

Eaton County's GREAT START Collaborative:

Programs and Services Committee

Minutes: May 9, 2008

Present: Kellie Banko, Shelli Burdo, Kathy Burt, Peg Cameron, Lynda Emery, Dorothy Farmer, Anne Kramer, Ann McNair, D'Lynn Smith, Cindy Van Neste, Debra Williamson

1. Eaton County's GREAT START Collaborative Programs and Services Committee met in regular session on May 9, 2008 along with representatives from area Michigan School Readiness Programs. The agenda was accepted as presented with the addition of information about the upcoming *Star Power Rally*. Peg opened the meeting with introductions by those present.

2. Star Power Rally:

D'Lynn encouraged participation in the upcoming ECIC event at the Capitol to advocate for children. The *Rally* will be held on May 21 and transportation will be available from Charlotte.

3. Michigan School Readiness Program Items:

- **Longitudinal Study:** Anne suggested that MSRP staff coordinate assessment tools and possible uses of the collected data which is required for the ongoing longitudinal study of MSRP programs. Peg noted that the data could be useful for grant request development. June 6, at 2:00 p.m. at the EISD building was selected for a collaborative meeting. D'Lynn will contact the Eaton Rapids and the Maple Valley MSRP staff to invite their participation.
- **New Income Guidelines/Head Start Collaboration:** New income guidelines for Head Start and MSRP impact recruitment and enrollment. It was noted that coordination with Head Start staff is essential to maximize service availability for families. This topic will be discussed further at the June 6 meeting.
- **Recruiting/Home Visits:** Participants discussed eligibility criteria and methods used to verify the criteria for families desiring to enroll their child. It was noted that the MSRP Implementation Manual does not limit the timing for when home visits may occur.
- **Community Needs Resource Assessment - CNRA:** This document determines local need from pertinent demographic data. Participants discussed ways to access data needed for the report.
- **Successes:** Peg recently assessed D'Lynn's MSRP classroom and complimented her on her teaching skills. She participated in a Program Quality Assessment (PQA). She also complimented the other teachers, and said, "*We are very fortunate to have such excellent teachers and programs.*"

Lynda described some of the individual successes in the Charlotte classroom. She noted that during enrollment, Charlotte Kindergarten teachers are providing parents activities to work on with their children during the summer months.

D'Lynn said that getting the Potterville program started has been a real success. The Potterville Elementary principal has reported that the MSRP students did very well during the enrollment for Kindergarten.

Anne thanked Dorothy for attending the meeting. She spoke of several positive

interactions between the children in the classroom and also shared her Earth Day activities.

Program and Services Committee will reconvene on June 26, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.