MEETING MINUTES

GREAT START FAMILIES

February 15, 2015

Immanuel Lutheran Church

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IN ATTENDANCE: Elyia L., Stevi S., Rubenn S., Lynn M., Matt M., Resha W., Sabrina Corbin and Jen Ganzel (Parent Liaison)

SUMMARY

\*Introduced speaker Sabrina Corbin. She shared information about the Trauma informed community work she is doing and taught us about signs, symptoms and what we can do to help traumatized children. Some takeaways include giving traumatized kids control of some things, keeping them informed especially when straying from routine is important, helping them feel safe and normalizing their feelings. Helping children build resilience, strong relationships and making connections and having a sense of community were all very important points.

\*Diaper Drive wrap up included final numbers of diapers collected (11,316) and locations they were distributed. Thank you notes to large supporters went out as well as thank you ads in the papers. Meijer, Walmart, Center for Family Health, JJWL and Policy Council. Girl Scout spaghetti dinner will be held February 25th and we will help them distribute collection.

\*Craft Night and Christmas Party were discussed. They were a big hit!

\*VITA tax program was shared with detail on eligibility and services offered.

\*Donated American One tickets to the Fox Theatre were discussed along with feedback generated. Thank you note with pictures from a family went out.

\*Reminder on Preschool interest forms and Ages & Stages Questionnaires available on web site. Discussion around Community Ed piece from Great Start to Quality piece and asked parents to share.

\*Discussion on meeting topics as well as day and times for meetings. I will send out a poll through email and Facebook asking for feedback.

\*Family Support Committee working on finalizing playgroup expansions and relationships with Early Special education therapists at the Torrent Center. Their playgroups will be combined with our public ones and therapists will join them. Locations will be added to rural areas as well including Pleasant Lake, Spring Port/Parma and Grass Lake.

\*Next important dates…

\*February 16th School Readiness Committee

4:00 – 5:00pm Family Services and Children’s Aid

\*March 10th Family Support Committee

1:00-2:00pm CAA

\*March 21st Great Start Families

5:30 – 7:30pm Immanuel Lutheran Church