

Great Start Collaborative
December 17, 2020 - 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Zoom

Attendees: Kate Lara, Sarah Wilson, K'Sandra Earle, Nikki Pratt, Kristyn Bomberg, Bryana Hopkins, Sarah Laman, Jayme Vosovic, Tequia Adams, Alyssa Bryan, Joann Hoganson, Elizabeth Zandstra, Kathleen Neumann, Ben Brower, Mandy Rycenga, MaDonna Princer, Iris Gipson, Emily Skavnak, Cara Sutcliffe, Claire Titcombe, Lindsey VanDyke, Frank Florido, Nicole Burman, Yolanda Johnson, Maureen Hale, Alyce Hernandez, Jonathon Aue, Ray Sutcliffe, Jennifer Leys, Heather Boswell, Tomarra Richardson, Paula Brown, Leslie Hawkins

- **Welcome and Introductions**

Maureen Hale

Approval of the October 22, 2020 meeting notes: approved

- **Small Group Activity**

- **Great Start Parent Coalition Report**

Tomarra Richardson

- Grants:

- TA: TA 4 wrapped up on 11.27.20, the final expenditure report is due 1.31.21. TA grant 5 was submitted on 10.25.20 and is pending approval. The grant includes Parent Support Stations, reducing isolation in the northern part of the county and in the Latinx coalition by holding meetings and parent cafes. In response to COVID will be holding family Zoom activities. The grant will also continue to spread Success Basics messaging. Applied for \$25,000 and will run from January to November.

- CSSP Grant: Support parent led project

- Digital Landscape Survey: created with KSSN to understand digital needs of families along with basic needs. Completed on 12/16. 228 completed surveys.

- Coalition Meeting

- December 17th – All About Relationships (Be Strong Protective Factor)
Parent Reps will help facilitate this meeting.
- January 14th – Healthy Eating with MSU Extension
- February 11th – Success Basics with KDL
- March 11th – Mindfulness with Irene Kraegel

- COFI – Community Organizing Family Issues

- Phase I Part I is complete. There was a drive by COVID friendly graduation.
- Phase I Part II is focusing on their group project: meeting virtually and weekly to plan.

- Parent Café that was happening in the city in person are now virtual.

- ACES training: Tomarra and Nicole are now trained in ACES and will be facilitating smaller trainings to get their master training certification.

- **Diaper Drive**

Leslie Hawkins

We have raised 1,874,714 diapers since 2009. Last week we received over 18,000 pullups from Nestlings in Holland. Two Men and a Truck donated a truck and staffing to pick up and deliver the diapers to Salvation Army Warehouse. The GSC drive was a success raising over 20,000 diapers! Thank you to our partners who participated. Family Futures was the winner of the drive and received our rotating trophy and a lunch for staff. Paula was featured in an interview with Maranda about a drive

Priority Health did across the state raising 16,000 diapers for pantries across Michigan. Click [here](#) to watch the clip.

- **First Steps Kent Update**

Heather Boswell

Childcare Crisis Response Team distributed over \$30,000 worth of supplies to childcare providers. Second distribution this Saturday. FSK is holding parent listening sessions. Opportunity for parents to submit a video sharing their story or other information they want to share about their experience during COVID. Parents will receive a \$20 digital gift card. Click [here](#) to learn more. Stories will be collected through the end of January. Ready by5 announced their third round of recipients. Additional \$2.6 million to 12 programs for two years. Click [here](#) to learn who was funded.

- **GSC Updates**

Paula Brown

- Staffing Update: Welcome Nicole Burman! Starting after the holidays on January 4th.
- Financial Report: Leslie will send FY21 budget to group. Paula will set open office hours on Zoom in the new year so people can ask questions. RFP for local funds will be sent out again this year. Please review the budget and ask Paula any questions.

- **Partner Announcements**

- MLPP: new childcare report that looks at funding and the lack of funding. Click [here](#) to read the report. Update on Kid's Count data found [here](#). A blog post from MLPP can also be found [here](#).
- Cara Sutcliffe: Ready 4K will be launching so families can get developmental support. BMH meeting heard about how providers are struggling with the current environment. Link on Success Starts Early site to sign up for Ready 4K. There is a trauma informed piece and the ability to point to national and local resources.
- Johnathon Aue: Trusted Rides is a new company for profit business will help families with 5 – 17-year-old children with developmental delays with transportation. Centered in Grand Rapids and go as far as the lake shore. Working on expanding across the state. <https://trustedridesusa.com/>
- Aarie Wade: two weeks ago, contacted by Kristin Sobolewski to meet with the governor about childcare. Small group of about eight people. Got to share their stories and advocate for early childhood.
- Kristyn Bomberg: WGVU has focus next week on literacy and the following STEM. Bingo for both. Local libraries reading stories. Will share on social media and found on their education-kids and at home learning pages. Many activities to try with kids during break. <https://www.wgvu.org/education-kids/education/>
- Maggie Lancaster: K'Sandra sent out hundreds of kits to ELNC families from the GRM and will do two more kits. Such a great collaboration!
- Iris Gipson: were doing them in person but now virtual from 12 – 1:30pm on Wednesday. Please share on FB. <https://www.facebook.com/events/154326689363693>