

Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
Family Support
August 10, 2017
1:00-2:00pm
Health Department Room 205



Present: Jen Ganzel, Elyia Lamb, Resha Willis, Ann Sloan, Kelly Sheppard, and Kelly Friedland

Review July Minutes

- Group reviewed the July Minutes

Trusted Advisor Grant

- Michigan Department of Education offered a Trusted Advisor grant to Great Start Parent Coalitions to connect the hardest to access communities with resources.
- Our grant is for computer kiosks with printers to be sent to different locations.
- We were awarded the full \$60,000 this year and possibly \$60,000 for next year as well.
- Goal to locate the trusted advisors in the community and have the kiosks available for families.
- Suggestions include: Interfaith Shelter, Aware, WIC, immunizations, food banks, Wendy White, Alice Walker, Elyia Lamb, and Meet Up and Eat Up locations in the summer.
- A suggestion was made to use the kiosks to help families apply for DHS and Medicaid.
- Having a trusted advisor running a playgroup could bring more diversity to the playgroups.

Non-traditional Child Care Grant

- We are going focus on people employed with second shift manufacturer in need of child care.
- Reach out through JAMA, Industrial Steel Treating, ABC Academy, and Salvation Army who would like to start drop in child care.

Playgroup Update

- First group met in Parma there were 9 children.

- Another play gate is needed for Parma.
- Playgroup children have been decorating rocks to hide.

Great Start Evaluation

- In 2010 and 2012 MSU did an evaluation of all the Great Start Collaboratives across Michigan.
- Purpose to find areas of growths or areas we need to improve
 - Identify Great Start accomplishments to date and changes in accomplishments over time.
 - Understand the GSPC and GSC characteristics related to local success.
 - Understand what propels the GSCs/GSPCs forward toward greater accomplishments.
 - Identify lessons learned and recommendations for next steps.

Member Sharing

Great Start Families Fair September 22 10am-1pm focus is safety: Police and Fire, Health Department, Michigan State trooper, Red Cross with smoke detectors, Canine Unit from Blackman Township, and Masonic Lodge doing ID kits. Working to JTA to possibly offer transportation.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 14th Jackson County Health Department Room 205