

Ingham Great Start Collaborative Operations Committee Meeting Notes

Thursday, November 5, 2015 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Harley Franks Early Childhood Center, 2924 Newark Ave., Lansing

Present: Effie Alofoje-Carr, Jessica Baker, Wendy Boyce, Corrie Mervyn, Michelle Nicholson, MC Rothhorn, Stephanie Thelen, Regina Traylor

1. Approve 11/5/15 Meeting Agenda and 10/1/15 Operations Committee Meeting Notes

An additional item was added to the Agenda regarding Family Outreach Services. The advocates will no longer use the Parents As Teacher Curriculum due to limited funding. Going forward, Great Parents Great Start will remain a Model Affiliate and Early Head Start, Early On, and Ingham Healthy Families will be Approved Users.

The 10/1/15 Meeting Notes were approved as stated.

2. Michigan Power to Thrive (MPTT) Update/November 15, 2015, WeROC Meeting

The WeROC public meeting, in which MPTT will announce the launch of the Early Childhood and Mass Incarceration issues, is scheduled for Sunday, November 15, 2015, at 3:00–5:00 p.m., in Ypsilanti. Wendy and Michelle plan to attend and asked Operations to think about others in the community who should be invited to attend the meeting. The announcement will focus on alignment between Early Childhood and Mass Incarceration. At this time, the Early Childhood issue has not been developed into a specific, “Ask,” rather several items are being discussed: expanding home visiting services, expanding preschool slots, and looking at Early On supports for children. On a National level, Center for American Progress, along with Zero to Three, released a report entitled [Point of Entry: The Preschool-to-Prison Pipeline](#). Detroit, Massachusetts, and Illinois were highlighted as three areas with high expulsion rates, with Illinois amongst the highest for infants and toddlers. Discussion at MPTT meetings has included the impact of suspension on parents (i.e., parents cannot work and income is impacted); supports needed by parents and teachers; and the effects of poverty on brain development, etc. A question was raised about whether or not children are receiving the necessary social/emotional supports before being suspended. Visit the Zero To Three website to view the new [infographic](#) illustrating the effects of poverty on infants and toddlers.

3. Raising of America

Beginning November 1, public television stations could start showing *The Raising of America Signature Hour*. Detroit and other public television viewing areas have scheduled the showing for 11 p.m. timeslots, which is not convenient for families. The GSC was informed our local public television station, WKAR, will be broadcasting the Signature Hour in March or April 2016. An email was sent to the ROA listserv to encourage individuals who have attended a screening or completed an “Ask” card to fill out a letter of support for prime time viewing.

A recent screening of the ROA episode “Are We Crazy About Our Kids” was shown at the Islamic Center of Greater Lansing. Approximately 50 people, including the Islamic School psychologist, viewed the screening. The viewing was well received, and people are interested in hearing additional information. A young girl, aged seven or eight, spoke about her positive take-away from this screening. A possible next step could include hosting a parent café at the Islamic Center. In addition, the Islamic Center distributes a weekly communication that reaches approximately 5,000 people; thus, additional information or upcoming events regarding early childhood could be shared. Several other churches through Action of Greater Lansing are also planning screenings in the near future. The 11-minute ROA trailer has been shown at GSRP parent nights, data team meetings, and staff meetings. Updates, including the availability of all ROA episodes to check out for future screenings could be included on a future GSRP Advisory Council Agenda. It was also suggested to include ROA at the December GSC Orientation and to use parent stories (particularly Effie’s) as a testimonial tool to increase awareness and drive people to ROA.

4. Family Engagement

The Local Leadership Group continues to work to engage families. At the October Operations Meeting, members discussed levels of family engagement opportunities available through member’s organizations. (A summary of the discussion appears below.) A suggestion was made to have information regarding family engagement opportunities available for both providers and families. An example of family engagement through the Infant Mortality Coalition is The Community Action Network (CAN), which focuses on bringing consumers to the table. A coordinator for CAN has recently been hired, and more information is forthcoming. There was a suggestion of modeling local

opportunities for family engagement after the regional/state grid shared at the Parents Partnering for Change training. The [Family Engagement Inventory](#) on the MDE website was referenced as an example of additional family engagement opportunities. The goal is to have the list of family engagement opportunities available at the December 9, 2015, LLG/GSC Orientation.

Summary October 2015 Operations Committee Family Engagement Discussion

To be shared with:

- LLG 11/4
- Operations 11/5
- GSC 11/18

GOAL:

to understand how GSC/GSFC can encourage family engagement within agencies of the GSC in ways that align with our targets and group work. Audience: agency staff & leadership

QUESTIONS:

how to share/update this info with agencies to increase family participation?

What makes a person ready [to be engaged]? Answer: trusting relationship

What makes an agency ready [to engage parents]? Does a questionnaire/checklist exist to help an agency see if their culture 'wants' parent input/engagement?

IDEAS: (in order to engage staff who work with families)

Each One Teach One
Three E's: Educate, Empower, Engage

LEVELS OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT		
LEVEL	EXAMPLES	ENCOURAGEMENT
OBSERVATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting programs • Showing up at appointments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily, weekly, monthly structure that invites parents
PARTICIPATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely drop-off/pick up • Parent with child and supervising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff trained to intervene/model when parent struggling
ENGAGEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing talents with program, not just child • Providing snacks to program • Donating money to program • Collecting books for program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting areas with books, manipulatives to help parents engage • Classroom environments that ask parents to share in addition to staff
LEADERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing story online and/or in-person • Joining a board of directors or advisory board (see blue sheet) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding opportunities to the blue sheet • Voting in every election (civic participation) and sharing that

6. Plan 11/18/15 GSC Agenda

- **Location – Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing (corner of Mt. Hope and Boston Blvd.)**
- **Inclusion Activity?**
Several possibilities were discussed:
 - Each member of a small group draws one line to create a group picture; the group titles their picture with a three-four word sentence as it relates to the GSC; another small group attempts to guess the title.
 - Members choose a picture and describe how the picture represents leadership.
 - Members use first initial from first or last name to describe their parenting style or season of life.
 - Referencing the GSC timeline, members describe how the GSC has impacted culture – organizationally or community wide.
- **Norm of Collaboration – Paraphrasing**
Not only is Ingham GSC incorporating The 7 Norms in their work in meetings, the Norms were also included at a workshop at the Michigan Early Childhood Collaborative Conference. The importance of using the Norms was discussed as a tool for effective communication across a broader scope.
- **Target Groups – Connections and Voice**
- **Possible Spotlights – Consider criteria**
 1. My Brother's Keeper

2. Immunization Presentation – Currently a statewide initiative regarding immunizations is underway; so this spotlight is timely. Wendy Ridenour (ICHHD) is available to present at the November 18 GSC Meeting. This presentation could be in conjunction with the work of the Network for Healthy Kids per Barbara Ball McClure.
3. CHAP (possibly February or March GSC Meeting)
4. FIMR (possibly March GSC Meeting)
5. MLPP – 2 GEN Approach
6. GSC Website launch (possibly January 2016 for the hard launch)

The Workgroups have been contacted with the request to review current page of the GSC Website and submit revisions if needed.

7. Great Start to Quality

- **Chair: Corrie; Timekeeper: Effie**

Review next meeting dates and times:

GSC Meetings: 11/18/15 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at Grace United Methodist Church

No December Meeting – Orientation scheduled for December 9 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm, location TBD – possibly Harley Franks

Operations Committee Meetings: No December Meeting, next meeting 1/7/15 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Harley Franks

Adjourn

*Visit the Ingham GSC website at <http://www.InghamGreatStart.org>
for Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars, the Ingham Children's Action Agenda and more.
Check out our Facebook Page at <http://www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart>*