

Ingham Great Start Collaborative Meeting Notes

09/14/22

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Present: Sondos Al-Hachim-Parent, Jessica Baker-Parent Liaison, Emily Brewer-Ingham ISD Early On, Lisa Chambers-ICHHD, Natalie DeVolder-MSU Kinship Care, Kae Dubay-LLG, Alex Gaitan-Flores-Ingham ISD Early On, Marisela Garza-CADL, Sarah Martin-Central Resource Center, Robin Melay-Pizzo-WKAR, Corrie Mervyn-Ingham ISD/GSRP, Rebecca Meszaros-MDHHS, Travis Neller-Ingham ISD/GSC, Theresa Pittington-Cristo Rey, Stephanie Thelen-Ingham ISD, Jasmine Tucker-LLG/Parent

Welcome and DEI Inclusion Activity

Members met in breakout rooms to discuss parent challenges, specifically for a single parent family working 8-5, with no transportation, no high school diploma, and an income slightly over the free GSRP threshold. Discussion feedback included ways to support this family through various community resources (i.e., adult ed programs; MHDDS, universal preschool; playgroups; library; EFEL literacy workshops; Davies Project for transportation needs, etc.)

I. 32p/32p(4) Budget Sharing

With cuts in funding, the budget is very lean and covers staffing; coordination; the GSC website; parent honorariums; and some Great Parents Great Start Home Visiting services.

- *Question:* Where were budget cuts made this year? FY23 Budget amount is \$237,562.
 - *Answer:* We look at what is needed to support parents when adjusting the budget. Cuts were made to conferences, travel, and dues. Meeting costs are down due to mostly virtual meetings.

II. Spotlight/Responsibility Early On (EO) Program with Emily Brewer

The GSC serves as the local Advisory Board for the Early On Program. Over the past year, EO received 1380 referrals; 980 families served; 8334 home visits. Data shows a steady increase in referrals over the years (exception during the Pandemic). EO staff averages four visits daily—a lot considering travel time and paperwork. Two levels of service include Part C and Special Education for children ages birth to their third birthday.

The majority of program costs fund three staff, and two are partially funded. Remaining staff is billed back to local school districts. Costs are approximately \$3,000/child to run the EO Program. The 54D funding has seen an increase in the budget for the EO Program. The budget allocation for this year is \$320,263.00—a \$4,000 increase which will be used for mileage.

- *Question:* How many visits are given for both Part C or Special Education?
 - *Answer:* The coaching approach/philosophy is used to provide families strategies to work with their children to stimulate growth and development and depends upon the individual child's development and how the family feels about it.
- *Question:* The past Childcare Stabilization Grant showed providers received additional funding if they were supporting EO children. How does that provider know this and is there a connection between providers and EO?
 - *Answer:* Serving children within their natural environment allows EO to go to that provider and coach both the provider and family. Most childcare providers are aware of EO services and help their families make referrals.
- *Question:* How do first-time parents find out about EO?
 - *Answer:* Ingham County data tells us we should identify "x" percentage of children. We track referrals (through Sparrow NICU, pediatricians, Early Head Start, CPS/MDHHS) and outreach to all of these programs.
- *Question:* Is there data on attitudes of apprehension for EO services in various types of communities (BIPOC, Immigrant populations)?

- *Answer:* Recently began gathering data and can pull by zip code and school district to find large chunks of families who are not able to be contacted, and we would love to know why. We do know some families find it awkward having EO staff in their homes; physicians sometimes want to wait for the child to catch up developmentally; and there is still stigma associated with these programs.

III. Outcome Group Break-Out Work:

Members worked in their respective Outcome groups to discuss and report the following. So many successes are to be celebrated and can be found on the Ingham GSC website.

1. How the Early On Program relates to their Outcome Group Activities;
2. For FY23, what data has your Outcome Group reviewed (not specific numbers); and
3. What next steps is your Outcome Group planning?

IV. Updates:

[Parent and Family Coalition \(PC\)](#) Orientations were held recently; FY23 meetings will be held the second Wednesday of the month; mostly virtual with quarterly in-person meetings if possible; meeting duration is one hour; with both morning and evening options. The PC looks forward to partnering with WIC families this year.

- Long-time family advocate, Ms. Francine Watts, passed away on Monday and will be greatly missed as she assisted so many families in raising children and grandchildren over the years.
- ICHD New Hires: Wendy McBride is the Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) Supervisor (replacing Missy Challis) and Katie Weller is the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) Supervisor (replacing Celeste Davison).
- Two people trained for Birth-3, and two people being trained for PreK Literacy Essentials. Looking forward to connecting to deliver training and supporting providers.

V. **Evaluation Word Cloud Question:** *“Share what words describe how you are feeling about the FY22/23 Year.”* Member feedback includes excited, hopeful, nervous, tired, energized, ready, anxious, promising, curious, overwhelmed, motivated.

VI. **Adjournment & Next Meeting Date:** October 12, 2022 @ 1:00-3:00 p.m., *in-person*, at ICHD, Conference Room D/E

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