

# **Ingham Great Start Collaborative Operations Committee Notes**

12/12/19  
2:30 – 5:00 pm

**ATTENDEES:** Effie Alofoje-Carr, Jessica Baker, Wendy Boyce, Lisa Chambers, Michelle Nicholson, Barb Monroe, Stephanie Thelen

- I. The 12/12/19 meeting agenda was approved with one addition regarding discussion of the Parent Honorarium pay rate. The 11/14/19 meeting notes were approved as stated.

## **II. Inclusion Activity – Parent Café Question**

The Parent Café question, *“What is one thing that you are proud to have accomplished this year—in either your work or personal life”* was discussed:

- The CAUW grant (for literacy programming) is receiving positive feedback. The Islamic Center reported the older siblings of families engaged with the literacy toolkit are doing better in reading as a result.
- Getting through the year is an accomplishment; working to improve my time management skills over the past year; journaling.
- Despite challenges with ECSN grant implementation, staff continues to remain positive and work through the challenges.

## **III. Family Engagement**

- a) **Family Coalition (FC) Meeting** – The December FC meeting is scheduled for tonight. The November meeting focus was social connections and supports, and included an activity about gratitude. Resources shared included food boxes available at Family Growth Center and coat banks. The FC flyer is posted on the [GSC website](#)
- b) **Opportunity from Strengthening Families Assessment** – Jessica hopes to share qualitative data gathered at Family Coalition meetings with the Outcome group the data most aligns. Additionally, if an Outcome group identifies a need for parent perspective, Jessica could bring that need back to the Family Coalition. It was suggested to email the Family Coalition flyer to EO staff, GSRP staff, and licensed providers as soon as it is developed. The goal is to increase Family Coalition participation and attendance.

Operations plans to review updated qualitative and quantitative data and discuss what and how that data is shared at a future GSC meeting.

- c) **Parent Honorariums** – Recently, Ingham LLG learned the Ingham honorarium pay rate is low in comparison to other LLGs/GSCs in Michigan. Statewide, a parent receives \$16.00/hour honorarium for

meeting attendance, while the Ingham LLG and GSC both provide \$12.50/hour for meeting attendance. Discussion took place regarding options regarding the rate going forward and the perception if LLG and GSC parent honorariums were different. Currently, there is no opportunity to increase the GSC parent honorarium considering the \$30,000 cut to the GSC budget, no Federal funding, and no mileage, supplies, or PD covered by the 32p block grant. A suggestion was made to consider the differing parent expectations for GSC and LLG for determining the rate. Another idea was to possibly raise both rates by obtaining funding from other sources (i.e. a community partner) and/or using gift cards for payment. This item will be revisited at the January 2020 Operations meeting.

#### **IV. Plan 12/18/19 GSC Meeting Agenda**

- a) **Inclusion Activity** – Jessica will prepare a Parent Café question.
- b) **Family Coalition Update** – Jessica will share updates from tonight’s meeting, along with January flyers.
- c) **Spotlights**
  - **December** – Kinship Care Resource Center and Navigator Program presented by Alicia Guevara Warren and Chance at Childhood presented by Joe Kozakiewicz
  - **January** – PNC Grow up Great/Grant Opportunities presented by Jen Sturdy
  - **February** – Opioid Resources Overview presented by Sarah Kenney (follow-up presentation at a later date)
  - **March** – Birth to 3 Literacy Essentials or MKEO presented by Corrie Mervyn
- d) **Outcome Group Questions**
  - How does today’s Spotlight align with the Outcome Group’s Activities?
  - Report on progress made since the November GSC meeting.
  - What are the next steps between now and the January GSC meeting?
- e) **Outcome Group Round Robin**
- f) **GSC Updates**

- **ECSN** – The budget and scope of work has been approved and Karen Black, from Clinton County RESA, has been hired as the ECSN Director. In January, a survey is planned to be sent to all GSCs, Directors/Coordinators to begin the Advisory Council nomination process. The Council will consist of a representative from each of the 18 counties in the Eastern Region and will, hopefully, include a wide variety of roles and perspectives. The plan is for the Council to meet quarterly to share information from the local level with the ECSN and vice versa. Some ideas to encourage interest in becoming a member were to hold meetings during the evening for working parents and direct service providers; have meetings via Zoom rather than face to face; and to offer an honorarium to parents who may be on the Council. Possible nominations from today’s discussion included Juanita Castillo from Small Folks; Tamika Billingsly, Ingham private child care provider, or Cheryl Priest of Gratiot/Isabella Counties; Mari Garza from CADL; and Jennifer Ries of PNC Bank.
- **Ready Rosie (Through Teaching Strategies)** – Ingham GSC is moving forward with a PO for a pilot of the Ready Rosie App in Ingham. Funding will come from the CAUW Grant (ending June 30, 2020). Since the development of a new App based on the Ingham Early Learning Calendar was determined to be very costly (\$20,000-\$400,000), Ready Rosie was chosen to be a pilot of a school readiness App as a starting point. Ready Rosie includes a library of over 1200 videos focused on themes that align with the Ingham Early Learning Calendar. Ingham ISD was quoted a “classroom price” of approximately \$2,000-\$2,400 to initially include 200 families. The first families to be given an opportunity to use Ready Rosie would be EFEL partner families, since outcome data needs to be collected per CAUW requirements. It was suggested showing a Ready Rosie video during the January GSC meeting.

**g) Evaluation** – One Feeling Word

**h) Chair:** Barb Monroe/Lisa Chambers      **Timekeeper:** Lisa Chambers

## **V. Operations Committee Updates**

- During the January Operations meeting, the plan is to review the Great Start Data Set and Pritzker Feedback to determine alignment with the GSC Outcome Groups, and consider any possible changes to root causes, Strategies, and Activities in the GSC Action Agenda.
- ICHD Women’s Health Center is temporarily moving to the River Oak Community Center (next to Potter Park Zoo) during renovations.

- Central Resource Center has their first infant-toddler event kick-off tonight, with 13 providers registered to attend. Ashley Jory is the Infant-Toddler Specialist in the Region, and will also have 18 providers on her caseload. The Midland office is currently seeking someone to fill a QIC position with a caseload of nine.

**VI. Future Meetings** – All meetings will be held at Ingham ISD Early Childhood Services, [6520 Mercantile Way](#), Suites 1 & 2, Lansing, MI.

a) **GSC Meetings** – 12/18/19 and 01/22/20 from 1:00-3:30 pm

b) **Operations Meetings** – 01/9/20 and 02/13/20 from 2:30-4:30 pm

**VII. Adjourn**

View Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars at [www.InghamGreatStart.org](http://www.InghamGreatStart.org).

Check out our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart](http://www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart).