

## **Eaton County's GREAT START Collaborative**

Minutes: January 28, 2008

Eaton County's GREAT START Collaborative met in regular session on January 28, 2008 at the Charlotte Assembly of God Church. Joyce Nickle and Nikki Selleck, Collaborative Co-chairs, jointly called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The meeting began with introductions of all who were present.

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- < 2-1-1 Month Initiative
- < Head Start Announcement

### Committee Reports:

- < Parent Coalition: Kimi announced an upcoming visioning session will be held by the Parent Coalition. The group recently heard a presentation from Sharon Peters, of Michigan's Children, that was very well received.
- < Kinship Care Support Group: Joyce reported that a flier is being developed for the group. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. Ronda indicated that Strong Families, Safe Children may be able to assist the group with various supplies. Kim E. Suggested that the GS website be updated to include contact information for this group.
- < Operations Committee: This group was recently called upon to approve the Great Start Work Plan prior to submission.
- < Website Committee: D'lynn reported that she continues to add items to the website calendar of events.
- < Program and Services: D'lynn reported the Program and Services met recently with the MSRP teachers to discuss classroom issues.
- < 2-1-1 Month: Joni advised the group that Eaton County has designated February as 2-1-1 month. She provided posters and fliers for this initiative.
- < Head Start: Lois announced upcoming Successful Parenting, Successful Kids and the Proud Fathers classes. She also shared dates for upcoming Head Start Spring Showcases to be held in both Eaton Rapids and Charlotte.

### Great Start Collaboration Coordinator Report:

New members will be joining the Collaborative. They include: County Commissioner Dale Barr, Jackie Wood, retired Michigan Department Education employee, and Barbara Fulton of the HGB

Hospital.

Ronda asked members to sign the Participation Agreement if they haven't as yet done so. She also asked those present to correct any errors in their contact information.

Ronda explained that she is seeking support for two grant applications being developed by EISD, the MSRP grant and the Great Parents, Great Start grant.

- < D'lynn moved that the Great Start Collaborative support the MSRP grant application request for fiscal year 2007- 08 as developed. Support was provided by Dave Martin. The motion carried.
- < Joni moved that the Great Start Collaborative support the GPGS grant application request for fiscal year 2007- 08 as developed. Support was provided by Kim E. The motion carried.

Ronda presented the GSC Workplan for 2/2008 - 9/2008. The plan has been approved and submitted. She reviewed a schematic flowchart for the Collaborative, indicating committees and other connections within the GSC structure. Both Joyce and Karen complimented Ronda for her clear representation.

#### New Committees:

The need for a Marketing/Public Awareness committee has been discussed. D'lynn offered a motion authorizing the development of a Marketing/Public Awareness Committee as part of the Collaborative structure. This motion was supported by Cindy. The motion was approved. The following members volunteered to be a part of this new committee:

Lisa, Nancy, Joyce, Cindy, and Pat.

Ronda discussed the need for an active Operations Committee which can be contacted and respond in a timely manner for authorizations. Kim E. moved to form an Executive Committee comprised of members of the Operations Committee who are currently active Collaborative participants and the Co-chairs. Support was offered by Lisa. This motion was approved. The existing Operations Committee will continue to receive regular, timely updates through the structure of the Human Services Collaborative.

Debra moved to establish an Early Care/Education Committee. This motion was supported by D'lynn and was approved by the members present. Nancy, Lois, Charlene, D'lynn, and Kimi volunteered for this committee.

Work Session - The GSC members present assigned the following tasks from the current Workplan to the following committees:

- < Advocate for increased health care services - Parent Coalition
- < Benchmarks training - Community Coordinators

- < CDA awareness - Early Care and Education Committee
- < Communications Plan - Marketing/Public Awareness Committee
- < Environmental checklist - Program and Services Committee
- < Funding map - Executive Committee
- < GSC membership increase - Executive Committee
- < Health care options and eligibility document - Program and Services Committee
- < Quality care awareness - Early Care and Education Committee
- < Retailer participation - Marketing/Public Awareness Committee
- < Safety Expo - Community Coordinators
- < Sensory integration training - Program and Services Committee
- < Toddler Time Awareness - Marketing/Public Awareness Committee
- < Website - Website Committee

With no further business before the Collaborative body, the meeting was adjourned.  
Next GSC meeting will be held on February 25, 2008.