

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



Great Start Collaborative  
November 10, 2010

**MINUTES**

1. **Welcome & Introductions**
2. **Review of Sub Committee Reports** – *Committee Co-Chairs*
  - See Committee Summary Report
3. **Strategic Plan Update** - *Robin*
  - All collaborative members need to sign the letter. Letter was passed around.
4. **Approve GPGS (Great Parents Great Start) Grant**
  - 3 Members from GSL reviewed 4 proposals and recommended the following 3 for funding in Livingston County:
    1. LESA/Head Start – Home Visiting Project: \$37,744
    2. Women’s Resource Center – Healthy Families: \$26,588
    3. LCDPH – Nurses Welcome Newborns: \$9,912
  - A final proposal was submitted to the State on 10/15 by Jean Garratt.
  - Motion by Gina Coopersmith to approve this grant. Jeri Lea Kroll seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion to approve the grant was approved.
  - In 2011, the GSL needs to start thinking about this grant in the spring or summer to be prepared as to how we are going to distribute this funding.
5. **MOU (Memorandum of Understanding)** – *Courtnei*
  - Everyone who is a member of the collaborative needs to read and sign this document to demonstrate you and/or your organizations commitment to Great Start.
  - There will be a separate document prepared for parents to sign.
6. **New & Returning Elected Officials Letter**
  - There will be a congratulations letter sent to the winning elected officials including the governor, state senator, and the two state representatives. A Sheet was passed around the table for signatures to be included with the congratulatory letter from GSL.
7. **Parent Coalition – Jennifer Lange**
  - Down on the Farm – Held in October. Over 100 families attended! Still getting calls regarding event.
  - Connecting For Kids Luncheon – Wednesday, November 10. 12 – 1pm at LESA (After the Collaborative meeting). Recruitment is still an issue and need to get more groups in the community involved in the Parent Coalition.
8. **Upcoming Events**
  - **Community Sharing for Healthy Caring** – Saturday, November 13 at Howell High School. Over 1300 people are expected to attend. Great Start will have a booth there.
  - **Common Sense Reforms for a New Michigan** – December 13 in Lansing. Chuck Fellows will be attending and will deliver Great Start Message.

9. **2011 ECIC/Great Start Update** – *Robin*
- This month we should start getting information for the 2011 Work Plan. Each sub- committee needs to review their Action Plans to see what action items need to be included in the budget for the 2011 Work Plan.
  - Final work plan will most likely be due in early Jan.
  - **Great Start Business Summit on November 30<sup>th</sup>** in East Lansing. Already have a couple local business leaders who are planning to attend. This summit is aimed at bringing business leaders together state-wide to show them the importance/connection of businesses partnering with early education. (i.e. for every \$1 spent on high- quality early education programs, there is a \$7-\$16 return on investment, a Great Start reduces crime rates, teen pregnancy, welfare dependency, grade repetition, etc – which translates to taxpayer savings for all of us!)
10. **Website Stats** – *Robin*
- 12K hits in October
  - Majority of the hits are direct access (meaning they are typing in GreatStartLivingston.org).
  - Would be helpful to use the Great Start star to access the 5 points of the star (Social Emotion Health, Family Support, etc.). This would be in addition to the drop down tabs. This likely won't happen until 2011.
  - Need to better utilize search engines which direct parents to Great Start.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at 10 a.m.  
at LESA in the Spartan Room**