



## GREAT START COLLABORATIVE OF KENT COUNTY General Membership Meeting

*Mission: To assure a coordinated system of community resources and supports to help all Kent County families provide a great start for their children from birth to age five.*

June 23, 2022 – 1:30-3:00 p.m.

### Minutes

**Attendees:** Alyssa Bryan, Angela Freier, Ashley Karsten, Ben Brower, Betsy Zandstra, Bryana Hopkins, Cara Sutcliffe, Emily Skavnak, Hannah Gyani, Hannah Nelson, Heather Walczewski, Iris Gipson, Jaime Mueller, Jan Wilks, Jayme Vosovic, Jenn Harrod, Jewel Davis-Tombul, Joann Hoganson, Kayla Johns, Kelly Gerlinger, Kristen Sobolewski, Kristin Gietzen, Kristyn Bomberg, Linda Pickett, Lindsey VanDyke, Lynnae Edmond, Maribel Garza, Maureen Hale, Melissa Andersen, Nicole Pratt, Rachel Cain, Ray Sutcliffe, Sara Galik, Sara Proaño, Summer Wright, Susan Chang, Tequia Adams, Yolanda Johnson, Paula Brown, Tomarra Richardson, Shanequa Mosley, Mallory Willenbring, Melanie Medema

- Welcome and Introductions

**Maureen Hale**

Approval of the April 28, 2022 meeting notes – *Approved*

- Great Start Parent Coalition Report

**Tomarra Richardson  
Shanequa Mosley**

- New Parent Representative
- Trusted Advisor Update
  - Migrant Legal Aid
    - i. Browning-Claytor giving out books
    - ii. Many free family activities
      - 1. Summer STEM 07-30-22 – still looking for location
      - 2. The Music Lady 08-10-22 – limited food tickets available, going live in July
      - 3. Family Scavenger Hunt – 6/11-6/18
        - a. Video
- Storytime In The Park
  - 6/19/22 6p-8p, Garfield Park PLUS various summer dates
- Parent Café
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 10-11:30am, Grace CRC @ 100 Buckley St SW 49503
- Parent Support Stations
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of the month 10am-2pm, In The Image
- Books, Blocks, & Balls event – please promote to families
  - 8/13/22 10am-1pm
  - Participating agencies: provide giveaways in line with ASQ
  - Raffle prize donations
  - Will send emails closer to the event
- COFI
  - 2-3 summer community mixers addressing violence in 49507
  - Open to parents, neighbors, CBOs, businesses
- Diaper Drive Update
  - Sparta UMC
  - Vibrant Life Chiropractic
  - St. Mark's Chiropractic
  - AppleTree/Gilden Woods
  - KDL will be doing DDs all locations in September
  - Anonymous 1,500 diaper donation
  - Very close to 2mm diapers collected

- DEI Activity
 

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hD5f8GuNuGQ>

Reflective question:

  - Share a time you recognized a situation where someone experienced privilege or under-privilege.
  
- HEAR HER **Hannah Nelson**

Advancing Maternal Health Lab at Michigan State University

  - Goals
    - i. Raise awareness of potentially life-threatening warning signs during/after pregnancy
    - ii. Improve communication between patients and healthcare providers
  - 700 women die in childbirth each year
    - i. American Indian/Alaskan Native 2x more likely than white women
    - ii. Black women 3x more likely than white women
  - Key messages
    - i. Women know their bodies/can often tell if something is not right
  - Urgent maternal warning signs
    - i. For women pregnant now or for 1-year post-pregnancy
  - CDC website:
    - i. Microsites allow uploading content from the CDC website onto your own site
    - ii. Personal stories
    - iii. Downloadable resources/social media
    - iv. How to get involved
  - [nelsonha@msu.edu](mailto:nelsonha@msu.edu)
  - Questions
    - i. The importance of discussing racial disparities
    - ii. Is there a connection with this campaign to the abortion ban? No.
    - iii. Which print piece is recommended for most effective pieces of paper to put out at the library?
 

The conversation guide that includes warning signs, infographics pieces that may be more appropriate for families with literacy concerns

      - 1. Conversation Guide: click on the desired language to download the document.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/hearher/resources/download-share/guide-for-pregnant-women.html>
      - 2. The infographic of urgent maternal warning signs:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/hearher/resources/download-share/warning-signs-poster.html>
    - iv. Bathroom doors are good locations for flyers
      - 1. Sara Proaño - KDL can add the promotional materials here:  
<https://kdl.org/news/hygiene-lockers-at-kdl/>
    - v. Is partner violence as a factor in suicidal ideation for pregnant mothers a part of the reporting for this campaign? Not in this specific campaign.
  
- First Steps Kent Update **Kristin Sobolewski**
  - Next round of Ready by Five Millage funding
  - [https://www.firststepskent.org/millage?utm\\_campaign=Ready%20by%20Five%20Provider%20Communications&utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmt=2&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz--VSvuKfGeQ0jFJriOMwOBfKyU\\_44YXY-ns81\\_wzn8p2qCcojk2ZSQmSnPSD711K0bQ5Eb06m8AOwC7u\\_8Z-Hhr7eaVGnlqwuBxWbJJ\\_sWnco4m31Y&utm\\_content=2&utm\\_source=hs\\_email#tabbedContent-4](https://www.firststepskent.org/millage?utm_campaign=Ready%20by%20Five%20Provider%20Communications&utm_medium=email&_hsmt=2&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--VSvuKfGeQ0jFJriOMwOBfKyU_44YXY-ns81_wzn8p2qCcojk2ZSQmSnPSD711K0bQ5Eb06m8AOwC7u_8Z-Hhr7eaVGnlqwuBxWbJJ_sWnco4m31Y&utm_content=2&utm_source=hs_email#tabbedContent-4)
  - Funding Opportunity 1: Healthy Development –Including Healthy Expectant and New Parents, Developmental Screenings and Connection, Healthy and Safe Home Environment, and (NEW!) Niche Family Supports.
  - Funding Opportunity 2: Parent Education and Support - Translation and Interpretation Services

- Funding Opportunity 3: Healthy Development – Fetal Infant Mortality Review Network Lead
- Funding Opportunity 4: Healthy Development – Ready by Five Network Training and Education Lead
- Funding Opportunity 5: Technology Equipment Request (Currently funded programs only)

- GSC Strategic Planning Exercise

**Melanie Medema**

- [https://jamboard.google.com/d/1xnXXbG7iYtAXQQ-pAeYEGylj6ol4CeIH0Bw8smJ\\_9Wc/edit?usp=sharing](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1xnXXbG7iYtAXQQ-pAeYEGylj6ol4CeIH0Bw8smJ_9Wc/edit?usp=sharing)

- GSC Updates & Announcements

**Paula Brown**

- Staffing Update
  - i. One more Help Me Grow interview, will be making an offer
- New Parent Kits
  - i. Putting out to Grace's Table, In the Image
  - ii. Many local partners participating by providing materials
- Safe Sleep Grant
  - i. 4 pack -n-plays
  - ii. 10 backpacks
  - iii. Safe Sleep training with families

- Partner Announcements

- Jayme Vosovic
  - i. Advocacy Boot Camp: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyq9JSNX2q56WKYT0o2cJxrnTGJsk5Ucj9Glv4yJvoeDDQag/viewform>
  - ii. TBMI Infant and Toddler Agenda: <https://mlpp.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/tbmi-data-agenda.pdf>
  - iii. Think Babies:
    1. Sign-up <https://www.ecic4kids.org/policy-thinkbabiesmi/>
    2. Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thinkbabiesmi>
    3. Advocacy Agenda: <https://mlpp.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/tbmi-data-agenda.pdf>
    4. 2020 Right Start Report: <https://mlpp.org/thriving-babies-start-with-strong-moms-right-start-2020/>
  - iv. New Grand Rapids profile for Kid's Count data coming out this year
- Emily Skavnak - KCHD is hiring for a Nurse-Family Partnership nurse
  - i. <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/kentcountymi>
- Kent District Library - Books for Babies - [sproano@kdl.org](mailto:sproano@kdl.org)
- WGVU Kids Day at the Zoo is on August 4 at John Ball Zoo
- Iris Gipson - Please be on the lookout for COFI EVE Community Mixer and Task Force updates

#### Action Items

- Upload One County One Book reading videos: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/myogz52oxru7jedd45hv6/h?dl=0&rlkey=lkkbwpjfr3k9qc5233ey046w4>
- Hear Her links will be sent to group with minutes
- GSC to provide Betsy Zandstra with Hear Her materials
- Please provide suggestions for materials to include in New Parent Kits

#### Upcoming Meetings:

##### GSC Executive Team

July 12, 2022 | 2:30-4pm | Zoom

Aug 9, 2022 | 2:30-4pm | Zoom

##### GSC General Membership

Aug 25, 2022 | 1:30-3:00pm | Zoom

Oct 27, 2022 | 1:30-3:00pm | TBD