

Local Leadership Group Notes

April 6, 2022

1:00pm-2:30pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82777347565?pwd=ZWQ1VG1DRXN0bHV2L3JOL3dsMGpVQT09>

Present: Michelle Nicholson, Beth Walker, Rashmi Travis, Michelle Sabo, Rebecca Meszaros, Deanna Curry, Chelsea Cole, Lisa Chambers, Kristy Rappe, Jasmine Tucker, Jessica Baker, Regine Cherry, Tianna Leon, LaSean Thompson, Aaliyah Foreman, Kae Dubay, Amber Irrer, Travis Neller, Holly Smego, Breena Cutter, Becky Carter

1. Welcome/Introductions

If money was NOT an issue, what would be your dream vacation?

2. March Meeting Recap

March notes were reviewed and approved. Kristy Rappe 1st, Rashmi Travis 2nd

3. Great Parents Great Start

-Received 2 more referrals for the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA).

-Registration for Playgroups are open to the public and available on the GSC website via Sign-Up Genius. Spring Playgroups will run 4/11-5/27. Summer registration will follow the conclusion of the spring groups.

-Playgroup link: <https://www.inghamisd.org/ouracademics/earlychildhoodservices/gpgs/inghamplaygroupschedule/>

4. Home Visiting Sustainability Work & CQI Updates

Parent Panel May 18th @ 1pm

-Ingham determined that a valuable aspect of the LLG is hearing the Parent Voice. In the event that there is no longer funding to continue the LLG meetings/structure, we will offer an Annual Parent Panel that is supported by the home visiting programs/community partners to maintain the parent voice.

-The 2022 Parent Panel is scheduled for May 18th at 1pm. It will be a virtual event. The focus of this year's panel will be successes/challenges of virtual/hybrid/in-person home visiting. **In order to host this event, we need to get parents from the home visiting programs to be panel participants.** Our goal is to have representation from each home visiting program in Ingham. Parents from every home visiting program will be supported for their time preparing for and participating on the panel.

5. National Home Visiting Discussion Questions

Regine is part of a National Home Visiting Workgroup and brought some questions from that group to the LLG for feedback/input.

What has been your racial equity learning journey? What have been the sticking points?

-Understanding that patience is needed, especially when trying to assist families that have language/cultural barriers. Need to have patience to determine/ensure that families are receiving the supports and services that meet their needs.

-Need to make connections to providers that have had DEI training to help expand the training of staff and support the families they serve.

What resources have you found to be helpful?

-Kirwan Institute: <http://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/implicit-bias-training/>

-Safe Space Collaboration: <https://www.safespacecollaboration.com/>

What is one thing you have done in the last month to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging? How does that relate to home visiting?

- The ISD has been participating in 30-minute DEI trainings at the start of staff meetings. The GSC has also used a portion of each meeting to focus on DEI.
- Understand the family and their culture to determine their needs and how to deliver the appropriate services.
- MDHHS did a lunch and learn on Ramadan
- Connections to refugee trainings to support the new families arriving here.

6. Parent Voice

How do/did you share and receive resources with others?

- Parent #1: I immediately shared resources with the Davies Project and families in the community. I also shared information from the Davies Project with my home visitor.
 - Home Visitor: We received LOTS of information from this parent that we then shared with our other families.
- Parent #2: I often shared experience stories with families to help promote/encourage families to enroll in services. I would also share information with the families at preschool.
- Parent #3: I originally did not understand the importance of sharing information with other families and the community. I now understand how important it is and share lots of information and will follow-up with families to try to encourage them to enroll in services.
- Parent #4: I learned about EHS from a friend who was enrolled. It took a bit for me to fully understand that home visiting is so much more than just teaching you about raising your child. There are so many additional supports that go beyond that one aspect. Now I share my experience and information with others.

7. Spotlight

Holly Smego & Breena Cutter, Child Lead Program ICHD

- It's really important, now more than ever, to get information about lead into the community. Due to the pandemic, many people were not able to be tested and the lead testing kits had been recalled and were not available for a period of time.
- Lead is a naturally occurring element found in the earth's crust. It can be found in air, soil, water and in our homes.
- Lead is toxic to humans
- The main sources of lead include:
 - Paint in home built prior to 1978
 - Soil in yards/playgrounds
 - Lead pipes/water lines
- The most common source of lead exposure in Ingham County is dust caused by lead paint from opening windows/doors with lead paint and paint chips flaking off.
- Exposure to lead can happen through ingestion such as swallowing paint chips, chewing toys/painted surfaces and/or putting hands in mouth. Lead exposure can also occur through inhalation such as breathing in contaminated air and dust.
- Children are more vulnerable to lead exposure than adults. Children frequently have their hands in their mouths, digest 4-5 times more lead than adults, and have higher iron deficiencies which makes lead more available to enter the body.
- Elevated Blood Lead Level has been changed from 10 to 5 to 4.5 and most recently, to 3.5. It is recognized that lead is toxic and damaging. There is no safe lead level.

- There are 2 methods to screen for lead: capillary (fingerstick) and venous draw (blood draw from vein).
- Medicaid requires* all children to be tested at 12 and 24 months. Children between 36-72 months that have not been tested are required* to be tested minimally once.
 - *Although this is a requirement, children slip through the cracks and are not tested.
- Symptoms of lead poisoning:
 - Slow growth/development
 - Weight loss
 - Damage to hearing/speech
 - Irritability
 - Fatigue/hyperactivity
 - abdominal pain/vomiting
- Lead can be passed from mother to baby during pregnancy
- Lead poisoning can cause lower IQ
- Screening events are available in the community
- Contact Holly or Breena for more information:
 - Holly Smego: hsmego@ingham.org or 517-998-4322
 - Breena Cutter: bcutter@ingham.org or 517-887-4479

8. Updates and Announcements

- Health Department is moving back to in-person home visits at the end of the month. Who else is making this transition?
 - GPGS/*Early On* have been doing in-person visits but have maintained virtual visits when requested. The virtual visit options have reduced missed visits due to illness etc. so the virtual option will likely continue.
 - EHS is also doing both and has also seen a decrease in missed visits with the virtual option.
- There is a survey from Michigan Moonshot that is collecting information about broadband access in Ingham County. The census did not accurately collect this information. It is ideal for families to complete the survey from their home so the type of broadband can be determined. This is the link for the survey: <http://MichiganMoonshot.org/Ingham>
- Strong Start Healthy Start is looking for a coordinator for the Infant Mortality Coalition. This is the link to the posting: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ingham/jobs/3388560/temporary-project-specialist-community-action-network-can-coordinator>

Next meeting: May 4th @ 1pm