

Ingham Great Start Collaborative

Meeting Notes

2/20/19

1:00 – 3:30 pm

- I. Present:** Effie Alofoje-Carr-Ingham LLG, Jessica Baker-Parent Liaison, Wendy Boyce-Ingham ISD/GSC, Michele Brock-MSU Kinship Care Resource Center, Lisa Chambers-ICHHD, Emmanuel Chima-MSU Kinship Care Resource Center, Kae Dubay-Parent, Mari Garza-CADL, Debbie Jones-55th District Court, Emily Mayer-ICHHD, Lucy McClintic-CACS Head Start, Corrie Mervyn-Ingham ISD GSRP, Barb Monroe–Central Resource Center, Michelle Nicholson-Ingham ISD/GSC, Theresa Pittington-Cristo Rey, Amy Romback-Parent/Macaroni Kid, Allison Richmond-Impression 5, Erkia Smith-MDHHS, Stephanie Thelen-Ingham ISD, Cassie Veselovsky-CADL, Kathy Vogel-CEI CMH, Dana Watson-Strong Start Healthy Start, Francine Watts-Kinship Care, Mary Jo Wegenke-Ingham ISD, Jamie Yeomans-Parent

Chair: Corrie Mervyn

Time Keeper: Barb Monroe

- II.** The 02/20/19 Meeting Agenda and the 12/19/18 Meeting Notes were approved as stated. (The January meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions.)

III. Inclusion Activity – Parent Café Question

Today's Parent Café question was *"What resources in your community have supported you in your role as a parent or caregiver?"* Members discussed with elbow partners.

IV. Family Coalition Update

Planning for a March Parent Café is underway with discussion regarding literacy included. The Family Coalition has two meetings scheduled in March (3/7/19 and 3/28/19). Books continue to be distributed at meetings.

V. Spotlight – Outcome 2 Panel Presentation on Kinship Care

Michele Brock, director of Community Engagement at MSU School of Social Work, and Francine Watts, coordinator of Kinship Care at Bethlehem Lutheran Church shared their knowledge of kinship care through their organizations and personal experience. The presentation provided an overview of kinship care, current trends, the challenges and needs of families who provide and receive kinship resources and how we, as a GSC, can help families. More information

regarding today's presentation can be found on the [Ingham Great Start Collaborative](#) website.

VI. Outcome Groups

Members met in Outcome groups to review progress and discuss next steps between now and the March GSC meeting. Members rotated to each group to review work from today's meeting. Outcome group notes can be found on the [Ingham GSC website](#)

VII. General Updates

Early Childhood Support Network (ECSN) Grant – Michigan was recently restructured into four Office of Great Start regions—UP & Northern Lower Peninsula, Eastern, Southeastern, and Western, with the opportunity for regional entities to apply for the lead role in the region. The restructuring will allow for the ability to meet regional needs. Ingham County is included in the *Eastern Region* of this new structure which includes 18 counties with 15 GSCs and 2 Resource Centers. Ingham ISD will partner with CCRESA Office of Innovative Projects to apply as the lead for this multi-year grant. Ingham ISD would function as the lead fiduciary to monitor Resource Center contracts for the Eastern Region, while CCRESA will oversee the training and technical assistance role for Resource Centers, GSCs and Family Coalitions. Contracts with Resource Centers will continue with ECIC through September 2019. The Great Start to Quality system is also up for bid. ECSN grant application deadline is 2/22/19, with grants awarded by 5/17/19, and grant implementation will begin on 7/1/19. More information will be shared with GSC throughout this process.

CAUW Collaborative Funding Grant – Ingham GSC received an invitation to move forward with the full application. The focus is literacy (“Engaging Families in Early Literacy” or EFEL.) Ingham GSC grant partners will be WKAR, South Lansing Ministries, the Islamic Society of Greater Lansing, and Refugee Development Center. Five additional Collaboratives, with twenty-two partner organizations, were also invited to apply. The funding amount of this grant is approximately \$280,000. The Application deadline is March 18, 2019; award notifications are expected May 31, 2019, with fund dispersal beginning mid-July.

2/21/19 Diaper Program – 4:00 pm at ICHD; families with Medicaid or WIC will receive 1 pack of diapers/adult (3rd trimester pregnancies included). RSVP to Dana Watson (voicemail or text *in advance*) 517.512.3074.

2/21/19 Capital Area Network for Early Years (CANEY) Meeting – 12:00-1:30 p.m. at 838 Louisa Street, Lansing. Topic is chiropractic medicine for infants and toddlers and how it is used to address trauma.

2/22/19 Health and Safety Training – LLG is hosting a free training on household pests (bed bugs, lice, etc.). [Register now](#).

3/17/19 Early Childhood Literacy Coalition – [Free literacy event](#) at 1:00 p.m., Hannah Community Center in East Lansing. The Coalition includes GSCs from the Tri-County area, Head Start, WKAR, and local libraries. A Read By Grade 3 table is planned.

4/14/19 Lansing Baby Fair – This free event is for expectant parents. Families have an opportunity to learn about healthy habits and nutrition, car seat safety, preschool, the importance of literacy, etc. Activities will be available for young children.

WKAR Interstitials – Previews of the interstitials, focused on *“Ingham Early Learning”* and *“Ingham Family Literacy for K-1”* Calendars, were shared. Interstitials will air soon on [PBS Kids 24/7](#) and [WKAR PBS Kid’s](#) programming.

VIII. Adjournment

The next GSC meeting is scheduled for 3/20/19, from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. at Ingham ISD Early Childhood Services.

View Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars at www.InghamGreatStart.org.

Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart