

A Great Start for Every Child in Livingston County: Safe,  
Healthy and Eager to Succeed in School and in Life.



Great Start Livingston Collaborative  
September 22, 2010

**Minutes**

1. **Welcome**
2. **Review August 11<sup>th</sup> Minutes -** Corrections Noted.
3. **Great Parents Great Start RFP, Volunteers for Reviewers' Panel**
  - 3 potential reviewers; Robin would like to have one or two more.
  - This grant focuses on parents as a child's first teacher.
  - 3 Page Document: Receive Document on October 1 and will meet on October 6 to review results. Please contact Robin if you are interested in volunteering. [robinschutz@livingstonesa.org](mailto:robinschutz@livingstonesa.org)
4. **Strategic Plan Update**
  - Turned in to ECIC and it in their hands for approval process.
5. **Work Plan/Progress Report.**
  - End of quarter is at the end of September and sub-committees may be receiving emails requesting updates. Finals due back to ECIC by October 31, but to Robin by 10/15.
6. **Sub Committee Reports/Updates**
  - **Childcare & Early Education**
    1. Action Plan is ready for approval except for a few minor changes. Went through 3 of 5 goals at last meeting as far as assigning jobs. Engaging Child-care, preschool, 0-5 will be main goal. Set meeting dates through June 2011.
  - **Social & Emotional**
    1. Having 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting today. In previous meetings reviewed action agenda and prioritized tasks. Last meeting defined definition of Social & Emotional Health. Today we will work on key messaging.
  - **Family Support**
    1. Currently evaluating items that need to go on checklist for new moms.
  - **Pediatric & Family Health**
    1. Finished going through goals. Working on consistent messaging/working with pediatricians.
    2. Also working on checklist to give to parents to advocate for their kids.

3. Free training on how to enroll children in health care insurance through MI Child and Healthy Kids. Training is through Michigan Primary Care Association with Erin Tuner. Need to get info on Google groups.
4. Around 400 children in Livingston County 0-5 without health insurance.
5. Mac Miller noted that anyone who makes home based visits can utilize their laptops at homes and sign children up.
6. This is for dental insurance as well as medical insurance.

- **Parent Leadership**

1. Meeting again tomorrow. Reviewed some of goals and trying to see how this will connect with Parent Coalition. Trying to seek groups who are already meeting to join this committee.
2. Also trying to find parent as a voice on the Collaborative Working to craft a message to encourage parents to be involved with the Collaborative and also sub-committees.

- **ICC**

1. Quarterly community conversation with parents to discuss and receive input on local issues.
2. At our next meeting we will be mapping out the early intervention system for Goal 2, Objective 1.

- **Finance**

1. NO REPORT

**NOTE:** In the near future, sub-committees will be required to submit committee reports at the Collaborative meetings. These will help to keep communication open between committees and keep ECIC updated.

7. **Regional Child Care Resource Center – Genesee**

- ECIC has realigned the region which now includes Genesee County in addition to Livingston County.

8. **Parent Coalition Updates & Upcoming Events**

- October 9, 2010: “Down on the Farm” sponsored by Parent Coalition
- Jennifer: PC Book Club: “Raising Happiness” by Christine Carter Meeting on Thursday, November 4 at 6:30 at Uptown Coffee in Howell.
- November 10: “Connecting Afternoon” sponsored by Parent Coalition
  - After Collaborative Meeting in November. Want to get more agencies and parent groups to learn about our collaborative, and specifically about the Parent Coalition. This will be a luncheon.
- Parent Coalition asking candidates 6 yes or no answers and a place where they can post comments. Answers are posted on Sandbox website.
- As your sub-committees review goals that you feel need a parent voice, please bring them to the Parent Coalition. Contact Jennifer Lange at [jenniferlange@livingstonesa.org](mailto:jenniferlange@livingstonesa.org).

8. Upcoming Events:

- Friday, October 22: Bill Millet – 7:30 – 8:00 am Continental Breakfast; 8:00-9:00 am Presentation

He is coming here with updated information from his visit in March. “Discover how to position Livingston County for growth in the new economy.” Light continental breakfast. Door prizes. Information and registration on the Great Start website.

[www.GreatStartLivingston.org](http://www.GreatStartLivingston.org)

Make sure to register to attend and invite your colleagues!

9. Open Discussions

- Chuck Fellows: Question from parents, “How do I know if my caregiver is qualified?” Also, yellow HELP card is being well received in the community.
- Linda Herbert – Great Start has provided funding to training providers including relative aid providers. They also receive incentives for coming to which encourages them to keep coming back.
  - Community Sharing for Healthy Caring Conference.
  - We would like more parents to go to the Child Connect website to see if a center or provider is licensed. However, still need to encourage the providers to keep updates. There is also a button on the Great Start Livingston for Child Connect.
- Alicia (from ECIC) - QRIS Quality Rating Information System.
  - This is through the state. This tool will help parents know *what* quality is and also help child care centers know *how* to build their quality. (1 star, 2 star, etc.)  
This will come out soon.
- Polly Mallory – Nurturing parenting Class at WRC. Circle of Parents support group, starts with the moms, but the focus is to get dads to attend. Fathers Only Parenting Class. Visit the website for the full curriculum. <http://www.wrc-livingston.org/>
- October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. LACASA is Sponsoring 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Candlelight Vigil Tuesday October 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:45 at the Opera House. On that same day at 11:30 am Carmen Harlan will be speaking at a luncheon with proceeds benefiting the county’s domestic violence shelter. <http://www.lacasa1.org/DVAwarenessMonth.htm>
- Alicia: Sandbox Party a success: Tangible stand for early childhood. It gave people an opportunity to hear candidates speak out on issues of early childhood.
- November 30<sup>th</sup>, Business Summit – Committee Chair plus 3 businesses leaders.
- Great Start System Management Team has a Barrier Form. If you have an issue on what you are doing locally and there is something that is impeding your work, please fill out a form and see if this team can help you!

**See you at the Bill Millet presentation on Friday, October 22!!!**  
**Next Meeting: November 10, 10:00-11:30 in the Spartan Room**