

Eaton County's GREAT START Collaborative: Programs and Services Committee and the Michigan School Readiness Coordinating Council

Minutes: January 25, 2008

Present: Ronda Rucker, Lynda Emery, Peg Cameron, D'lynn Kowalk, Twyla Fleming, Anne Kramer, Fran Jozefowicz, Bonnie Lehman, Donna Turner, Kim Thelen, Debra Williamson

1. Call to Order: Eaton County's GREAT START Collaborative Programs and Services Committee and the Michigan School Readiness (MSRP) Coordinating Council met in regular session January 25, 2008. Peg Cameron called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Peg introduced co-chair, D'lynn Kowalk.

2. Introductions and announcements followed:

- Ronda announced that February has been declared 2-1-1 month in Eaton County. Promotional materials for the 2-1-1 initiative were distributed. She also shared notice of the upcoming Front-line Workers conference on Children's Loss and Grief. Ronda indicated that she is seeking documentation of continued collaboration for the Great Parents Great Start grant application for the current fiscal year, which is due to the Michigan Department of Education on February 1.
- Debra provided fliers promoting the upcoming Strong Families, Safe Children sponsored group parenting classes at SIREN scheduled for February and March.
- Donna and Bonnie shared that MSU Extension will be assuming the 0-3 parent education grant from the Barry Eaton Health Department for the remainder of the grant period.
- Fran mentioned the CMH programs Parent Young Child, for children ages 3 - 5 years and KEEP. She also indicated that a conference on fatherhood issues is scheduled for April 21 and 22 in Lansing.
- Peg shared draft copies of the up-dated Early On Yellow Pages, which Program and Services had helped edit. She asked for approximate numbers needed by agencies.

3. Local MSRP staff and parents were introduced:

Grand Ledge: Anne Kramer, Kim Thelen, and Twyla Fleming

Potterville: D'lynn Kowalk

Charlotte: Lynda Emery

A discussion followed regarding several issues of importance to the MSRP programs. Topics included:

- Promotion of and awareness of MSRP programs within the community
- Families involved in MSRP and their experience of environmental stressors
- The lose of the Grand Ledge MSRP portable building
- Disaster plans for the programs
- Themes for Family Night events

MSRP programs will be seeking student referrals for the 2008-09 school year in April and May, 2008.

There being no additional business for the Committee, Peg called the meeting to a close.
The next Program and Services Meeting is scheduled for February 28 at 2 p.m