



Committee Summary Report

August 2011

Childcare & Early Education – Jean Garratt & Linda Herbert

- **2011 Kindergarten Survey** – Still on target to survey all county kindergarten students early this fall. Kari Naghtin, principal from Three Fires Elementary School, is new to our committee and will be working with us to get this implemented in Howell. There is possible funding from Naomi, in Washtenaw Intermediate School District, for I-pads for the teachers to help them complete the Observation Survey.
- **Website** – The committee reviewed the web page layout and is submitting some changes. We also discussed the title of our ECIC committee and how currently it suggests that childcare and early education are completely separate, when in fact there is much education occurring in the child care setting. We would like to see the title as: "Early Childhood Care & Education". Robin will email our ECIC contact for their feedback.
- **QRIS (Quality Rating & Improvement System)** - ECIC has chosen the High Scope Curriculum to use as the assessment tool they will be using to measure quality. The Preschool Program Quality Assessment (PQA) is a rating instrument designed to evaluate the quality of early childhood programs & identify staffing needs. Kalamazoo is currently the pilot county. The implementation period for this program will be 3 years.

Family Support – Donna Gehringer & Patricia Murphy

- **New Mom's Packet/Basket Drawing** – So far, we have distributed 285 packets to various locations including: OB/GYN offices, nurses at LCDPH, therapists at CMH, St. Joe Infant Program, etc. The deadline for entering the gift basket drawing is on Labor Day. We may consider extending the deadline due to low sign-ups for the drawing.
- **Web Layout Review** – We are reviewing the web page layout for when users click on the Family Support 'Point of Star'.

CALL TO ACTION: We are a small committee and would welcome additional members!

ICC (Interagency Coordinating Committee) – Kris Resseguie

- **Revised ICC Meetings/Structure** – ICC will begin meeting quarterly with members participating in other GS Committees to share the needs and voice of the ICC community. During ICC quarterly meetings, we will share concerns, updates, resources and what is happening relative to EO and the disabled. Our next quarterly meeting will be August 25 at 1pm.

Parent Leadership – Jennifer Lange & Holly Ward-Lamb

- **Parent Leadership Academy** – Continuing to meet and develop the Parent Leadership Program. The Curriculum has been broken down into 6 sessions which will run 1 ½ - 2 hours each. Continue to working on this developing the curriculum. Looking to kick off the series in October.

CALL TO ACTION: Parents who would like to be a part of the program either preparing and/or co-presenting a topic.

Pediatric & Family Health - Elaine Brown & Gina Coopersmith

- **Building Partnership with Pediatricians** – Dr. Wickham from St. Joseph Mercy Medical Group PCP attended the July meeting. She discussed the idea of a 211 kiosk, the number of children who visited the ER in one year, and shared ideas on how we can connect with other pediatricians. In August, we found out there will be a Department of Pediatrics meeting starting back on September 28. Judy will work with Kay Ruess from St. Joe, who will be managing the meetings, about meeting dates, times and getting our PFH Committee on the agenda.
- **Connect Families to Medical Insurance**– Our next Insurance Enrollment Training is on Friday, September 23. There will be two sessions: 8-10 & 11-1. At the May training we had 4 of 5 people who were trained agree to be listed on our website as alternative resources for families wanting to enroll their child in MICHild or Medicaid. We have contacted the October trainees, but have only heard back from 2 so far. We need to work with Got Web and figure the best way to list this information on the PFH section of the GSL website.
- **Connect Families to Medical Homes** – This will be a key area we take to the Strategic Planning Meeting in September. In July, Dr. Wickham reported there were 13,000 visits to St. Joseph Livingston & Woodland ER by children 0-18. Approximately 5% were true emergencies. We are working on getting hard data on this.

Social & Emotional Health - Jeri Lea Kroll & Courtni Holst

- **Review Action Agenda**– At the August meeting, we discussed what we felt are the unmet SE needs and gaps in Livingston County and brainstormed about the priorities of the SE Committee. We will take these priorities into the Strategic Planning Meeting in September and use them to guide us in redefining our Action Agenda.
- **Postpartum Support Group** – Meetings will be held the 1st Wednesday every month from 10-11:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Brighton. Our first community meeting was held on August 3. We are working on a feature article about PPD for the October issue of the Livingston Parent Journal.

Finance - Donna Gehringer

Livingston Promise Committee – Several Livingston Promise Committee members attended the first meeting of the Advantage Livingston – Brainpower Committee, which is focused on economic development strategies to educate, attract, and retain a highly competitive workforce. “Early Childhood Education” was established as one of the five priority areas, with Chairperson, Robin Schutz. Leadership of the remaining four committees comes from K-12 public schools, Cleary University, and MichiganWorks. All together . . . an education continuum, with very young children solidly represented in this new, community-wide initiative.

Communications – Lynda Roberts

- **GSL E-newsletter** – The 2nd issue published and e-mailed in June. Currently working on the 3rd issue which is scheduled to be published in early to mid September. Please forward any pertinent Great Start information you would like included to Lynda at LyndaRoberts@Livingsstonesa.org.
- **Great Start Website**– Currently reviewing the Great Start website to update new information & remove obsolete information.