



Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
Family Support
January 11, 2018
1:00-2:00pm
Health Department Room 248

Present: Alice Walker, Kristin Klug, Resha Willis, Molly Burr, Brittany Nortley, Kristy Wood, Ann Sloan, Chrissy Blackwell, Kelly Sheppard, and Kelly Friedland

Welcome and Introductions

- Completed introductions and an inclusion activity

Review November Minutes

- Group reviewed November minutes.

Non-traditional child care work – update and discussion

- Chrissy sent a letter to Bill Rayl, President of the Jackson Area Manufacturers Association.
- TAC and Great Lakes Industry contacted Chrissy as a result of the letter.
- TAC will be providing information to see if there is interest for the employees.
- Great Lakes Industry will do the same thing, but it would be an incentive for new hires.
- The grant is two years, but if the employers value it than they would possibly need to contribute.
- ABC Academy is part of the conversation, but a home care provider might end up being a better fit.
- Child Care Network has heard from Department of Corrections employees looking for second shift child care.
- Child Care Network will look up providers that a currently licensed for second shift.

Trusted Advisor – update and discussion

- Offered through the Michigan Department of Education to the Great Start Parent Coalition.
- We received the grant for 2017 and have applied for 2018.
- We have five trusted advisors, and they are now equipped with laptops and printers.
- They are gathering data on what the needs are in the community.

Pediatrician work – discussion (how to start)

- Chrissy reached out to Dr. Andy Hashikawa.
- His questions what type of questions do we want him to discuss? And what group would he come to come talk to?
- We want to connect with pediatrician about early childhood.
- What is the best way to get to parents?
- Chrissy will invite him to come to this group.

Great Start Survey

- Great Start survey has gone out to complete.
- Paper survey is available for anyone who needs it.

Playgroups – update/needs

- Harmony Gardens will be doing music therapy playgroups.
- There will be six music therapy sessions one at each playgroups.
- Playgroup locations are stable.
- Question came up if there were evening playgroup.
- Resha has done evening an playgroup in the past, and it wasn't well attended.

Great Start Families

- March 16th 2:30-6:30 P.M. next Great Start Families Fair partnering with the preschool fair.
- Topic: transitions, summer activity, and family literacy

Member Sharing

Molly: Professional training for working with adoptive families February 1st from 9:00-11:00 A.M. in Battle Creek. Task Force meeting January 25th 10:00-12:00 P.M. Will send out flyer once it is ready.

Kristin- Vita Tax program free tax prep and e-filing can get information on CAA website.
Financial freedom class.