



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

Great Start Collaborative – Livingston County

March 23, 2011

LESA – Spartan Room

MINUTES

Present: Scott Menzel, Lynda Roberts, Jennifer Lange, Holly Ward Lamb, Robin Schutz, Kathy Virden, Jean Garratt, Elaine Brown, Polly Mallory, Donna Gehringer, Carrie Shrier, Patti Nowak, Lauren Evens, Melissa Sell, Jaclyn Cronin, Jeri Lea Kroll, Kris Resseguie, Jodi Cook, Ann O'Reilly, Captain Jenny Ortman

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Review/Approval of February 16, 2011 Minutes

3. Approval of March Agenda

4. Champion for Children Award Committee

- Deanna from CAP is looking for 3 volunteers to sit on a committee with 3 CAP members to review nominees to select a winner. They would meet the week of April 18.
- Jaclyn Cronin, Holly Ward Lamb, Lauren Evens and Patti Nowak all volunteered.

5. Review of Great Start Conference

- Robin summarized the Great Start Conference which Great Start staff and some Collaborative members attended in Lansing on March 14-16.
- Discussed importance of education beginning at birth.
- Regarding charitable contributions in the U.S., 2009 statistics show 75% of total charitable contributions come from individuals vs. 13% from Foundations and 4% from Corporations/Businesses. This emphasizes the important role each of us has in reaching out for what we may see as only small donations, as together we make a difference!
- There was a comprehensive survey completed this past summer for our Collaborative. Robin will get the results in April for our county.
- Legislative – Important for all of all to talk to our legislators, especially once we get the data from the survey Robin will be receiving in April.
- See the attached copy of the Great Start Conference Review for more conference details.

6. Review of Sub Committee Summary Report

- See attached Committee Summary Report. This includes the new Communications Committee section.

7. Kindergarten Readiness Summit Report

- Every school in Livingston County was represented, in addition to some private schools.
- The schools acknowledged the importance of social & emotional health.
- The schools/principals agreed to meet with preschools. Robin will meet with Linda Herbert in April to see if preschools would like elementary principals go into their preschools to talk with parents about the importance of social & emotional health relative to kindergarten readiness.
- Attendees were dispersed into five groups:
 - Social & Emotional in the Preschool
 - Community Message
 - Preschool to Kindergarten Transition Form
 - Reaching Parents
 - Data

- Fall 2011 (end of September/beginning of October): The goal is to have the public school kindergarten teachers in Livingston County complete the survey by this time. The data we have right now is just for 1 school in Hartland and 1 school in Pinckney.
 - By completing this form and reviewing the data, we can help bridge the gap between preschool and kindergarten. We can help identify how many kids are not ready for kindergarten and what areas they are lacking behind in.
 - Goal is to get the survey to the teachers before the end of this school year. Then they will be prepared for what they will need to accomplish in the fall of the school year.
 - Another meeting is scheduled for May 10 from 10 – 2pm at LESA.
8. **ECIC Update**
- Work Plan approved with modifications.
 - On June 6 we are having Legislative Breakfast. In addition to the video, we will be using the LET's bus and visiting Heart of the Shepherd and WIC. When returning to LESA, will visit an Early On playgroup.
9. **Bill Millett – Friday, April 29, Crystal Gardens, 7:30 a.m.**
- Please distribute flyers to your contacts
 - Registration will be through Howell and Brighton Chambers.
 - Citizens/Hanover and United Way are co-sponsoring this event with Great Start.
 - Citizens - \$5000; United Way - \$1000.
 - Becky Best from Citizens is working on flier.
 - The Howell and Brighton Chambers will be sending fliers/invitations to all of their contacts.
 - Goal is to have 300 people.
 - **Call to Action for people who attend:** How can you help?! Show the connection between Preschool to K-12 to Workforce.
10. **Parent Coalition**
- Diaper Drive – Many elementary schools, some churches, libraries.
 - Events & Drop-off Locations (See attached handout.)
 - Suggestion to get the Girls Scouts involved in the sorting and/or picking up.
 - Article in Livingston Parent Journal in April.
 - Kiwanis will help deliver bins and diapers.
 - Suggestion to put a Great Start sticker on the diaper packages.
11. **Star Power Day – Thursday, May 19, Lansing**
- Event starts at 9am.
 - Bill Rogers – 10:30 a.m.
 - Joe Hune – 11:30 a.m.
 - Cindy Denby - TBD.
 - Parade possibility.
 - Looking at renting a small charter bus for attendees.
 - Materials/Information will be provided.
 - Register On Line: <http://greatstartforkids.org/star-power>
12. **Community Highlights/Announcements/Sharing**
- Approved for PNC volunteer program. This will allow PNC employees to volunteer here at Head Start.
 - March is Parenting Awareness Month.
 - April is Month of the Young Child & National Child Abuse Prevention Month.
 - CAP Pinwheels for Prevention – Friday April 1, 12-12:30 p.m. @ Howell Library front lawn
 - Nurturing Parenting Classes on Mondays through May 23. Through Family Resource Center. www.familyresourceliv.org

- Salvation Army – Thursday, April 14 6:30 p.m.: Annual Civic Dinner & Volunteer Appreciation; Johnson Center @ Cleary University.
- ARC Expo: Tuesday, April 19, 2 – 7 p.m. @ Crystal Gardens

13. Upcoming Events

- 3/24, 2:00 p.m. – Safe Sleep Webinar, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, <http://www.mchcom.com/login.asp?liveEventID=467>
- 3/25, 4:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Community Resource Fair, Howell High School Cafeteria
- 3/26, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. – Parent Appreciation Day, Brighton District Library
- 3/38, 12:00 p.m. – Postpartum Support planning group, Los Trios Amigos
- 3/31 – 4/1 – MAEYC Conference, Grand Rapids
- April – Month of Young Child and Diaper Drive – See attached
- April – National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- 4/1, 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. – Pinwheels for Prevention, Howell Carnegie Library
- 4/8, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Month of Young Child Celebration, Brighton District Library
- 4/13, 12:00 p.m. – Pediatric and Family Health, Department Public Health
- 4/14, 11:30 a.m. – Social and Emotional Health, LESA
- 4/14, 1:00 p.m. – Family Support, Citizens
- 4/15 – Nominations for Champion for Children closes
- 4/19, 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Arc Expo, Crystal Gardens
- 4/19, 2:30 p.m. – Child Care and Early Education, LESA
- 4/20, 10:30 a.m. – Steering Committee, LESA
- 4/21, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. – Parent Coalition, LESA
- **4/29, 7:45 a.m. – Bill Millett presentation, Crystal Gardens**
- 4/29, 5:30 p.m. – Power of One Celebration, Cleary University’s Johnson Center
- 5/4, 12:00 p.m. – Early Intervention Networking Brown Bag Lunch, LESA
- 5/10, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Kindergarten Readiness Follow-up Summit, LESA
- 5/11, 12:00 p.m. – Pediatric and Family Health, Department Public Health
- 5/12, 11:00 a.m. – Parent Leadership Academy, LESA
- 5/13, All day – Health Insurance Enrollment Training
- 5/17, 2:30 p.m. – Child Care and Early Education, LESA
- 5/18, 10:30 a.m. – Steering Committee, LESA
- **5/19, 8:00 a.m. – Star Power Day**
- 5/25, 10:00 a.m. – Great Start Collaborative, LESA
- 6/6, 7:30 a.m. – Legislative Breakfast, Bus Tour

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 25 10 a.m. at LESA in Spartan Room