

**Ingham Great Start Collaborative
Operations Committee Meeting Notes
Thursday, March 9, 2017 – 2:30-5:00 pm
Harley Franks Early Childhood Center, 2924 Newark Ave., Lansing**

Attendance: Effie Alofoje-Carr, Jessica Baker, Wendy Boyce, Fran Jozefowicz, Laurie Linscott, Barb Monroe, Michelle Nicholson, Stephanie Thelen

1. The 3/9/17 Operations Committee Meeting Agenda and 2/2/17 Operations Committee Meeting Notes were emailed to members prior to the meeting.

2. **Inclusion Activity – Parent Café Question**

Today's Parent Café Question was from one of the Five Protective Factors-Concrete Support in Times of Need "*What are some of the steps needed to solve problems with access to services?*"

The following responses were shared:

- The first step is to know there *is* a problem—or ask *if* there is a problem—and not jump to solutions about the “whys,” rather continue to ask for specifics.
- In thinking about the data the GSC has collected so far, address the mindset pieces both families and providers may have. (i.e. Be mindful of the mindset providers may have about why families are not accessing services.)
- Understand the what and why.
- From a macro level, it is different depending upon the organization, the family perspective, and how this influences the work of the Collaborative.
- De-stigmatizing or normalizing “Head Start” (i.e. It is often heard the poor kids or bad kids attend Head Start; or I don't want my kids with those kids. To some, the mindset is the child will be set up for failure if they attend Head Start.)
- Another message heard from parents is their child needs more structure; thus they feel and/or have been told their child should attend a GSRP program because in Head Start the child “plays.”

3. **Family Engagement**

Family Coalition Meetings are being planned for the third Tuesday of each month, with the first meeting scheduled on March 21, 2017, from 10:00 am – 12:00 noon and 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Family Growth Center. A “save the date” flyer will be available for distribution tomorrow.

[The Greater Lansing Baby Fair](#) is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 2017, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Lansing Center. Jessica shared her plans for Parent Cafés during this event, where she will use props of Parent Café questions to engage families. Jessica is also discussing plans for a Parent Café with Averill Elementary, with the target audience of multi-generational families with children ages 5 to 8. Parent Cafés are also being discussed for out county GSRP, and playgroup locations.

C3R-Parents Speak is a community forum being planned for late April 2017, for the purpose of identifying and addressing barriers (i.e. transportation, housing, child care, etc.) for student parents to attend college. An outcome from the forum is to develop recommendations for community action around these barriers, including funding issues. GSC staff and CCAMPIS Grant Project Director/Student Parent Success Coach, Robin Pizzo, are involved in this forum. Robin is working at the federal level to increase awareness of the need for continued funding for student parent programs. The potential elimination of CCAMPIS funding could have a ripple effect on both student success, as well as the overall LCC student enrollment and persistence rate. A potential Geomap project would be to map LCC student parent resident zip codes in relation to licensed child care providers. In a C3R Parent Speak planning meeting, data was shared regarding how successful LCC student parents receiving CCAMPIS funding were in persistence and GPA, compared to the general student population.

4. FY 17 GSC Strategic Planning

- **Debrief on 2/15/17 GSC Meeting** – Work at the 2/15/17 GSC meeting included sorting Outcomes 2 and 3 System Scan data into themes, Labeling the themes, and grouping Labels into Goal Descriptors. Wendy shared the Labels and Goal Descriptors developed at the February GSC Meeting. An Outcome 4 System Scan was conducted with Curriculum Directors from 11 out of the 12 local school districts on 3/1/17. An additional Outcome 4 System Scan is scheduled with the County-Wide Literacy Steering Committee on 3/21/17. The Goal Descriptors and Labels up to this point from all four Outcomes developed will be prioritized at the March GSC Meeting.
- **Family Survey** – The “Fast Five Survey” was developed to gain a better understanding about what programs or services families are participating or not participating, and why. The survey will be given through the Family Growth Center, Child & Family Charities, Willow Tree, Stepping Up Together, CCAMPIS, Shared Pregnancy. A revised “Fast Five Survey” focused on third-grade reading will be given to the Parent Community Advisory Committee through Lansing School District.
- **Outcome 4 Stand-Alone Statements** – Members divided into two groups to create Stand-Alone Statements from the prioritized issues identified during the Curriculum Director’s Outcome 4 System Scan. Operations Members sorted the Stand-Alone statements into themes and created Labels for the themes. The Labels from Outcome 4, as well as Outcomes 1, 2, and 3, will be used to prioritize during the March GSC Meeting.

5. Plan 3/15/17 GSC Meeting Agenda

- Location – Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd, Lansing (corner of Mt. Hope/Boston Blvd.)
- Inclusion activity – Parent Café Question
- Outcome 4 sorting, Labels, and Goal Descriptors – To continue moving forward with the Strategic Planning timeline, Operations members sorted and labeled data at today’s meeting. At the March GSC Meeting, prioritization of Labels is planned through completing the Prioritization Worksheet and organizational voting.
- Target Group Work – Members will work on Gaps and Quality Target Group work if time permits.
- Evaluation Activity
- Chair: **Fran Jozefowicz** Timekeeper: **Barb Monroe**

6. Updates

7. **Evaluation Activity** – Was available for Operations Members to complete.

Review next meeting dates and times:

GSC meetings: 3/15/17 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church
4/19/17 from 1:00 – 3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church

Operations Committee meetings: 4/13/17 from 2:30 – 5:00 pm at Harley Franks
5/4/17 from 2:30 – 5:00 pm at Harley Franks

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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>