

Ingham Great Start Collaborative Meeting Notes

06/08/22

12:30 – 2:30 pm

Present: Sondos Al-Hachim-Parent, Jessica Baker-Parent Liaison, Quinten Baptiste-ICHHD/Strong Start Healthy Start, Sandee Donald-Ingham ISD, Alex Gaitan-Flores-Ingham ISD/Early On, Anne Hughes-CMH, Marisela Garza-CADL, Laurie Linscott-MSU CDL, 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, Stephanie Thelen-Ingham ISD, Marney Turner-Lansing School District, Dana Watson-ICHHD

Welcome and Mingle: The first in-person GSC meeting (since February 2020) was held today at Hawk Island Park. Members shared what they like best about summer: swimming, hiking, Hocking Hills, sailing, the CADL Summer Reading Challenge, butterflies, hot weather, roses, dunes, BBQs, kayaking, traveling, being outside, feeding the birds, and family.

- I. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Activity:** Presented by DEI Committee member Rebecca Meszaros. World Refugee Day, recognized annually on June 20, is an international day for honoring refugees across the world by celebrating the strength, courage, and resilience of those who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. Vocabulary words discussed:
- **Refugees** – People who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion” have left their country of origin and are unable to return for fear of their safety. *Article 1, 1951 Refugee Convention*
 - **Asylees** – An alien in the United States or at a port of entry who is unable or unwilling to return to his/her country of nationality, or to seek the protection of that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution. Persecution or the fear thereof must be based on religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.
 - **Immigrant** – Leaving their country of origin at their own choosing; seeking to become a lawful permanent resident; oftentimes leaving their country of origin to attend college or start a business; joining family already living in the US.
 - **Migrant** – An economic migrant is different from a refugee or asylum seeker, as someone who leaves his/her country of origin purely for financial or economic reasons. Economic migrants those to move to find a better life and they do not flee due to persecution.
 - **New US American** – Includes immigrants, refugees, and their children. Recognizes that newcomer families can both treasure their cultural backgrounds, while also learning from and contributing to their new US communities. Serves to recognize the sacrifice and contribution of first and second-generation immigrants to the US and their own heritage. Seeks to cloud the difference between the aforementioned categories because they are not so easily defined when talking about the breadth of the human experience. Coming to the US always involves loss, the promise of a dream, and the willingness to take a leap towards opportunity. The term aims to capture this breadth of experience. *Immigrant & Refugee Resource Collaborative*

II. Spotlight: Co-Parenting, Fatherhood Facilitator at ICHD, Quintin Baptiste

This Program promotes healthy co-parenting strategies for parents who are divorced, separated, unmarried, or no longer living under one roof. Strategies include a willingness to be there for the child(ren), respecting one another, setting boundaries, and communication. For more information, contact Quintin at qbaptiste@ingham.org or 517.272.4110 / 517.242.8307. Today's presentation can be found on the [GSC website](#).

III. Outcome Group Break-Out Questions:

1. How does the Spotlight align with your Outcome group?
2. What progress has been made since the May GSC meeting?
3. What next steps will you take between now and the July GSC meeting?

IV. Updates:

- **Family Coalition (FC) Meetings** – No FC meetings will be held June, July, August. The September FC meeting will include an introduction and orientation to the GSC. A flyer for the September meeting is forthcoming.
- Jessica is working with Clinton/Eaton in planning community events.
- Lansing School District Community Learning Center (Marney Turner) is working on education workshops.
- Training has begun for Literacy Instruction. Contact Corrie Mervyn cmervyn@inghamisd.org for more information:
 - *Essential Instructional Practices in Language and Emergent Literacy: Birth to Age 3 Training of Trainers*
August 15-17, 2022, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Crowne Plaza, Lansing
October 4-6, 2022, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City
 - *Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy: Prekindergarten Training of Trainers*
October 17-19, 2022, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. CMU Marriott, Mt. Pleasant
November 17-18, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Comfort Inn & Suites, Mt. Pleasant
- **WKAR Family Pop Up Tour begins June 2-August 13** in 32 locations throughout Mid-Michigan. Literacy guides, books, and stem activities will be shared. Subscribe to WKAR newsletter to keep informed of events.
- **WKAR Century of Service** plans are underway for August 2022.
- **Racial Equity Leaders Cohort** to provide workshops through [MiRegistry](#) in June and November. Providers can earn continuing education credits. Flyer forthcoming.

V. Adjournment & Next Meeting Date: July 13, 2022 @ 12:30 – 2:30pm. Meeting to be virtual.

View Agendas, Minutes, Meeting Calendars at www.InghamGreatStart.org
Check out our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/InghamGreatStart