

## Ingham Great Start Collaborative

*Our vision: Every child is ready to succeed in school and life.*

Ingham GSC Meeting Notes, March 21, 2018, 1:00 – 3:30 pm

LOCATION: **Grace United Methodist Church - 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing**

### I. Welcome and Working Agreements

Chair: Jessica Baker/Effie Alofoje-Carr    Time Keeper: Fran Jozefowicz

**Present:** Sondos Al-Hachim-Islamic Center, Effie Alofoje-Carr-LLG, Oluakemi Alomo-CACS Head Start, Jessica Baker-Parent Liaison, Karen Batterham-DHHS, Janet Bowen-ICHHD, Wendy Boyce-Ingham ISD, Missy Challiss-ICHHD, Stacia Cramer-DHHS, Kristen Donnelly-IHP/Carehub, Kendra Gibbs-ERESA, Whitney Hoffman-Early Head Start, Emily Jennings-EPO, Fran Jozefowicz-CMH, Laurie Linscott-MSU CDL, Lucy McClintic-CACS Head Start, Michelle Nicholson-Ingham ISD, Stephanie Thelen-Ingham ISD, Dana Watson-ICHHD, Marcy West-Cristo Rey, Jamie Yeomans-Parent

The 3/21/18 Meeting Agenda and 2/21/18 Meeting Notes were approved as stated.

#### **Inclusion Activity - Parent Café Question**

Today's Parent Café question aligns with the Strengthening Families Protective Factor Concrete Support in Times of Need – *“How do you ensure the physical health and well-being of your family?”* Members discussed with elbow partners.

### II. Spotlight – MIBridges Application

Presenters, Stacia Cramer and Karen Batterham, of DHHS shared information regarding the new and improved MIBridges Application and the process to become a Navigation, a Referral, or an Access community partner. The new application is much easier for clients to use due to more streamlined, task-based questions and simplified wording to accommodate all reader levels. The new electronic application will be ready for use beginning 3/26/18 (with a new mobile application currently being developed). The new MIBridges system will allow clients to be better connected to resources, as they can indicate resources needed in their profile and be connected via referral partners and 211. In addition, the roll out of the Universal Case Load is slated for August, and clients will no longer need to call a specific caseworker.

For organizations who would like to become a Navigator partner, a list of training dates and locations is available through [www.Michigan.gov/mibridgespartners](http://www.Michigan.gov/mibridgespartners). Referral and Access partner trainings have occurred through webinars. For questions, contact the MI Bridges Community Partner Liaison at [MDHHScommunitypartners@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHScommunitypartners@michigan.gov). The MI Bridges Community Partner flyer is included at the end of these meeting notes.

### III. Outcome Groups

Outcome group work consisted of discussion the questions below. Members were encouraged to use the blue half sheet of paper to record actions they committed to take between now and the April GSC meeting. Members were also encouraged to take the

blue half sheet as a reminder of actions, which were also recorded on the Outcome group notes. Outcome Group notes can be found on the GSC website at <http://inghamgreatstart.org/gsc-birth-to-five-meeting-agendas-and-minutes/>. Members discussed the following items in Outcome Groups.

- A. How does the Spotlight align with the Outcome group's activities?
- B. Report on the actions you committed to take at the February GSC meeting.
- C. What other progress has occurred since the February GSC meeting?
- D. Record new actions you are committing to work on between now and the April GSC meeting on your half sheet (also record on flip chart paper).

#### IV. Outcome Group Share-Out

Members rotated from group to group to hear progress made and next steps.

#### V. General Updates/ Meeting Evaluation

- **3/24/18** – [WKAR Family Fun Day with Julia from Sesame Street](#) will be held at WKAR on MSU's campus from 1:00-4:00pm. This event is free of charge and provides a supportive, welcoming environment for those with development disabilities and sensory processing disorders.
- **4/22/18** – [Greater Lansing Baby Fair](#) will be held at the Lansing Center from 11am-4pm. A variety of demonstrations and exhibit booths will be available. Great Start Family Coalition will be in attendance, and plans to host a Parent Café.
- **4/27/18** – **YouTHRIVE Teen Parent Summit** will be held at [Lansing Community College West Campus](#) from 9:30am – 3:00pm. Free, statewide conference for teen parents. Transportation is available. Register at [BIT.LY/YOUTHTRIVE2018](http://BIT.LY/YOUTHTRIVE2018). Contact [Kendra Gibbs](#) for more information.
- **MI Bridges Training Schedule** – [Training dates/locations](#) for community partners to become *Navigators* can be found at [MDHHScommunitypartners@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHScommunitypartners@michigan.gov). The next (local) training is scheduled for 4/25/18 in Lansing. Additional information regarding becoming Referral/Access Partners can also be found at [MDHHScommunitypartners@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHScommunitypartners@michigan.gov), or by contacting Stacia Cramer (MDHHS Supervisor) at [CramerS@michigan.gov](mailto:CramerS@michigan.gov) or at 517/887-9502.
- Success story! - Through her GSC parent experience, Jamie Yeomans shared how she was able to convey to her daughter the impact of "telling her story" in advocacy. Jamie's daughter recently expressed concern over the issue of school shootings/school safety, and Jamie encouraged her to write a letter/share her story with her legislator, which she did!

**The next GSC meeting is scheduled for 4/18/18  
from 1:00 – 3:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church.**

Visit the Ingham GSC website at [www.InghamGreatStart.org](http://www.InghamGreatStart.org) for Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars, Ingham Early Childhood Action Agenda, and more.  
Check out our Facebook Page at <http://www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart>

# Become a MI Bridges Community Partner!



Community Partners are an essential part of the success of MI Bridges. There are 3 options to engage with MDHHS and Michigan residents – you can choose to partner with MDHHS in multiple ways!

## Navigation Partner



An agency that agrees to promote MI Bridges by displaying promotional materials and providing one-on-one assistance to MI Bridges users. The assistance provided may vary from simply answering user questions to helping them complete a needs survey, finding local resources, or applying online for a MDHHS benefit program.

## Referral Partner



An agency that agrees to receive referrals sent from customers using MI Bridges. When a client would like to use a resource offered by a Referral Partner, the partner organization receives an electronic referral on their MI Bridges dashboard and can contact the client to provide services.

## Access Partner



An agency that agrees to promote MI Bridges by displaying promotional materials and providing a computer(s), tablet(s) or mobile device(s) for individuals to use MI Bridges.



Interested In Becoming a Partner?  
Click [here](#) to register your agency.

# There are Many Benefits to Becoming a MI Bridges Community Partner...



**MI Bridges has many new features specifically designed for partners. If you register as a partner, you can:**

- ✓ Receive a user account for every person in your agency who uses MI Bridges, and be able to manage users directly in MI Bridges.
- ✓ Access a directory of clients to whom you provide one-on-one assistance. If the client consents, you can view key case information, including:
  - Contact information
  - Household members
  - Resources they have identified as helpful
  - Letters sent from MDHHS for the previous 12 months
  - Important benefit information (benefit amounts, renewal dates, and much more!)
- ✓ Electronically receive referrals sent from clients through MI Bridges.
- ✓ Receive the latest information about changes and upgrades being made to MI Bridges first – through email bulletins and webinars.
- ✓ Access to MI Bridges promotional materials.
- ✓ Receive specialized training on how to use MI Bridges for every user in your agency.
- ✓ Receive phone support and technical assistance from the MI Bridges Help Desk.

**MI Bridges**

For more information visit our website at  
[www.michigan.gov/mibridgespartners](http://www.michigan.gov/mibridgespartners)