

**Local Leadership Group Notes**  
**March 4, 2020**  
**1:00pm-3:00pm**  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Family Growth Center)**  
**549 Mt. Hope Ave. Lansing, MI 48910**

**1. Welcome/Introductions**

Parent Café Question: **When do you allow yourself to accept help?**

**-Shared with elbow partners:**

-Several people shared that they do not like to ask for help

-It sometimes feels like it's easier to do it ourselves than ask for help

-Several home visitors shared that it's hard to accept help when they are the ones providing help

**2. February Meeting Review**

February notes reviewed and approved

**3. Great Parents Great Start**

-Family assessments now have 120 days to complete assessment instead of 90 days. This decision was made at the national level.

-Still accepting referrals. Primarily serve 3-4-year-olds but will accept younger kids. Must live within Ingham Intermediate School District. There are no income requirements.

**4. Home Visiting Continuum**

**How might home visiting models work together to adopt shared curriculum/resources and share information?**

**Brainstormed with elbow partners and shared out:**

-Current PD work and CQI project align well with the continuum

-Staff contact sheet

-Warm hand-off

-Still struggle with multiple services in home and the different programs do not know which programs are there.

-Possibly use a shared drive or multi-media site for sharing resources

-Identify 1-2 home visitors from each program to get together monthly/quarterly and discuss specific topics of need in the community, such as housing, and bring that information back to families and programs

-Brown bag lunch with home visitors at ISD EC Services for training opportunities

- Some programs already work together and have shared visits when possible. When it's possible, they work on warm hand-offs. Working to set goals with families other than education and learning such as family wellness, reducing stress etc.
- Shared curriculum could be shared topics: consistent messages for topics such as safe sleep, safety etc.
- Align the process for each program
- Speed Dating event was helpful. Need more opportunities to get together. Would like to be more confident with what Ingham has to offer.
- Possible social media/Facebook shares: can share information between programs
- Program quiz for training: Multiple choice to match correct program with information
- Ask the families regularly who is in the home to help reduce the number of multiple programs in the home.
  - Home visitors from multiple programs can meet regularly with families all together to determine what information has already been shared/provided and find out what information the family wants/needs. This will help eliminate multiple programs sharing duplicate information with the families.

## 5. Parent Voice

### **Did your provider/home visiting program help you identify your needs, goals and strengths?**

- Parent #1: Yes, especially identifying needs. Still working on goals with child. Home visitor is encouraging mom with her goal. Need breaks and time away for both the parents and children. Having a place for parents to come together and either provide direct childcare or something that will keep them preoccupied would be beneficial. Possibly some program alumni opportunities with different programs. Family Coalition is a great opportunity for families to get this type of interaction with other families.
- Parent #2: Mom did not want to identify needs and ask for help. Mom was not focused on her own needs, just her child's needs. Mom needed help but did not ask. Strengths were identified by the home visitor and there was encouragement.
- Parent #3: Home visitor did not ask a lot of questions to really dig down. She would start to ask questions but then back down.
- Home Visitors:
  - It's hard to ask personal questions. You don't want to overstep and risk the families shutting you out.
  - Having a staff with different personalities and skill sets is helpful to meet the families' needs.
  - If the personalities of the families and home visitors do not click, the families will not accept any information we provide.

-It's helpful to tell the families up-front that there are other home visitors and, for Early Head Start, the supervisor follows-up with a text to ensure the families are comfortable.

-NFP: Focus on goals for mom. They use an App to help establish and track goals. Visits and information are all provided in the App. They also identify short-term goals at each visit and identify long-term goals as well.

-Encourage programs to have mom/caregiver set goals for both her/himself/family *and* child(ren). Need to have some goals focus on mom/caregiver.

## 6. **Spotlight:** Care Free Medical (Cancelled)

Due to short staff, Danielle was unable to attend the meeting but would like to come for a future meeting.

## 7. **Agency Updates/Announcements**

-CSHCS: Program for siblings of kids with special needs

-CMH: Job Fair April 9<sup>th</sup> 11-7pm @ CMH

-CMH Mental Health Breakfast 3/23

-Opioid Training: 3/9 at ISD ECS

-Family Coalition next Thursday, 3/12 at Family Growth Center

-Baby Fair 4/25 at the Lansing Center

-Davies Project Tours: 4/21, 5/19, 6/4 11:30-12:30pm

230 Bingham St, Lansing

Contact LaSean for more information