SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE								
Goal: Eaton County will have an inclusive and representative Great Start Collaborative and early childhood system. Strategy: The	1	GSC will closely mirror the diversity of the county	a	Complete diversity chart annually	Completed diversity chart	Fall of each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity chart, census information, other data 	GSC Director and chair
			b	Solicit current members for contacts to under-represented	List of potential members or contacts in meeting minutes	Ongoing	Survey of members to ascertain demographic and diversity	GSC Director and Chair

Eaton Great Start Collaborative will be representative of and communicate effectively with the community; while striving to provide a comprehensive early childhood system for Eaton county families.			groups					
		c	Work with PC to meet diversity challenges	Meeting minutes	Ongoing	Survey PC for demographic and diversity	Parent Liaison and GSC Director and Chair	
	2	GSC will communicate through multiple resources	a	Continue the use of the GSC and GSPC email list and list serve	Delivery of email messages to partners	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer, • email system 	GSC Director and Parent Liaison
			b	Continuation of the GS Facebook	Facebook data - friends/likes	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer, • FB administrators, • FB account 	Communications committee – Nikki Selleck, FB administrator
			c	Continuation of Media plan, insert, and newspaper articles	Copies of articles and insert	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media contacts, • media plan, • writers 	Communications committee and EGS staff
	3	Work collaboratively to fund and implement needed programs and services	a	Look for grants and funding sources to fill gaps	Cash match will be documented on the leverage chart	Ongoing	Resources and contacts for funding sources	Director, executive staff, and all programs
			b	Look for ways to braid, blend, and work together more efficiently	In-kind documentation on the leverage chart	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open communication, • knowledge of programs and services 	Director, executive staff, and all programs

			c	Advocate for equitable funding across all counties in state – ECIC, Federal, and State	Copies/documentation of any advocacy communications	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners willing to “own” communications, • knowledge of offerings not available to Eaton Co. 	Director, executive staff, advocacy voice
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G. Financing & Fund Development

Federal, state, and local economic challenges have affected many of the services and programs that families with young children depend upon. Eaton Great Start Collaborative partners and community resources continue to look for ways to work together that are beneficial to all partners, make the best use of existing resources, and provide the resources that families with young children need. We continue to work with monetary, time, and effort efficiencies in mind.

During the past three years, Eaton Great Start completed an extensive fund mapping project. The conclusion of that process indicated that the early childhood community was knowledgeable of the federal, state, and local funding streams available, and were using them to the max allowed in our county. With that being confirmed, the area that we have focused on for additional funding has been the public and private foundations and grant programs that will fund in our area. We have received funding from Target, Independent Bank, Capital Region Community Foundation, Eaton County United Way, ARRA funds, Eaton County Juvenile Justice Funds, Early Childhood Investment Corporation Great Start Collaborative grant, MDE grants, SFSC grants, and donations from small businesses and individuals.

In 2011, Eaton Great Start began a preschool scholarship program for three year olds. This has been supported by the community, and we were able to generate 150% match to the original Early Childhood Investment Corporation grant. The collaborative has put together a funding campaign to keep the program going that is entitled, "Supporting the future, one child at a time." It is our intention to keep the program going through local funds and grants well beyond the original year.

Future funding for early childhood is, and has been, a challenge. We are excited at the signs we see on the national and state levels in recognition of the importance of early childhood. Eaton Great Start will continue to keep abreast of federal, state, and local funding as well as look for additional funding sources. We will explore grant sources for continued funding of current programs and services, as well as for specific projects. The business community has been supportive, and we intend to continue to work collaboratively with our businesses in ways that will benefit families and businesses during tight economic times.

Eaton Great Start is an established entity in our county, and we believe that working with our agencies, businesses, the faith community, community groups, and parents there are many avenues to explore and continue the work.

H. Appendices

1. Updated Strategies, Gaps, and Assets
2. Updated Infrastructure Review
4. Scholarship Program Brochure

STAR Area: Child care and Early Education

Eaton County will advocate for quality childcare and early learning experiences for all children beginning at birth.

Updated list of suggested strategies for accomplishing Eaton County Goal

- Encourage more early education (ages 0-5) in schools (11)
- Parenting classes before and after birth (10)
- Make programs such Head Start more available (9)
- First aid classes (8)
- Provide information on what to look for when choosing a daycare provider (7)
- Child care for early mornings and late afternoons/ non-traditional hours (6)
- Advertise programs such as Toddler Time at Dr.'s offices and hospitals (5)
- Organized play groups (5)
- Expand GSRP (5)
- More group activities for new moms (4)
- Have a book mailing list to receive books in the mail (4)
- Full day preschool (4)
- More options for middle income families (3)
- Babysitter training (2)
- More wraparound care
- Child care quality rating system

Child Care and Early Education Gaps, Needs and Weaknesses

1. Middle-income families do not qualify for childcare reimbursement.
2. Education for childcare providers
3. Caregivers for non-traditional hours
4. Turnover rate of caregivers
5. Lack of affordable, quality childcare, quality preschool openings
6. Communication between providers and segmented childcare plans.
7. No Early Head Start Program
8. Need more free preschool opportunities
9. Lack of nationally accredited preschools
10. Support groups for care providers
11. Lack of flexible childcare options to avoid transitions.
12. Continue with CRRC

Child Care and Early Education Existing Assets and Resources

Office for Young Children/CRRC

- Training for childcare providers

Eaton Great Start

- Training for parents and childcare providers

Capital Area Community Services (CACS) Head Start
Licensed Childcare

- Licensed Childcare Centers (from greatStartconnect March 2011)
 1. Adventure Club and Delta
 2. Adventure Club and Beagle
 3. Adventure Club and Neff
 4. Adventure Club and Willow Ridge
 5. Bright From The Start Early Learning Center
 6. Charlotte Community Nursery Preschool
 7. Charlotte Head Start
 8. Charlotte Public Schools-Weymouth
 9. Delta Mills Community Center
 10. Eaton Rapids Head Start
 11. Eaton Rapids Public School
 12. Elmwood Nazarene Child Care Center
 13. First Lutheran Preschool
 14. Grand Ledge Cooperative Preschool
 15. Grand Ledge Great Start Readiness
 16. Grand Ledge Head Start
 17. Greater Adventist School
 18. Greyhound Early Learning Center
 19. Guardian Angel Daycare Center
 20. Happy Elephant Child Care
 21. Holt Public School Community Education
 22. Humpty Dumpty Preschool
 23. Island City Academy Child Care Center
 24. Kids Country Corner
 25. Kinder Care Learning Center #1171
 26. Little Broncos Early Childhood Center
 27. Mother's Day Out Of First Baptist Church
 28. Olivet Child Care and Preschool
 29. One Step Ahead Early Learning Center-Grand Ledge
 30. Our Savior Lutheran School
 31. Peas In A Pod Preschool & Child Care
 32. Potterville Child Care Center
 33. Rainbow Child Development Center-Lansing
 34. School of St. Michael
 35. Small Blessings Christian C.C.
 36. St. Gerard School
 37. St. Peters Rainbow Child Development Center
 38. St. Mary Child Care Services
 39. Sunshine House Preschool
 40. Tate's Playhouse 2
 41. The Children's Village
 42. Tot Spot
 43. Waverly CCC/ Winans Elem
 44. Waverly CCC/Colt Elem
 45. Waverly CCC/Elmwood
 46. Wee Ones Preschool Olivet Congregational

47. YMCA School's Out Program Eaton Rapids

- Home Childcare Providers (OYC keeps current listings)
- Licensed Group Home Providers
- Registered Family Child Care Providers

DHS

- Daycare Aides/Relative Providers
- DHS Child Care Payments
- Daycare Licensing (State Dept. of Human Services office)

Eaton Intermediate School District

- Early On
- Early Childhood Developmentally Delayed (EDD)
- Special Education OT/PT, Psychologist, and Speech Services
- Instructional Services (Prevention Program Services)
- Great Parents Great Start
- Michigan School Readiness Consortium
- Great Start

Lansing Community College – training

Parenting Education

Community Mental Health

- Parent Young Child Program
- Parent Infant Program

Cristo Rey

WKAR – Ready to Learn

MSU Extension

- Food and Nutrition Program

Imagination Library (United Way)

Michigan School Readiness Programs

- Eaton Rapids
- Charlotte
- Maple Valley
- Grand Ledge
- Potterville

Head Start

- Parent Chat Groups
- Proud Fathers
- Proud Parents
- Family Activity Nights
- Special Needs Parents
- Workshops

Eaton Great Start

- Build My Brain

- Fun to be Four
- Toddler Times
- Community Action Team events and advocacy

Child Abuse and Prevention Council of Eaton County

- “Don’t Shake Me, You Might Break Me!”
- Real Men Rock... Their Kids
- Resource Cards for teens, parents, and professionals

Private Trainers

Foundations of Care – D’Lynn Smith

STAR Area: Family Support

Eaton County will provide opportunities for parent education and family support using a variety of resources, enabling families to support and guide the early learning of their children.

Updated list of suggested strategies for accomplishing Eaton County Goal

- Maintain story times, story stops, and Toddler Times (10)
- Free Parenting classes (9)
- Keep car seat safety inspectors and provide giveaways and coupons for child seats (14)
- Educate parents on child abuse prevention (including shaken baby syndrome) and good discipline techniques (19)
- Develop a variety of parent education workshops, expectant parent, budgeting, topics of interest (22)
- Young mothers group teaching basic skills (8)
- Information on educational opportunities and savings plan (6)
- Safe environments, including safe sleep, food, activities, toys and childproofing your home (18)
- Parent support groups, including mothers groups, teen groups (12)
- Evening Toddler Times (5)
- Provide information on parent/child activities (9)
- Programs for fathers in need (4)
- Send out newsletter (3)
- Motor development play group (2)
- Finger printing (2)
- Utilize existing programs (2)
- Support groups for specific needs i.e. Allergies, autism, learning disabilities (2)
- More home-based services (2)
- Require or encourage all students to take a life skills class in high school (1)
- Advocate for paid parental leave (1)
- Advertise programs and issues more (1)
- Expectant Parents classes in Eaton County including labor and delivery topics (1)

Family Support Gaps, Needs, and Weaknesses

1. Need for expansion of in-home parenting education
2. Need exists for community parenting classes and support groups.
3. Getting message out to all sectors regarding the importance of Early Childhood
4. Universal home visits to parents of newborns
5. Need to increase screening of newborns at Sparrow and Ingham?
6. Expectant Parents classes not available
7. Budgeting/Finance class
8. Families need more transportation options/voted down still needed
9. Food program outreach
10. Insufficient domestic violence beds
11. There is a need for expanded foster care options
12. There is a need for reliable funding for cribs and car seats
13. There is a need for public education on care seat safety
14. There is a need for programs to distribute smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
15. Lack of emergency housing
16. Lack of affordable housing
17. Lack of affordable clothing for children
18. Lack of diapers available to families with young children
19. Need for expanded family budgeting/financial literacy education programs
20. Need for credit counseling
21. Foreclosure counseling
22. Public education of new crib standards- Community awareness

Family Support Existing Assets and Resources

Eaton County DHS

- Child Protective Services
- Children's Foster Care
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Food Benefit
- Child Support Services
- State Emergency Relief (SER)
- Emergency Services
- Families First

American Red Cross

- Food Assistance
- Emergency shelter & disaster
- Counseling

Barry Eaton District Health Dept.

- Environmental Health: Lead Program
- Environmental Safety: Water & Sewage
- Dental Clinic
- WIC

- Children's Special Health Care

CACS (Capital Area Community Service)

- Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- Weatherization Program
- Housing
- Proud Fathers

SIREN/Eaton Shelter

- Emergency shelter for Homeless & Domestic Violence
- Housing Advocacy
- Counseling
- Parent Classes

Other Shelters

- Safe Place (Battle Creek)
- In As Much (Battle Creek)
- Green Gables (Hastings)
- R.A.V.E. (St Johns)
- MSU Safe Place (East Lansing)
- Eve's House

Car Seat Safety

- Eaton Great Start
- Sparrow
- CRRC
- Sheriff's Dept.
- Grand Ledge Fire Department
- Delta Fire Department

Budgeting Class

- Community Parenting
- C.A.C.E.L.

Transportation

- Eatran

Clothes Closet(s)

- Christian Services/Love, Inc. of Greater Lansing
- Cristo Rey
- Eaton Clothing/Furniture Center
- Pregnancy Services of Greater Lansing St. Vincent DePaul
- Salvation Army
- Shared Pregnancy Women's Center
- Soldiers & Sailors Relief Commission
- New Beginnings Pregnancy Center

Furniture & Household Needs

- Eaton Clothing/Furniture Center

- Helping Hands
- St. Vincent DePaul
- Salvation Army

Food Bank (s)

- Capital Area Community Services (CACCS)
- Salvation Army
- American Red Cross
- St. Vincent DePaul
- Helping Hands
- Heart and Hands
- Christian Services/LOVE, Inc. of Greater Lansing
- Angel Food Ministry
- City Rescue Mission of Lansing Food Bank South Central Michigan
- Cristo Rey
- Grand Ledge Emergency Assistance Program
- Seventh Day Adventist Church

VFW Home

Michigan Assistive Technology Resources (MATR)

Center for Independent Living

Capital Area Safe Kids

Eaton County Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council

Support Organizations

- Area Churches
- Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)
- Moms and More
- Family Members and friends
- Twelve Step Programs
- Listening Ear
- Parents Anonymous
- CAUSE (Citizens Alliance to Uphold Special Education)

Highfields Wraparound

Eaton Great Start

- Local Community Action Teams
- Great Parents Great Start

Respite Services

- Child Abuse Prevention Services – respite
- Joey’s Junction – respite Birth-18 Jackson
- Lansing Area Parent’s Respite Center (LAP)

Employment

- Tri-County Michigan Works!
- Work First

Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Community Mental Health

- Assoc. Community Mental Health

- Parent Infant Program
- Parent Young Child

Service Organizations

Capital Area Community Service

Local Businesses

Friend of the Court

- SMILE children of divorce
- ACMH/Association For Children's Mental Health
- NAMI/National Alliance for Mentally Ill
- Smart/Recovery Self Management/Recovery Transition
- Making It Livable for Everyone
- Divorce Training for Divorced with Children

Legal Aid

Local Parks and Recreation Departments

Local Libraries

Eaton Intermediate School District Adult Education/Alternative Education

STAR Area: Pediatric and Family Health

The Great Start Collaborative challenges Eaton County to address all areas of children's health including environmental and personal well-being.

Updated list of suggested strategies to accomplish Eaton County goal

- Nutrition education and program that includes easy meal ideas for the whole family (26)
- Home visitation for to check up on newborns (13)
- More community education classes on parent/child activity time (12)
- Exercise programs for children 0-5 (9)
- Insure health care for all (8)
- Children's health fair (8)
- Promote birth control (8)
- Have more doctors accept children covered by Medicaid (7)
- Classes in schools or teacher education to learn how to deal with issues they may see (6)
- Assist parents on mental illness and substance abuse issues (5)
- Promote infant health care i.e. free eye exams and other practices (5)
- Have "field days" with sport oriented events (4)
- Provide information on lead paint, vaccinations, etc. (4)
- First aid classes with available child care (3)
- Transportation to doctor's appointments (3)
- Promote good hygiene (3)
- Immunizations at schools and daycares (1)
- Free lead testing for children (1)
- Medical Homes (primary care physicians) for all children(1)

- Increased use of 211 by providers/agencies

Pediatric and Family Health Gaps, Needs, and Weaknesses

1. Some families have no insurance or are underinsured.
2. There is an insufficient number/choice of clinics/physicians to meet children’s health needs for Medicaid. There is a lack of provider choice & physicians availability.
3. A limited variety in types of childbirth classes are available.
4. Lack of ongoing safety education for parents of infants and preschool children.
5. Increase in nutritional health information and better referral system for finding/nutritional health information on accessing.
6. Childhood obesity efforts – linking to exercise/get out and move/nutrition efforts.

Pediatric and Family Health Existing Assets and Resources

Emergency Room and Inpatient Services

- Hayes Green Beach Hospital
- Eaton Rapids Community Hospital
- Battle Creek Health System
- Ingham Regional Medical Center
- Oaklawn Hospital (Marshall)
- Sparrow Hospital (Lansing)
- Brighton Hospital
- Chelsea Community Hospital
- Clinton Memorial Hospital
- Ionia County Memorial Hospital
- Memorial Healthcare Center (Owosso)
- St. Joseph Mercy Hospital (Ann Arbor)
- University of Michigan Health System (Ann Arbor)

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

- Sparrow Hospital

Physicians Medicaid Referral Line

PHP Magellan Medicaid

Cristo Rey – Free Clinic

Women’s Clinic on Willow

Eaton County Dental Clinic

Urgent Cares

MI Department of Community Health (DCH)

- MI Child
- Barry Eaton Health Department will continue to assist with application by appointment.

Eaton County DHS

- Healthy Kids
- Medicaid

Barry Eaton District Health Department

- Family Planning

- Children’s Special Health Care (formerly known as Crippled Children’s Fund)
- Hearing & Vision Screens
- WIC (Women, Infant and Children) Clinics
- Barry-Eaton Health Plan
- Immunizations
- Primary Care Clinic

Eaton Intermediate School District

- Project Find/Developmental Screening
- Michigan Model Medicaid outreach to families

STAR Area: Social and Emotional Health

Eaton County will promote a safe, stable, and nurturing environment for all children, including opportunities for positive social growth and awareness of community resources for social-emotional health.

Updated list of suggested strategies for accomplishing Eaton County goal

Mental health services for parents/children (9)

- Continue Toddler Times (8)
- Support local parenting groups, trainings, and parenting classes (8)
- Support groups on specific needs (7)
- Offer home visits to economically challenged families to see how their children are doing. (6)
- Parent/child groups for working/single parents (6)
- Divorce support for parents and children (6)
- Have a parenting class for foster parents/family relative placements/guardian and issues
- especially on trauma issues and special needs (RESPA) (5)
- Hold more events to bring children together (5)
- Different times for Toddler Times such as in the evenings (5)
- Re-instate maternal infant health program (4)
- Promote 211 drug rehab (3)
- Marriage preparation (2)
- Have public high achievers as mentors (1)
- Educate on prescription drugs– can still be abused.
- Review Foster parents/guardians info. after they have had the kids for a while.
- Provide training to family placements to help them understand issues and avoid cyclic problems

Social Emotional Health Gaps, Needs, and Weaknesses

1. Counseling for children with separations and losses such as divorce, parents incarceration, deployment, abandonment
2. Expansion of office-based counseling/therapy
3. Locally provided HMO mental health outpatient services are limited

4. Lack of home-based mental health services for young children with severe behavioral and emotional difficulties
5. Limited treatment services available for children being expelled from pre-school and daycare programs.
6. Limited services for maternal depression, and more awareness around this issue is needed
7. Lack of access to psychiatry and psychotropic medications
8. Support for high-risk and low functioning families
9. Foster Grandparent/Parent Aide/Mentor programs
10. Too few in-home family support services both long and short-term
11. Lack of parent and young child mental health services
12. Lack of Childcare Consultations
13. Siren- Counseling if DV issues with divorce children
14. JPTS – Juvenile Prevention and Treatment Services

Social Emotional Health Existing Assets and Resources

Clinton Eaton Ingham (CEI-CMH) Community Mental Health

- Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled
- Eaton Counseling Center
- Adoption Connections
- Parent Infant Program
- Parent Young Child

Other area Mental Health Providers

Ele's Place

Early On

- IDA – DECCA

Head Start

- S-E Screening
- DECCA

Eaton Great Start

- Toddler Times
- Parents as Teachers
- Community Action Teams Activities

Churches and Faith Organizations

- Sunday School and children's programs
- YMCA
- Mid-week children's programs

Business and other programs that provide healthy social experiences for children

- Home visiting PAT
- Building Strong Families – ends 9/30/11
- MSU Extension 7 counties; Group stuff NO home visits after Sept.

Eaton Great Start Early Childhood Infrastructure Review – Revised 2011

Service System Integration

GSC reviews and documents:

- existing written interagency agreements, contracts, policies and procedures related to the provision of early childhood services and service coordination; e.g. identification of at-risk newborn infants and referral for appropriate services
- current examples of two or more organizations working together to provide staff for a jointly developed program; e.g. parenting education in health care and child care settings or literacy, health and safety education in home visiting programs, etc.
- current examples of paperwork/documentation that was integrated to support families who receive services from multiple organizations, e.g. intake forms, release of information forms, service planning forms, etc.;
- current programs that were developed to serve the children and/or parents of one organization in another, e.g. Community Mental Health Services Program screens foster children from Department of Human Services for social-emotional concerns and makes referral for specialized assessment and follow-up;
- current examples of two or more organizations working together to avoid duplication and competition, e.g. joint recruitment by public early childhood programs, co-location of programs, etc.
- Strike-outs indicate 2011 updates. Services that are no longer available have been deleted and new programs/services added at the end of the chart.

Project or Agreement	Partner Agencies	Description	Shared resources (services, staff, space, funding)	Contact for more info
Toddler Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Eaton ISD ♥ United Way ♥ Churches ♥ Libraries ♥ Partner Agencies ♥ Schools 	Literacy-based weekly playgroups in 8-9 locations throughout Eaton County	EATON ISD provides background checks on volunteers, Community Coordinator – a United Way Contractor - supervises volunteers, churches, schools, and libraries provide space, United Way grant provides supplies, partner agencies refer and encourage families to attend.	Cindy VanNeste
Early Childhood Local Community Coordinators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Eaton County ♥ United Way ♥ Eaton ISD 	Local Community Coordinators work within the local communities to develop local community teams that support parents, advocate for early	These positions are funded through Eaton County Juvenile Justice millage, United Way is the fiduciary of the funds and contractor for the	Ronda Rucker

		childhood, provide early childhood experiences unique to the community, and connect local efforts to the county and state initiatives.	positions, Eaton ISD monitors the grant activities and supervises the coordinators	
Welcome Baby Bag Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Early Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start ♥ Programs and Services Committee ♥ Child Abuse Prevention Council ♥ Community Coordinators ♥ Schools ♥ Agencies ♥ Libraries ♥ Hospitals ♥ LINKS program 	A Welcome Baby Bag is made available to all families in Eaton County with a child birth to six months. The bag is filled with a READY Kit, local information, gifts, coupons, a children's book, and other items as available.	Early Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start staff order and maintain the supplies, Programs and Services reviews the contents of the bags at least annually, volunteers from Child Abuse Prevention students from the LINKS program assemble the bags, Community Coordinators work with local schools, agencies, libraries and hospitals to distribute the bags, local agencies and businesses provide materials to be included in the bags	D'Lynn Kowalk Kim Thelen
Fun To Be Four Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Early Childhood Connections ♥ Local Schools ♥ Eaton Great Start staff ♥ Great Start Collaborative members ♥ Community Action Teams 	This project provides parents with the opportunity to explore age appropriate activities with their child. Using the Early Childhood Benchmarks, stations are set up specific to each age group. Parents leave with school readiness information and ideas. connects four year olds (next year's kindergarteners) with the local school districts by providing a school	Early Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start provides the "goodie bags" and informational resources for families, the community coordinators and local community action teams plan the event in their community, local school districts host the event and teachers volunteer time to be available for this event	Cindy VanNeste, D'Lynn Kowalk, Kim Thelen, Nicole Selleck, Shelley Miller

		<p>readiness event in the fall prior to the child going to kindergarten the following year. Parents meet teachers, receive valuable information, and children receive items that they can use during the next year to be more prepared for school</p>		
<p>Michigan School Great Start Readiness Preschool Consortium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Eaton ISD ♥ Potterville Schools ♥ Grand Ledge Schools ♥ Maple Valley Schools 	<p>A preschool program for children who reside within the school districts and meet at least two of the 25 eligibility criteria</p>	<p>Eaton ISD provides assistance to the consortium in doing the needs assessment, writing the grant, and providing fiscal and staffing oversight; each school district provides a licensed preschool classroom for use by the MGSRP program</p>	<p>Anne Kramer Tammy Ingram, Danijela Cvriljevic, D'Lynn Smith</p>
<p>Ready to Learn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ MSU-WKAR ♥ Great Start Coordinator ♥ Toddler Times ♥ Head Start 	<p>Ready to Learn is an early childhood literacy program that promotes the RTL Triangle – Watch TV responsively, Read to your child daily, and Extend reading and TV watching by providing active learning experiences.</p>	<p>WKAR provides children’s books, learning materials, parent materials, and advisory to the project. The Great Start Coordinator and Head Start staff participates on the WKAR RTL Advisory. Toddler Times, GSRPs, and Head Start use the RTL materials in their programs monthly.</p>	<p>Beany Tomber</p>
<p>Books for Literacy Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Michigan Friends of Education ♥ Community Coordinators 	<p>Early Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start believes that providing books to children is one of the most beneficial ways to help children be ready for school and life. Books are provided at all literacy events that include parent-child interactions.</p>	<p>Michigan Friends of Education provides books to ECG EGS and United Way. Local Coordinators make arrangements to pick up the books from the Gregory distribution site.</p>	<p>Nicole Selleck, Shelley Miller</p>
<p>Interagency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ HSCC 	<p>The HSCC supports an interagency</p>	<p>Supported and oversight by the</p>	<p>Chris Gottleber</p>

Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Eaton ISD ♥ MSUE ♥ SFSC ♥ CMH ♥ BEDHD ♥ Eaton County 	frontline workers training series. These are based on a survey of needs and include trainings for early childhood workers as well as school age and beyond.	HSCC. Eaton ISD provides the location and on-line registration. Members of the Professional Development committee include: EATON ISD, SFSC, MSUE , CMH, BEDHD	
Month of the Young Child Literacy Celebration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Early Childhood Connections ♥ Target Grant ♥ Partner Agencies and libraries ♥ EATON ISD ♥ Dart Bank – Grand Ledge 	The Michigan Reads Author, or other Michigan early childhood author, comes to Eaton County during MOYC to emphasize the importance of supporting literacy in the early years.	ECC Eaton Great Start coordinates the event(s). Funding from the Target grant funds the author expenses and books. Partner agencies provide activities to coordinate with the author's theme. EATON ISD and Dart Bank provides the locations to host the events	Shelley Miller and Nikki Selleck
MSUE-BEDHD Nutritionist MSUE BEDHD Nutrition Educator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ MSUE ♥ BEDHD 	A part-time nutrition educator full-time nutritionist is shared by MSUE and BEDHD. This makes it possible to provide this service to WIC clients at the Health Department, and to Nutrition Program clients at MSUE.	Shared staff.	Mona Ellard Becky Henne Dottie Berkompas
Great Parents Great Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ EATON ISD ♥ ECC-EGS ♥ Partner Agencies ♥ Gannett ♥ Community support 	GPGS includes a home-based parent education program (Parents As Teachers) for families of children identified as at-risk of future truancy, and a newspaper insert to reach the universal population, and supports the oversight of the Toddler Time Literacy-based Playgroups.	Fiduciary for the grant is EATON ISD, home visitation is done by Debra Williamson Cindy VanNeste, the newspaper insert is prepared by ECC Erica Willard with contributions and articles by partner agencies; local match for the insert is through purchasing of ads in the insert by support by local business, schools, and agencies.	Debra Williamson Cindy VanNeste and Erica Willard

<p>Early Childhood Community Action Teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Eaton Rapids Early Childhood Advocates ♥ Potterville Early Childhood Community Action Team ♥ Charlotte Early Childhood Community Action Team ♥ Bellevue ♥ Maple Valley ♥ Olivet ♥ Grand Ledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ United Way ♥ Eaton ISD ♥ Churches ♥ Libraries ♥ Schools 	<p>Local community early childhood advocates assess their local needs and provide early education opportunities to meet those needs. Local advocates also provide the link from the GSC to local communities</p>	<p>Locations of meetings and activities are shared by local resources including churches, schools, and libraries. Community Coordinators provide support to the teams. Local preschools, Toddler Times, and school districts Community partners assist in providing resources for events.</p>	<p>Eaton Rapids – Kim Estes Charlotte, Bellevue, and Olivet – Shelley Miller</p> <p>Maple Valley – Cindy VanNeste Potterville and Eaton Rapids - D'Lynn Kowalk Nicole Selleck</p> <p>Grand Ledge – Kim Thelen</p>
<p>Great Start Collaborative Parent Coalition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ United Way ♥ EATON ISD ♥ CAOG 	<p>Parents and family members of children 0-5 focus on advocacy for early childhood issues and support the work of the Great Start Collaborative Council.</p>	<p>Position is hired as private contractor through United Way. Early Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start provides office space and computer access. Community Coordinators provide support. Community Partners encourage parents to attend.</p>	<p>Kimi Mead</p>
<p>Imagination Library</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ United Way ♥ Early Childhood Connections 	<p>Each month children who are enrolled receive a free book in the mail. There are no eligibility criteria other than residing within the Eaton County</p>	<p>United Way supports the program financially, with clerical support, and arrangements with the Dollywood Foundation. Early</p>	<p>Joni Risner Loretta Williams</p>

	<p>Eaton Great Start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ DHS ♥ Health Dept ♥ Partner Agencies 	<p>United Way service area or the Grand Ledge/Delta Township area.</p>	<p>Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start and partner agencies inform parents of the program and encourage enrollment.</p>	
<p>Great Start Collaborative Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ ECIC ♥ EATON ISD ♥ ECC EGS ♥ COAG ♥ Partner agencies ♥ Parents ♥ Interested citizens 	<p>The Great Start Collaborative Council over sees the work that is funded by the Early Childhood Investment Corporation grant. This work currently includes developing a strategic plan for Early Childhood in Eaton County, and formulating the strategies for carrying out that plan.</p>	<p>ECIC provides the funding. EATON ISD is the fiduciary for the grant. Eaton Great Start, formerly Early Childhood Connections, is the long-standing early childhood collaborative body in Eaton County. Charlotte Assembly of God donates meeting space for monthly meetings. Partner agencies, parents and citizens do the work of the collaborative.</p>	<p>Ronda Rucker</p>
<p>Car Seat Safety Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ OYC ♥ ECC EGS ♥ Spartan Motors ♥ County Journal ♥ Safe Kids Coalition ♥ Charlotte Fire Department 	<p>Child care seat inspections and free car seats for those who have unsafe car seats for their children.</p>	<p>Safe Kids Coalition train and support the local inspectors. OYC and ECC have EGS has two certified inspectors that collaborate on safety check events. Spartan Motors has provided support to purchase car seats. County Journal provides free promotion of car seat checks.</p>	<p>Cindy VanNeste Nancy Sherd Kim Thelen</p>

<p>Early Childhood Literacy Weeks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Capital Area Early Childhood Literacy Coalition ♥ Great Start Coordinator ♥ Community Coordinators ♥ Toddler Times ♥ Community Partners ♥ Charlotte Public Schools 	<p>Two weeks of literacy-based events for children birth to five and their families. Events include literacy characters, story times, activities, and parent information.</p>	<p>The Literacy Coalition supports these events annually with promotion, costume acquisition, and tool kits. The GS Coordinator is a member of the Literacy Coalition and helps coordinate the local efforts. Community Coordinators assist local sites in preparations. Toddler Times and other community partners volunteer to host events.</p>	<p>Ronda Rucker</p>
<p>Child Care Trainings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Office for Young Children/ Central Regional Resource Center ♥ Early Childhood Connections Eaton Great Start ♥ MSUE ♥ Great Start Programs and 	<p>By agencies working together collaboratively, Eaton County childcare providers have been able to obtain quality training within the Eaton County area.</p>	<p>MSUE has the ECIC contract to provide some of the basic training courses needed for childcare providers. CRRC/OYC- provides several training opportunities in Eaton County each year. Early Childhood Connections- EGS- provides parent and provider trainings that can provide training hours for child care licensing. The Program and Services Committee has provided collaborative trainings such as one on Domestic Violence.</p>	<p>Nancy Sherd</p>

	Services Committee			
Early LCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ LCC ♥ Gretchens House ♥ GSRP ♥ Lansing School District ♥ CACS Head Start 	Full day classrooms for children 6 weeks through Kindergarten. Provides a lab site for LCC students.	Shared staffing, funding, and resources.	Jane Bobay
Head Start classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ CACS HS ♥ Others ♥ EATON ISD 	Donated or low-cost classroom space for Head Start preschools programs; long-term leases (Maple Hill) and short-term agreements	Building space, classrooms, parking and storage areas EATON ISD provides speech, OT, and PT services	Lucy McClintoc
Head Start DECCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ CACS HS ♥ MSU College of Education ♥ MSU Dept Psychology 	Tabulate social-emotional screenings (DECCA) for all Head Start children, and provide training to HS staff	Shared resources	Lucy McClintoc
Proud Fathers, Proud Parents, and other parenting classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ CACS Head Start ♥ CEI-CMH 	Parenting classes, support groups	HS and CMH shared staffing, funding and resources	Lucy McClintoc
RIF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ CACS HS ♥ RIF National 	For Head Start children ages 3-5, receive three or four books for participation	RIF funding, CACS HS staffing, community volunteers	Lucy McClintoc
Parent Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ OYC/CRR C ♥ Parent Coalition ♥ EGS staff 	Training for parents with children 0-5, addressing the areas of child development, social-emotional health, school readiness, health, and family issues	All partners have trainers, PC provide reserve rooms	Nancy Sherd, Kimi Mead, Cindy VanNeste

Parents as Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Early On ♥ Great Parents Great Start ♥ MSUE ♥ DHS 	This is an in-home visitation program for families of children birth to five years of age. The curriculum is designed to promote parents as the child's first and most important teacher.	Parent Educators are available through Early On, GPGS, and BSF. DHS has contracted with Great Start to provide PAT for some at-risk families	Elaine Smiley – Early On, Ronda Rucker – Great Start, Donna Turner - MSUE
Nurturing Parenting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Siren/Eaton Shelter ♥ MSUE ♥ DHS 	DHS has funded a series of Nurturing Parenting classes at Siren Eaton Shelter by MSUE Extension Educator, Donna Turner	Siren – place and participants MSUE – trainer DHS – funding	Donna Turner, MSUE
Emotion Coaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ CACS HS ♥ MSUE 	When parents learn to coach their children's emotions instead of reacting to them, a child learns that emotions are a normal part of life and develops appropriate coping mechanisms	CACS HS provides place and participants MSUE provides trainer	Donna Turner, MSUE
County Wide Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ EGS ♥ Local CATs ♥ Partner Agencies 	Early Childhood Parent-Child activities provides age appropriate learnings that parents can replicate at home. Topics include literacy, school readiness, motor development, pre-math skills, etc.	Great Start organizes the events and partner agencies provide age appropriate extension activities.	Nikki Selleck and Shelley Miller
Project Connect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Siren/Eaton Shelter ♥ Partner Agencies 	Project Connect is held on homeless count day in an attempt to get an accurate county-wide homeless count. Agencies provide services and information for those who attend.	Siren Eaton Shelter organizes the event, and partner agencies provide information, resources, and services.	Nancy Oliver, Siren
Connect Kids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ EGS ♥ DHS ♥ Partner Agencies 	This program provides a backpack to every child that enters foster care through Eaton County DHS.	EGS volunteers collect the items and pack the bags Partner agencies and individuals donate items for the bags DHS gives the bags to foster children	Ronda Rucker, Great Start
Domestic Violence Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Members of the 	Various trainings are provided throughout the year that address	Scheduled and coordinated through the Domestic Violence Coordinating	Heather Boyer

	Domestic Violence Coordinatin g Council	aspects of domestic violence	Council and attended by partner agencies	
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