

# Ingham Great Start Collaborative Operations Committee Notes

02/11/21  
3:00 – 4:30 pm

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

- I. The 02/11/21 Meeting Agenda and 01/14/21 Meeting Notes were approved as stated.
- II. **Inclusion Activity** – The following questions were asked to cause us to pause and think about the experiences of families with young children. Most Operations members gave a thumbs up for each question asked.
  - Have you ever wondered about financial issues?
  - Wanted to help a family in need, yet weren't sure how to help?
  - Realized you recognize a service provider, yet you don't know their name?
  - Searched online to find a solution for a problem?

### III. Family Engagement, [Family Coalition](#) (FC)

**February Meetings:** Jessica continues to maintain communication with families throughout these past months of being unable to hold in-person meetings. Currently, meeting dates and times are staggered and flexible to meet family schedules. There were seven parents in attendance at the 2/10/21 FC meeting—many from the Stepping Up Together Program. This meeting included great conversation regarding routines and sleeping, and parents shared strategies they have tried. Jessica also shared the Ingham Early Learning Calendar and information regarding preschool.

**Parent Vitality Café Series:** The LLG began hosting this series (virtually) on 1/12/21. Held the first Tuesday of each month from 4:00-5:00 p.m., this series focuses on mental and emotional health and spirituality in a holistic approach, with the goal of supporting self-care during the Pandemic. Two sessions have been held, with four LLG parents in attendance. Contact Effie for additional information [inghamllg@gmail.com](mailto:inghamllg@gmail.com) or 517.918.4729.

#### **Introduction to Protective Factors Framework:**

Jessica co-facilitated this introduction training geared toward childcare providers and parents on 2/10/21. This introduction training was intended for people in the Eastern ECSN area; however, the event was public on [MiRegistry](#), and others from across the State filled many of the slots. Discussion is occurring on how to increase access for Eastern ECSN childcare providers and parents to this training, which is required prior to taking other Protective Factors modules. An additional introduction training is scheduled for 2/23/21. A private MiRegistry link for the modules will be shared with Eastern ECSN providers and parents. Contact: Jessica [InghamGSCPparents@gmail.com](mailto:InghamGSCPparents@gmail.com) or 517.899.4754.

### IV. Plan 02/17/21 GSC Meeting

- **Meeting Length** - Discussion took place and Operations members agreed to extend the virtual meeting length to two (2) hours beginning with the February GSC meeting. Members will be excused early if content does not take the full two hours. GSC members will be informed about this change at the 2/17/21 GSC meeting.
- **Action Agenda Review Process** – Since holding virtual meetings, Outcome groups transitioned to using a one-page summary of notes rather than the Working Action Agenda form to simplify the note-taking process. In addition, all group share-out has been limited with the virtual meeting format. In order to update each Outcome group of other Outcome group's work, a suggestion was made to review the Working Action Agenda periodically. Discussion occurred as to when and how to do this review:

- Outcome group facilitators could use a template to chart Outcome group work at the March Operations Committee meeting; and then share with GSC members at the April GSC meeting.
- The process of the share out at the GSC meeting plans to be discussed at the March Operations meeting.
- **Plan Meeting Agenda**
  - **Inclusion Activity** – Jessica will facilitate.
  - **Family Engagement** – Jessica will report.
  - **Spotlights:**
    - *February – Racial Equity Leaders Cohort:* Dana Watson, LaDawn Caldwell, Karen Hoene, Robin Pizzo, Andrea Ryan to share update and next steps.
    - *March – Home Visit Needs Assessment* (report was recently updated)
    - *Future:* (i.e. Preschool Development Grant, MIKidsMatter, Michigan’s Children/Pritzker; State budget cycle)
  - **Outcome Group Break-Out Questions:**
    - How does racism impact families’ access to services—prenatally through third grade?
    - What progress has been made on Activities since the January GSC meeting?
    - What next steps will Outcome Group members take to make progress on Activities?
  - **GSC and Member Updates:**
    - Lansing School District Kids 4 Kindergarten/ReadyRosie
    - Ingham Early Learning Calendars & Family Literacy Calendar for K-1
  - **Meeting Evaluation Poll** – Discussion included shifting the evaluation poll to a “check in” prior to the Spotlight presentation to gain understanding of the impact of the GSC’s focus on racism the last several months.

## V. Operations Committee Updates

- The creativity and hard work teachers are doing was recognized. Jessica shared the unique strategies involving music her daughter’s teacher is using to increase literacy.
- Jessica has been attending other counties’ parent cafés to get ideas for Ingham.
- ICHD continues to have their primary focus on vaccinations.
- Governor Whitmer released the Executive budget this morning, which includes a 32M increase for GSRP to raise per slot funding to be equivalent for K-12. GSRP has been flat funded since 2014.
- Outcome 3 is focusing on connecting with the faith community regarding Ingham Preschool and ReadyRosie. Wendy plans to share this at the GSRP Admin Council meeting tomorrow.
- Central Resource Center continues to schedule trainings. Two staff are attending the WIDA (support for multi-lingual learners) training opportunity. Infant Toddler conference for 4/17/21 is being planned.

## VI. Review Next Meeting Dates and Times:

- **Operations:**
  - 03/11/21 and 04/08/21 @ 3:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **GSC:**
  - 02/17/21 and 03/17/21 @ 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

## Adjourn

View Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars at [www.InghamGreatStart.org](http://www.InghamGreatStart.org).  
Check out our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart](https://www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart).