

Great Start Collaborative Meeting Notes
December 19, 2018 - 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Kent ISD Transition Center

Attendees: Beverly Williams, Bryana Hopkins, Karen Lezan, Kristin Gietzen, Nicole Pratt, Lynn Heemstra, Tana Martin, Chiquita Harper, Tomarra Richardson, Ben Brower, Tim Hileman, Maggie Lancaster, Anthony Quinn, Tequia Adams, Heather Boswell, Vanessa Jimenez, Brittany Mastenbrook, K'Sandra Earle, Mandi Rycenga, Jessica Bratt, Joslyn Ward, Amirah Vosburgh, Kristin Sobolewski, Terese Smith, Kate Lara, Fredericka Brown, Nicole Burman, Kathryn Steiner, Erika Ortiz Carmona, Claire Titcombe, Kate Parr, Joann Hoganson, Kristyn Bomberg, Reyna Garcia, Maureen Hale, Latesha Lipscomb, Lisa Ellison, Sara Proano

Staff: Jessica Turk, Anthony Queen, Paula Brown, Leslie Hawkins

- **Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions** **Maureen Hale**

- **Agenda Item: Approval of the October 25, 2018 meeting notes**

- **Agenda Item: Great Start Parent Coalition Report:** **Jessica Turk**
 - **COFI Training:** A family engagement model based out of Chicago, Community Organizing Family Issues (COFI) aims to empower parents to become strong advocates in their community. Parent leaders guide other parents through goal setting for individual, family, and community goals. The GSPC January meeting will be an orientation of the model. After the meeting the plan is to assemble a COFI team and go through the entire first phase of the model. It will be completely parent led.
 - **GSPC Monthly Meetings:** meetings have tripled since last year. Last two meetings had over 100 in attendance including children. COFI model implementation will most likely continue to increase attendance at general meetings.
 - **Diaper Drive:** In January we will be the Art of the Table Charity of the month. Tower Pinkster collected diapers for the drive and Byron Center Christian Reformed Church is holding their yearly drive. The GSPC Diaper Drive has been approached by National Diaper Bank Network, Meijer, and Huggies to host an event with a donation being given to NDBN from Meijer. 150,000 diapers will be donated to our community. Diapers will be delivered to Morrison Industrial, a big thank you for their willingness to receive the diapers. The event will be January 24th with more details to follow. This year we've collected just over 111,000 diapers.

- **Agenda Item: First Steps Update:** **Heather Boswell**

FSK has moved to 401 Hall Street. Feel free to come out and check out the new space. Millage was approved. Kent County has released the fiduciary RFP. It is due January 4th. FSK is applying. Nothing else is known beyond that but will let partners know more information as it comes out.

- **Agenda Item: GSC Updates** **Maureen Hale**
Paula Brown

- GSC Transition; official transition announcement was sent out about the GSC transition to United Way as the fiduciary. Official date is January 2nd.
- GSC Nominating Committee: We are convening a nominating committee to fill some spots for the executive team. Please contact Maureen, Paula, or Leslie by the end of the year if you would like to be a part of that. If you want to nominate someone also send those to Maureen or Paula. Those nominated will not be able to be on the committee.
- Action Agenda: Action Agenda will be sent out soon. It is still in draft form to give input on. It is a living document that can change as work or landscapes change.
- 2018/19 Budget: Funding for website for BMH and ELP expansion. CRR has a large sum of money to help launch HMG into the community. NPP funding is for Success Basics and a texting pilot. Great work is happening in all the groups. If we see there is a need and not enough funding for something we can always write an amendment. Please contact Paula if you have any questions.

- **Agenda Item: Group Activity**

Corner Discussions on Four Outcomes – an activity summarizing early childhood wins in our community from 2018 and our hopes and goals for 2019. See attached.

- **Agenda Item: Partner Announcements**

Beverly Williams: Easterseals was awarded SAMSA grant around early childhood trauma specialties. The grant will have three main components: improve the identification of children who may already be experiencing social emotional development due to exposure to trauma, increase capacity for prevention and early intervention services by implementing mental health consultation for eight partner sites, and provide comprehensive multidisciplinary assessments to explore social/emotional development, assess the impact of chronic stress environment and develop early intervention and treatment recommendations. Outcomes for this have been amazing up to five years later. Incredible years will also be brought to the community. Slots will be made available to train those in the community to implement. Looking for partners in the community for those that are interested. Olivia Nash is the program director. This grant is for five years.

Kristyn Bomberg: WGVU received a grant to better gauge how to support early childhood in Kent county. The grant supported the Ready by 5 radio series with a focus on early childhood and was held throughout the fall and just wrapped up this week. A survey will be sent out for feedback. A deeper dive around some of the topics may be beneficial for 2019. Fireside Chat was held to talk about next steps in the millage. Annemarie spoke about the future around the millage, Anissa spoke about the role of the early childhood fellow and national PBS around the work they are developing in early childhood. May possibly be a new grant proposal to continue the work. PBS national will be bringing some support into WGVU for the community. The GVSU College of Education is one way they will be engaging. They are very excited about the work going on in Kent County.

Karen Lezan: Doing a new and used book drive to get all families engaged in their home visits. Looking for diverse books.

Sara Proano: All books are labeled by reading level. Parents can look by reading level that are needed for their child. Books are in the Rapid, all levels including babies. The Book Mobile is here today for those that would like to see it and can request it for their business or event.

Claire Titcombe: Cherry has received funding for mental health, moms using substances, babies born exposed to substances, and additional grants. Six grants were received this year.

Anthony Queen: Bowling night out with Westside Collaborative. Will be in January. All information will be coming.

Terese Smith: January 19th there will be a training by an occupational therapist on how to make a sensory safe environment.

Kristin Sobolewski: 45th annual West Michigan Campfire4c's Conference in February. #playistheanswer Already halfway full. 300 home and center-based providers enrolled.

Jessica Bratt: January 7th all libraries in Kent county are launching Mission Read. Missionread.org The goal with this initiative is to address 3rd grade reading law,

K'Sandra Earle: praised the book mobile that comes to their sites as well as their partnership with PNC's Grow up Great and Children's Museum. Great partnership for families. Free membership for all their families.

Kate Lara: all GSRP GRPS families can go to the dinosaur exhibit at the Public Museum free through PNC's Grow up Great.

Outcome 1 - Children are born healthy.	
Wins	Hopes & Goals
Infant Mortality rate is going down. Disparity between African Americans and White was 3:1 now 2:1	Strong educational program around risks of marijuana use in pregnancy
The community is acknowledging and talking about disparities in general between whites and populations of color.	More integration and activities between GSC and Infant Health Action Team
Millage passed	Focus on Native American Infant Mortality
Better connections for the continuum of home visiting in relationship to referrals being made	Address funding needs around mental health/substance abuse in families
Home visiting has helped decrease child abuse and neglect	Address housing issues for families. The basic need and the trauma it causes
Increase in Medicaid buy in to benefits of MIHP	Upstream thinking around preconception and interconception education
Dental coverage for pregnant women	Reduce Latino Infant Mortality. Michigan has the highest rate of infant mortality in Latino population
Additional dental clinic opened	Engage parents around why or why not to use home visiting services
Increase funding around early childhood (Cherry received six grants in last few months).	Using technology to better educate, communicate, and implement services/resources (HMG)

Outcome 2 - Children are healthy, thriving and developmentally on track from birth to third grade.	
Wins	Hopes & Goals
Community engagement around Success Basics	Help Me Grow implementation
Increased preschool enrollment at capacity in the fall for first time ever	Increase translators and interpreters, especially for Refugee populations
Millage win	Keep momentum with Success Basics website
Welcome Home Baby able to sign MOU with Metro	After school programming to address bullying for all ages
BMH workgroup has identified issues, problems, and barriers around mental health. Found solutions for access	Mission: Read and 1000 books programs through library will increase % of children reading proficiently by 3rd grade
Nationally selected Pritzker Fellowship	Affordable quality childcare and 3/4 year old preschool for "working poor" that is linguistically and culturally inclusive
Great Start to Quality has increased resource to homebased childcare providers	Single parent support (coaching, classes, education, umbrella, parent teaching)
Community Rebuilders received \$5 million grant from Bezos Foundation	Add mental health to Success Starts Early website. Education and informed programs.
Diaper Drive collected over 111,000 diapers in a year of restructuring	Increase in diaper need awareness
Innovative community programming (Children's Museum, Symphony Scorecard, Public library)	
Children lead levels have decreased by 33%	
Increase in parent voice across programs. Parents have been engaged at a national level	
Health Equity Social Justice workshops are full	

Outcome 3 - Children are developmentally ready to succeed in school at time of school entry.	
<u>Wins</u>	<u>Hopes & Goals</u>
Increase in reimbursement rate	Social and Emotional Health focused on
Early Learning awards for childcare providers	Recognition and elevation of the ECE workforce
Early Learning Playgroups added two more sites	How will the data around kindergarten readiness look
New Kindergarten Readiness resource developed with activities	Summer gaps assessed for early childhood
Increase in number of childcare providers in Kent County obtaining training	Increase summer opportunities for parents and children. Kindergarten Summer camp
Conversations around shared services for Kent County	Virtual Summer Camp for parents and children
Increase in Star rated programs and increase in quality	Transportation support
More equitable and accessible opportunities for families	Mentor /coaching around quality childcare for center and home based providers
Millage passed	
Additional funding/expansion to reach more families in the community	
ELNC's Early Head start Grant Implementation	
New centralized intake has made it much easier for families to access free preschool	
Kindergarten Readiness assessment tool identified and implemented	

Outcome 4 - Children are prepared to succeed in fourth grade and beyond by reading proficiently by the end of third grade.	
<u>Wins</u>	<u>Hopes & Goals</u>
PNC Sesame St. Resources (literacy and math)	Try to connect organizations for a collective impact. Audiences are slightly different. Could Develop a continuum of reading resources
West Michigan Literacy Center (family literacy)	Raise parent awareness about 3rd grade reading law: Parent Teacher Conferences, teachers need to know
Mission Read for all libraries, 1000 Day of Reading	Use Parent Coalition to inform parents about law. Use GSRP and Head Start family conferences/meetings
Expanding Learning Opportunities: before and after school programs ELO Network	Raise the level of advocacy within legislature building civic engagement
15 - 20 dads are part of the coalition	Build parent skills about how children learn to read
GVSU Charter Schools - free PD for all teachers gvsu.edu/cso	Refer everyone to KDL summer program
KDL - Library card Challenge 8000 cards have been issued	
Professional development for Childcare providers	
MDE Early Literacy Skills - pre-k - 10, two hour PD lasses on research based essentials	