Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County

**Family Support Committee Meeting**

**November 10, 2022**

**2:00-3:00pm**

**In person at:**

**Family Service & Children’s Aid**

**306 W. Michigan Ave.**

**Jackson**

**Meeting Minutes**

Family Support Agenda Items:

1. **Welcome/Introductions:** Bridget-Great Start/GSRP, Brittany- Child Care Network, Melissa- Early On, Kelly-Great Start Collaborative, Alice- Trusted Advisor, Colleen- Early Impressions, Kathy- GSRP

2. **Review September minutes:**If there are any changes let us know.

3. **Development Guide/poster:** Bridget went to the CDC to get all of the information for the poster and the poster will reference the CDC. The developmental guide is more sea colors with sea creatures. Are you comfortable with the coloring? Switch the greens up- salmon color maybe?? Love the ocean theme. We need to change the “Support your child’s relationship and feelings”. Change to “support your child’s growth and development”…. On the poster it will have the QR code which takes you to the ages and stages website. Julie will add the banner on the bottom. And, are we ready to move forward for printing. Everyone was ok with the poster and it can move forward and get printed. Melissa uses the booklets with families. Especially if the family has a premature child as they have to look at the adjusted versus the actual age.

4. **Playgroup update:** Meaghan Lowe has been hired as the new playgroup instructor and she will be starting on Monday. She was in Head Start and then became a kindergarten teacher and now is a reading recovery teacher part time. She has a child that has received servicers through Early On. Meaghan has had lots of life experiences that will benefit her in this new position. She is excited for the new possibility. She will be able to do mornings. Tuesday 10-11:30 here in the basement. That will keep going. If we see a need for a second playgroup she is on board to do that.

5. **Importance of Preschool messaging: What do parents need info about? How?:**What do parents need to know about preschool and how do we put that out in the community? Some parents just see it as daycare and not the importance of preparing the child for kindergarten. We need to let parent’s know that things have changed and the expectations are really great. A flier was previously created that did not get mass produced and handed out. The idea was to put it in the pediatrician's office. The idea was to start with 1 and let it linger and then move to another subject area. Kelly also would like to do a “did you know”. It is also important to let parents know that they are not alone and do not have to do this without support. The previous flier which was reviewed during the meeting is too complicated and needs to be more parent friendly. This should be a tool to help educate the parent as to why preschool is important and questions that could be asked. This would pair really well with talking with teaching. Use a QR code that will send this to a website. Kelly asked Alice about Brite by Text. At first she passed the information out. In the beginning she had lots of conversation with families. Alice signed up so she could see what it is about. She still gets the text. But she does not hear parents talk about it. Just that she hears that they get the text. There are only 200 members signed up for Bright by Text. We should encourage parents to sign up right now. Melissa said she would definitely use this with families. People are also getting inundated with texts now. So, do they ignore the text? The Facebook page and Instagram page are still reaching lots of families with this platform. Coleen is wondering if the Bright by Text information is handed out at GSRP events, and what about child care centers? What is the incentive for families to sign up? Local events are put on the Brite by Text. Alice asked about the MOP’s group, or Playgroup facilitator. WIC and Mothers, infants and child would be another great connection for handing out Bright by Text. Corey has also talked to parents at his parent groups. Bridget will email out the card for preschool wording. Then we can look at it before the next meeting.

6**. Member Sharing:** Brittany- She does have FFP dollars for scholarships for childcare. Families can call Brittany and she will work through the application with the family. Her phone number is: 517-817-0820 It usually takes about 2 weeks and is good for 6 months to 1 year., Melissa shared that mothers/infant/child now has a QR code. If you need a referral that is a real time referral. Nurses would go out and will refer to Early On if necessary. She will also email Bridget and we will send it out to the committee. The police officer are giving out free turkeys. The concern is that if you take families out, and you have more than 1 family in the car, they would only give one turkey per car. Alice is trying to get bus tickets for families. The families who need it can’t get more than one turkey. If you have flyers please send them to Bridget and she will post on social media. Alice is working hard on helping families and getting the information out to families.

7. Bridget passed out a questionnaire and would like you to take time to answer the questions before you leave so we can see where you are at and if we need to make any changes.

**Next Meeting: December 8, 2022- 2pm- 3pm**

**In person @ Family Service & Children’s Aid (306 W. Michigan Ave.)**

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