

# Ingham Great Start Collaborative

## Meeting Notes

02/09/22

12:30 – 2:30 pm

**Present:** Jessica Baker-Parent Liaison, Quintin Baptiste-ICHHD Strong Start Healthy Start, Erika Brown-Binion-Refugee Development Center, Lisa Chambers-ICHHD Family Outreach Services, Carrie Chance-CACS Head Start, Breena Cutter-ICHHD Lead Program, Kae Dubay-LLG Coordinator/LICC Parent Rep, Alex Gaitan-Flores-Ingham ISD Early On, Lili Gloe-MSU Psych Clinic, Judi Harris-St. Vincent Catholic Charities, Latavia Kangethe-ICHHD, Terry Loynes-MSU Kinship Care, Tianna Leon-ICHHD Strong Start Healthy Start, Sarah Martin-Central Resource Center, Robin Melay-Pizzo-WKAR, Corrie Mervyn-Ingham ISD GSRP, Rebecca Meszaros-MDHHS, Barb Monroe-Central Resource Center, Travis Neller-Ingham ISD/GSC Co-Coordinator, Michelle Nicholson-Ingham ISD/GSC Co-Coordinator, Kristen Osterhouse-Central Resource Center, Andrea Ryan-Stepping Up Together, Holly Smego-ICHHD Lead Program, Stephanie Thelen-Ingham ISD, Jasmine Tucker-LLG Parent, Dana Watson-ICHHD Maternal Child Health, Jamie Yeomans-Parent/Ingham ISD Early On

**Welcome, Introductions & Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Activity – History of Racial Power in Early Childhood** (Planning Team Members: Michelle Nicholson, Dana Watson, Tianna Leon, Rebecca Meszaros, and Andrea Ryan) In small groups, GSC members discussed the article [“Undervalued A Brief History of Women’s Care Work and Child Care Policy in the United States.”](#) Today’s definition, Xenophobia (the intense or irrational dislike or fear of people from other countries/recent immigrants) was shared and discussed.

### II. Spotlight

Refugee Services Director St. Vincent Catholic Charities, Judi Harris, shared the agency has resettled an estimated 16,840 refugee families over the past 45 years. Judi explained various services provided to families, along with the emergent needs of recent Afghan evacuees who began arriving in Michigan in September. View [today’s presentation](#) or contact [Judi](#) for more information.

Executive Director of Refugee Development Center, Erika Brown-Binion, shared the purpose of the RDC is to fill gaps in services for families by offering support in literacy, personal development and advancement, crisis intervention, basic needs, community outreach, and cross-sectional collaboration. View [today’s presentation](#) or contact [Ericka](#) for more information.

### III. Outcome Group Break-Out Questions – [Ingham GSC website](#)

- What successes/challenges has your organization experienced with refugees?
- What progress has been made on Activities since the January GSC meeting?
- What are next steps to take on Activities by the March GSC meeting?

### IV. Updates

- **[Family Coalition \(FC\) Meetings](#)** – All are welcome to attend via Zoom. The meeting link can be found on the [Family Coalition flyer](#). Schedule follows:

**02/21/22 @ 6:00-7:00 pm**

**02/24/22 @ 10:30-11:30 am or 6:00-7:00 pm**

Topic: Take Care of Yourself! Your Mental Health Matters!

**03/21/22 @ 6:00-7:00 pm**

**03/24/22 @ 10:30-11:30 or 6:00-7:00 pm**

Topic: Keep Calm and Read On! Supporting Your Child’s Reading at Home and Beyond

**04/18/22 @ 6:00-7:00 pm**

**04/21/22 @ 10:30-11:30 am or 6:00-7:00 pm**

Topic: Let’s Talk It Out! Effective Parent and Child

- [Parent Vitality Café Meetings](#) – All are welcome to attend via Zoom.  
3/1/22 @ 4:30 – 5:30 pm  
Topic: Conversation to promote well-being and health
- **WKAR is offering reading kits** to foster families and women/children shelters. Please contact Robin Pizzo at [robin@wkar.org](mailto:robin@wkar.org) if you know of someone who would benefit.
- **Great Start to Quality Central Resource Center** – Please contact Barb Monroe (517-336-3785) if you need assistance getting access to or set up with [MiRegistry](#).

#### V. Evaluation Activity

- Regarding the Spotlight discussion on refugees:  
I learned new information about services and supports = **89%**  
I learned about access issues for new arrivals = **63%**  
I am interested in attending the Power of We meeting on 2/18/22 to learn more = **53%**  
I would like my organization to receive more information about support for refugees = **37%**

#### VI. Adjournment & Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 @ 12:30 – 2:30pm.

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)