

Ingham Great Start Collaborative

Operations Committee Notes

10/07/21

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Jessica Baker, Wendy Boyce, Lisa Chambers, Kae Dubay, Corrie Mervyn, Rebecca Meszaros, Barb Monroe, Michelle Nicholson, Stephanie Thelen

- I. The 10/07/21 Meeting Agenda and 09/02/21 Meeting Notes were approved as stated.
Welcome to Rebecca Meszaros who has agreed to join Operations and facilitate Outcome 2 and Kae Dubay as she transitions into the role as LLG Coordinator.
- II. **Inclusion Activity** – Social Emotional Competence of Children *“Why are some children bullies and what can you do about it as a parent or as an advocate?”*
 - There is no such thing as a bad child; and there is generally a reason for the behavior.
 - Low self-esteem or seeking attention
 - Used as a defense mechanism
 - A way of having control
 - A way to fit in with peers (possibly due to different parenting styles or being the new kid).
 - Learned at a past Home Visitor conference about the “mean girl” philosophy, which can begin as young as 3 years of age, and how children may not like someone because of their shoes, differences, etc.
 - If the behavior is reinforced, it may continue.
- III. **Family Engagement, [Family Coalition](#) (FC)**
 - Family Coalition meetings resumed virtually on 9/21/21 at 5:00-6:00 pm and 9/23/21 at 6:00-7:00 pm. Discussion included back to school, self-care, and getting back to normalcy. Meetings will continue virtually via Zoom with topics shared in advance. Please share with families you serve and consider attending a FC meeting with them.
 - Parent Vitality Cafés are underway meeting on the first Tuesday of each month via Zoom. Recent discussion included a four-part series on personalities and how to communicate with your child (i.e., the shy child, outgoing or extraverted child, the focused child, and the determined child). Future meetings are scheduled for 11/2/21 and 12/7/21 from 4:30-5:30 pm.
- IV. **Incorporating Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) at GSC Meetings**

Per discussion at the September Operations meeting, DEI work is happening in Outcome 2 and with a group of staff at Ingham ISD. The goal is ongoing conversations and education as people are at various stages of learning. At Ingham ISD, DEI work is part of the Strategic Plan and begins with discussion on implicit bias and two required virtual trainings due by December 2021. In addition, Pritzker grant policy group recommendations included all individuals working in early childhood to have implicit bias training.

One suggestion was to use the [Kirwin Institute Implicit Bias Training Modules](#) (Ingham ISD is using these), which includes a series of modules and video clips. Partners shared what is currently happening in their organizations:

 - ICHD Commissioners mandated DEI training for all County employees.
 - MDHHS mandated 2 trainings on implicit bias and systemic racism (done virtually at your own pace), followed by the opportunity to meet with trainers for additional conversation. The State is taking the DEI work very seriously and has a DEI Office.
 - Ingham Racial Equity Leaders Cohort members are working towards creating and offering training through MiRegistry. More information to follow when available.

After much discussion, Operations Committee agreed upon the following process for the GSC meeting:

- In lieu of Strengthening Families inclusion questions, the Introduction Video to the Implicit Bias Module Series will be shared. Sharing the video prior to Outcome groups provides the opportunity to further the discussion within outcome groups.
- Include Outcome group questions regarding incorporating DEI work into GSC meetings, which might include involving a person from each Outcome group in the planning:
 - Thinking about the inclusion activity and the proposal of incorporating DEI activities in our meetings, what are your thoughts and interests; who might help to organize this work (should we invite other members to the table); and how does this work connect to our Outcome group?
- There needs to be a continued focus of moving beyond awareness to changing practices (i.e., how to put into practice the [DEI statement](#) on the website).
- Members will discuss in Outcome groups and can express interest in participating in the planning by emailing InghamGSC@gmail.com. Follow up with an email so members can respond as they are comfortable.

V. Plan 10/13/21 GSC Meeting Agenda

- Inclusion Activity – Introduction/Segway into the DEI work instead of Strengthening Family question, at least for the October GSC meeting.
- Family Engagement – Jessica to report family engagement at the end of the meeting with other updates.
- *October Spotlight* – WIC, Tracy Bolton, Breastfeeding Coordinator (what is WIC; utilization by age groups; are there gaps; recent formula changes; what are the utilization numbers at the local level (drop off at age 2 across the state, while ICHD is seeing an increase in numbers due to virtual visits.)
- *Future Spotlights*:
 - Michigan Learning Channel
 - [MIKidsMatter](#)
 - Michigan's Children/Pritzker/Think Babies Michigan
 - CMH – Childcare expulsion prevention
- Questions for Outcome Group Break Out Rooms
 - Thinking about the inclusion activity and the proposal of incorporating DEI activities in our meetings, what are your thoughts and interests; who might help to organize this work (should we invite other members to the table); and how does this work connect to our Outcome group?
 - How does the spotlight align with your Outcome group?
 - What progress has been made on Activities since the September GSC meeting?
 - What are next steps to take on Activities by the November GSC meeting?
- Updates
- Meeting Evaluation
 - Reviewed the results from the September GSC meeting using the six Rs. Noted *Results* and *Relationships* scored highest.
 - October Evaluation: Suggested a question regarding incorporating DEI into GSC meetings so members could respond anonymously (i.e., Yes, I am really excited to incorporate the DEI work; I think it's a great idea, but I'm uneasy or nervous about it; No, I'm really uneasy about moving forward with this).

VI. Operations Committee Updates

- **Literacy Hub Grant** – Still awaiting a formal confirmation of receiving this grant for Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties to provide literacy workshops to focused populations:
 - Ingham County - Children ages 3 years or under with low socio-economic and not yet connected to services;
 - Eaton County – Maple Valley and Pottersville due to limited access to programming;
 - Clinton County – WIC-eligible families

Grant activities include expanding access to ReadyRosie and using trusted messengers to facilitate a model of the Scholastic Engaging Families in Children's Literacy Development, modeled after the EFEL Literacy Workshops. Corrie is working on logistics. Implementation was scheduled to begin in September with \$60,000 expensed by December; however, unobligated funds may be used for year two of grant.

- **GSRP** – Working to increase capacity through new classrooms with existing partners or adding more slots to classrooms with the expansion of slots due to added federal monies. Corrie is searching for new community-based partners to take on GSRP; however, multiple barriers exist including the staffing shortage and multiple views on family comfort in sending children back to school (if preschool is not required). In addition, the grant requires enrollment by the February count date to receive funding. Great Start to Quality and the ISD will work together to discuss potential community-based partners for GSRP.
- **Great Start Data Set** – Annually, data is compiled by [MLPP](#) to include [Kids Count](#), [MI School Data](#), and other data related to the four Outcomes. Updated data will be posted to the GSC website. The entire [2021-22 Great Start Data Set](#) can be accessed using the password ECSN2021.
 - Data from 2020 indicates immunizations dropped significantly; Special Education birth-5 and Early On, Statewide, dropped significantly (but not locally); GSRP enrollment dropped across the State; abuse/neglect dropped; however, is this due to kiddos not in someone else's care (i.e., teacher, provider)?
 - Adequate prenatal healthcare data shows a trend in a negative direction—with fewer woman receiving no or late and less than adequate prenatal healthcare in 2019 than in 2018.
- **ICHD** - Flu shots and Covid boosters are available.
- **MDHHS**
 - **Food Stamp Amount Increase** - Beginning in October; and funds for assistance with evictions or utilities (including internet).
 - **Lobby** – Open for very limited services. Encourage people to use [MiBridges](#) to upload documents. USPS mail is expected to slow. Drop off is available in front of Door 4.
 - **Pandemic EBT** – Continues for age 3 through 12th grade to anyone who qualifies for free/reduced lunch for benefits on days their child is not at school (due to Covid). MDE and MDHHS are working on how to report.
- **Afghanistan families** – More arrivals are expected soon. Could be an opportunity for a future Spotlight in thinking about how best to support these families.

VII. Review Next Meeting Dates and Times

- GSC Meeting: 10/13/21 at 12:30 pm
- Operations Committee meeting: 11/4/21 at 1:00 pm

Adjourn

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

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