



Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
Family Support
May 12, 2016
1:00-2:00pm
CAA- Large Conference Room

Present: Chrissy Blackwell, Kelly Sheppard, Kelly Friedland, Kristin Klug, Elyia Lamb, Jennifer Ganzel, Alice Walker, Angela Mitchell, Julie May, and Barb Bowman

Welcome & Introductions

- Group completed introductions and welcomed Chrissy Blackwell the new Early Childhood Grant Support Specialist.

Review April Minutes

- The name of the church was incorrect in the April minutes.

Playgroup Update

- Printed playgroup schedules are available
- Harmony Gardens has been offering music therapy at the playgroups.
- Openings for June session at Carnegie and July session at Baker.
- RSVPs are required to attend the music therapy sessions.
- Resha loved the Mind and Movement space in Parma.
- The monthly cost to rent the space will be, and they will let us store items on site.
- We will be purchasing one gate to block off some equipment.
- May 12 East playgroup was moved to May 19.
- Tuesday Early On playgroups schedule through June 21.
- Jamie Merritt from Harmony Gardens had also contacted Early On about doing some music therapy groups.

Strategies to Partner with Pediatricians

- Ideas for partnering with physicians included required exams, Ages and Stages, and safety (Stewards of Children and safe sleep).

- Discussed having a guide and some website linkage.
- Kristin has a list from Head Start staff.
- Center for Family Health is using Bright Beginnings that is similar to Ages and Stages.
- Kelly Sheppard will follow up with Sara Benedetto to see why Center for Family Health went with Bright Beginnings instead of Ages and Stages.
- Center for Family Health is doing group pediatric appointments in addition to the pregnancy groups.
- Early On refers families to the Maternal Infant Health Clinic.
- ASQ is still on the wall near the WIC office.
- Having students from Eastern or another college put together the brochure.

Other Updates

- Waiting to work on child care options until the results of the grant are known.
- CAA received a grant for Baby Bench Card training that focuses on babies when deciding custody issues.

Member Sharing

Barb Bowman: ICC meeting next Wednesday looking at the grant for next year that starts July 1. Have been receiving a lot of referrals who have been exposed to drugs and looking for ways to reach those families because Early On services are voluntary.

Julie May: Including the additional play groups in monthly newsletters.

Jen Ganzel: 14,000 Great Start Families flyers went home over the last couple of weeks through child care centers and elementary schools. 39 RVSPs for May and 10 so far June meeting. May meeting is summer kids programs. June meeting is Rhonda's Everybody's Yoga family yoga and talk about the importance of health. Jen has brochures with every festival in MI from Kathy Hoszkiw at ABC Academy.

Elyia Lamb: Book Fair at Lincoln in room 10 until Tuesday being sponsored by the Head Start Policy Council. Arby's grand reopening first 50 customers get free food and enter to win other prizes.

Kristin Klug: Joint preschool requirement fair at Baker tomorrow and will be verifying incomes on site. Lincoln is going back to JPS and the classrooms will be disbursed throughout the county.

Kelly Sheppard: Preschool fair is tomorrow. An updated preschool flyer with income information is available. Some of the schools use private partner to run their programs. All the locations are on the website. Imagination Library did receive grant funding from the Community Foundation this round after 8 years. We have enough funding to get us through this fiscal year. Chrissy has already been starting to create a newsletter and letters going out to community partners. Kelly Sheppard will get packets out together to get Imagination Library information out to the community.