

Ingham Great Start Collaborative
Operations Committee Meeting Notes
Thursday, June 7, 2018 – 2:30 – 4:30 pm
Harley Franks Early Childhood Center, 2924 Newark Avenue, Lansing

ATTENDANCE: Effie Alofoje-Carr, Jessica Baker, Wendy Boyce, Fran Jozefowicz, Michelle Nicholson, Stephanie Thelen

1. The 6/7/18 Operations Committee Meeting Agenda and 5/11/18 Operations Committee Meeting Notes were approved with an addition: discussion of parking lot items from Outcome group work.

2. Inclusion Activity

Think for a minute and then share with the group one word or phrase that describes Kindergarten (Protective Factor Knowledge of Child Development). Members responded:

- **Stressed, furious, and nervous** – Effie recently attended multiple kindergarten round ups with varying experiences. One school district contacted Effie to suggest her son be placed in Young 5s, even though she had indicated she was not interested in doing so on paper. In addition, Young 5s was never suggested at other school districts' kindergarten round ups; and her son's preschool teacher recommended kindergarten.
- **Disconnect** – There doesn't seem to be a clear connection between end of preschool and beginning of kindergarten expectations. On a positive note, kindergarten is nice because it allows the child to be on a school day schedule.
- **Surprised** – by the message regarding enrolling children into Young 5s.
- **Pushed Down** – So much is being "pushed down," like assessments and math and literacy expectations. That being said, Michigan's children continue to rank poorly in school success.

Outcome 3 developed and distributed a Kindergarten Round Up Survey to families who have a kindergarten-age child for the 2018-10 school year, and an email address through the www.InghamPreschool.org system. Kae Dubay shared how Williamston used a survey to obtain parent feedback on their kindergarten round up. Kae contacted Williamston to get the survey, and Outcome 3 revised the survey for distribution.

Previously the School Readiness Advisory Committee (SRAC) received feedback from administrators regarding their school district's kindergarten round up and the first week of school. Outcome 3 group discussed the value in having the kindergarten round up feedback. There were 329 responses to the survey including families who did and did not participate in kindergarten roundup.

- Overall experience rating: 3.1 (1-4 scale)
- Comments included: *children did not see/meet teacher, no tour of school, no excitement from the teacher(s), parents did not know the next steps*
- Promotion / Advertising: parents had to search for kindergarten round up information on their own, not apparent in the community

The kindergarten round up survey feedback was shared with and reviewed by the SRAC to identify themes. Possible next steps will be to review by school district and identify districts who received positive feedback for the purpose of creating a kindergarten round up template to share with other districts.

Michelle attended a joint Curriculum and Special Education Director's meeting on June 6, in which there was a presentation regarding the Michigan Kindergarten Entry Observation (MKEO). MKEO will be collecting previous preschool experience information. A large part of the assessment is observation over the course of several weeks instead of a snap shot assessment. The MKEO will be phased in over the next three years, with Ingham/Eaton/Clinton

phase in slated for 2019-20. Michelle shared the Kindergarten Round up Survey results by district with each district and had two asks of the directors: Do you know who in your district manages the www.inghampreschool.org system, as district can use the system for parent feedback in a similar fashion; and secondly, with whom are you going to share your kindergarten round up feedback?

3. Family Engagement

- **Parent Cafes / Family Coalition** – There have been two Parent Cafés with families at the City Rescue Mission regarding quality and summer camps. The second Parent Café was specifically for families with younger children to relay information about the Play & Learn Groups, the Ingham Early Learning Calendar, etc.

A Family Coalition Meeting was held on May 24, with two parents in attendance. The topics discussed were literacy and educational activities to do during the summer months. The next Family Coalition meeting will be on the fourth Tuesday (June 26) rather than Thursday due to schedule conflicts at the Family Growth Center.

- **Strengthening Families Assessment** – The second part of the two-part Strengthening Families Assessment was recently completed. An ECIC staff will share the assessment results with the parents who participated on 6/12/18, and the parents will choose two goals for the Family Coalition to work on in FY2019. A requirement of the GSC Work plan is to have two parent-led strategies each year, and the two goals from the Assessment will become those strategies for FY2019.

4. Debrief from May GSC Meeting

- **Outcome 3 Kindergarten Round-up survey** – (see above)
- **Hindsight is 20/20 Feedback** – Feedback was positive. There was one comment from the Next Step section that needs clarification “*Maybe star or repeat a couple actions so we can update/change action.*” Clarification will be sought at the June GSC meeting.

5. Plan 6/13/18 GSC Meeting Agenda

- **Inclusion Activity** – Today’s Parent Café question will be used for the June GSC meeting.
- **Early On Annual Report** – Michelle will work with Emily to have the Early On Annual Report ready for the June GSC meeting. If Early On funding is approved through the state budget, it will be available on a state fiscal year rather than the Ingham ISD fiscal year. If Early On funding is approved, feedback is needed from the GSC and parents regarding how to use the funding, and may include expanding use of a primary service model.
- **Action Agenda Update Next Steps**
 - Mini System Scan – Review Kids Counts data for major changes in early childhood system and community.
 - Assessing implementation – The Keep, Revise, Change, Add tool was shared with Operations Committee members. Discussion ensued regarding how to best use the tool. A suggestion was to incorporate a column into the Action Agenda to do the work without creating another document.
- **Outcome Group Possible Questions**
 - Review the Kids Count data and use your knowledge of the current early childhood system and our community to note any major changes.
 - Report on the actions you committed to take at the May GSC meeting.
 - Assessing implementation questions
- **Facilitation of Outcome Groups**
 - Outcome 1 – Jessica and Michelle
 - Outcome 2 – Lucy and Fran
 - Outcome 3 – Effie and Wendy
 - Outcome 4 – Corrie and Laurie
- **Updates and Evaluation Activity – Translated Ingham Early Learning Calendar**
- **Chair:** Effie and Jessica **Timekeeper:** Kathy Vogel

6. GSC Evaluation

The GSC Evaluation was shared with Operations Members and discussed briefly. Operations discussed waiting to share the GSC Evaluation results with GSC members at a later time due to the complexity of the information and the Action Agenda update process.

7. Operations Committee Updates

Fran shared a Call to Action on behalf of Community Mental Health in regard to Senate Bill – Section 298 (2)(e) requesting the privatization of Medicaid health plans. If passed, this legislation could have detrimental effects on the most vulnerable populations.

As you may know, the FY19 budget process is moving very fast, legislators are hoping to wrap up their work on next year's budget by the end of the month. In the Senate passed FY19 DHHS budget, language resurfaced that would allow the Medicaid health plans in the pilot regions to contract with any vendor they choose and work around the CMHs in those regions.

Senate Bill - Section 298 (2)(e):

(e) That selected Medicaid health plans be allowed to contract directly with a service provider in an effort to achieve the contract requirements with this state for managing the physical and behavioral health of Medicaid eligible individuals within the pilot region. The pilots described in this subsection shall not in any way mandate an exclusive arrangement between contracted Medicaid health plans and CMHSPs. Any NCQA function presently maintained by a contracted Medicaid health plans shall remain the responsibility of the health plan for the purposes of this pilot regardless of their contractual arrangements with any CMHSP, and contracts between this state and the PIHPs shall be amended to allow for relief of CMHSPs from existing contractual requirements as necessary.

We believe this approach would eventually destroy the local safety net by allowing private health plans to contract with vendors that do not have the same legal & moral responsibility of the CMHs in those communities. Similar language was proposed in last year's budget, however, we were successful in getting it removed.

REQUEST FOR URGENT ACTION: We are asking that you contact your Senate & House member(s) expressing your concerns related to this new language and ask that it NOT be included in the final version of the bill. Timing is critical, we believe legislators will be making final budget decisions in the next 2-3 days. Please contact your Senate & House member(s) between now and Friday, June 8.

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/pFghua-uZoRwyXDqPg9tDg>

Next Meeting Dates and Times

- **GSC Meetings:**

June 13, 2018 – 1:00-3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church
August 8, 2018 – 1:00-3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church

- **Operations Committee Meetings:**

July 12, 2018 – 1:00-5:00 pm, Central Resource Center, 3425 Belle Chase Way, Lansing
July 28, 2018 – 2:30-4:30 pm, Holiday Office Park, 6520 Mercantile, Suites 1 & 2, Lansing

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