

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

Basic Needs, Economic Security & Child Safety Subcommittee

Meeting Notes

May 14, 2009

9:30-11:30 AM

Oakland County Child Care Council

Attendees: Chandra Jones (Parent), Sherry Scruggs (4C), Mary Kosal (LCFS), Leslie Roach (LCFS), Pamela Davis (6th Circuit Court), Pamela Barckholtz (GSC-O)

Recap: Chandra Jones reminded members that our meeting in March was a webinar and did not provide information we could use. .

Reviewed Poverty Reduction Plan that is currently proposed for Region 8. Considering the plan that was presented, the committee expressed concern about the possible adoption of this plan without revisions. One major concern expressed was that although GSC-O is well represented on the planning group, incorporation of the work of the Great Start Collaboratives did not seem to be considered. The action plan related to Early Education and Care described a lot of the work that is accomplished, ongoing, or planned within the GSC's throughout the region. The committee also felt that there are other collaborative groups that could be utilized, especially in view of the limited resources that are acknowledged in their SWOT analysis. The following questions were generated by the committee with the hope that GSC-O representatives on the poverty reduction planning group could take these to the group for discussion.

1. While Job Creation is the # 1 priority, it is interesting that DLEG does not seem to be represented on the committee. DLEG has been leading this work and has some established collaborative groups that could be of assistance. Could DLEG representation on the committee be considered? Related to this concern, there is no mention of Michigan Works and their work related to this.
2. How has the plan considered the recent Executive Orders regarding budget cuts and the need to be very efficient with the funds we have?
3. Is there a line item in the budget for the poverty reduction plan?
4. Wouldn't we want to consider other partners in the development of this plan, such as business partners, county commissioners, etc?
5. It is clear that the major areas of focus have been prioritized? However, are the goals on the action plans also prioritized?

6. What kind of jobs are we attempting to create? The population discussed, 35-64 year olds, is the population that is losing their manufacturing jobs? Is there an effort to address their needs?
7. There is mention that eligible children are not currently enrolled in Head Start, yet many Oakland County Head Start programs are full. Could you focus on an expansion of head start capacity rather than only outreach to eligible children?

BASIC NEEDS, ECONOMIC SECURITY & CHILD SAFETY Families of infants and young children are economically stable. Infants and young children live in safe families.					
OBJECTIVE/ACTION STEP	RESOURCE NEEDS	ROLES/ RESPONSIBILITIES	TARGET DATES	PROGRESS MEASURES	STATUS
Goal BN/ES/CS1: Increase awareness of available community resources and referral & resource systems.					
Strategy BN/ES/CS1.A: Promote the use of 211.					
Supportive BN/ES/CS1.A.1 - Increase the public awareness of 211.	Outreach Materials Time	GSC-O Staff	9/30/09	Inclusion of 211 materials at every GSC-O event. 12-11-08 Worked on final letter detail. Members can still review letter and offer edits, but letter will be sent by end of month. 1-8-08 Approved final letter to 2-1-1. Letter will be signed by Committee Chairperson, Chandra Jones	Ongoing
Strategy BN/ES/CS1.B: Gain an understanding of the current resource and referral systems (including 211, Oakland Helplink, and other community resource guides) and what community organizations and families are using to access service information.					
Supportive BN/ES/CS1.B.1 - Research the status of Oakland Helplink.	Access to information Time	GSC-O Staff Oakland Schools Staff	1/31/09	A status report will be presented to the subcommittee. Documentation of meeting notes.	
Lead # 2 BN/ES/CS1.B.2 - Research summer lunch programs availability and promote expansion where possible.	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	1/31/09	Compilation of programs and recommendations for expansion completed and shared with subcommittee and potential	

				<p>partners.</p> <p>10-9-08 Reviewed questions generated at last meeting. Add: How does a site qualify as a summer lunch program? Can the program be mobile? Can it be other places besides churches or schools</p> <p>12-11-08 Summer lunch programs sponsored by OLHSA in Pontiac were presented by Jerry Sedick. See notes at end of action agenda. Decision made to focus on further development of these programs immediately so that we can improve Oakland County coverage in 2009.</p> <p>1-8-08 Continued review of feasibility of increased summer lunch programs in Oakland County. Research regarding St. Paul Lutheran in northeast Pontiac reveals this will be a logical site that fulfills a need. Pam will connect Jerry Sedick to representatives of St. Paul and initiate discussions regarding this possible site. We will prioritize outreach to school districts/schools with greater than 50% receiving free and reduced lunches. Each</p>	
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				<p>committee member accepted outreach assignments. Summer lunch program manuals have not yet been received but training is planned for April, 2009. We will continue to focus on expansion of this needed program during our next meeting.</p> <p>2-12-09 Reported summer lunch program contacts and frustrations experienced. Set more realistic goal of adding 1 Pontiac site and one other county site this year. Sherea may be able to help us in Royal Oak Township. Will continue to make contacts and promote this program.</p> <p>5-14-09 No report to date regarding any additional sites. Pam will attempt to obtain this information for next meeting</p>	
<p>Lead # 6 BN/ES/CS1.B.3 -Convene a workgroup to develop recommendations regarding the feasibility of merging various resource manuals, such as Helplink, OLHSA, Youth Assistance manuals</p>	<p>Access to information Time Agency buy-in and information about how they update their systems</p>	<p>Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners</p>	<p>1/31/09</p>	<p>Provide recommendations to GSC-O Strategic Leadership. 5-14-09 Pam will investigate the status of 2-1-1 and the interest of other parties in the merging of the resource manuals.</p>	

Lead # 3 BN/ES/CS1.B.4 - Research community resources in specific townships/municipalities	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	3/31/09	Communicate with townships/municipalities regarding their resource networks	
Strategy BN/ES/CS1.C: Assist early childhood services and support in connecting their information to the 211 Database.					
Supportive BN/ES/CS1.C.1 - Research the feasibility of developing a mechanism for inclusion in a separate resource database for those resources that do not meet criteria for inclusion in 211.	Access to information Time	211 Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	6/30/09	Report to Strategic Leadership on the feasibility of a mechanism for inclusion in a resource database those resources that do not meet criteria for inclusion in 211.	
Lead # 7 BN/ES/CS1.C.2 -Assist ineligible resources with becoming eligible for inclusion in 211.	Access to information Time	211 Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	9/30/09	Will provide guidance to ineligible resources that are identified during a two month period of the calendar year.	
Goal BN/ES/CS2: <i>Raise awareness of the need for more low income, subsidized, affordable, safe housing and advocate for additional affordable housing resources for families with young children.</i>					
Strategy BN/ES/CS2.A: Connect to other collaborative groups with housing goals.					
Lead # 1 BN/ES/CS2.A.1 -Identify and designate one Great Start member to represent the 0-5 population on the OCTH.	Access to information Time	OCTH Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	12/31/08	One GSC-O member will represent the 0-5 population on the OCTH. 10-9-08 Pam has meeting scheduled with OCTH chairperson 1-8-08 Pam has met with OCTH and will continue to gather information regarding housing systems in Oakland County 2-12-09 Pam made contact with Regional Housing group. Will provide regional plan. 5-	

				5-14-09 Pam has requested information about their quarterly meetings and will attend.	
Lead # 9 BN/ES/CS2.A.2 -Work to understand the subsidized housing system and what is required to increase the Section 8 vouchers in Oakland County	Access to information Time	OCTH Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	9/30/09	Invite OCTH to participate in our meetings 10-9-08 Reviewed questions generated for Housing Commission Visitor. Added: How is it determined where a housing commission is located? Do the housing commissions work with banks and foreclosures to assist with housing needs? 12-11-08 Decision made to hold our work on this issue until after we have worked on the Summer Lunch Program	
Lead # 10 BN/ES/CS2.A.3 - Research the legislative and regulatory guidelines for subsidized housing in Oakland County	Access to information Time	MHSDA staff Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	9/30/09	Meet with MHSDA to discuss 5-14-09 Efforts to connect with Pontiac Housing Commission representatives have been frustrating and have failed to date. Speaker expected for April meeting unable to attend. Unable to contact for May meeting. Pam will attend Pontiac Housing Commission meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of May, 5:30 PM and attempt to engage this group so that we	

				can be of assistance to them if possible.	
Goal BN/ES/CS3: <i>Raise awareness of the need for more transportation resources for very low income families with young children.</i>					
Strategy BN/ES/CS3.A: Understand what other groups are doing to address this need.					
Lead # 8 BN/ES/CS3.A.1 - Understand the transportation issues that 2-1-1 has encountered in Oakland County	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff 2-1-1 Staff	3/31/09	Request 2-1-1 report on feedback received regarding transportation 5-14-09 Pam will request report	
Lead # 4 BN/ES/CS3.A.2 - Understand transportation issues with GSC-O partners	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff GSC-O Partners	6/31/09	Meet with partners to discuss transportation issues and determine next steps	
Lead # 5 BN/ES/CS3.A.3 -Develop a research plan to better understand what others are doing to help Oakland County with transportation issues.	Access to information Time	Basic Needs Subcommittee GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners	9/30/09	A report of what others are doing to help Oakland County with transportation issues will be available to Strategic Leadership. 10-9-08 Considered Survey Monkey questions generated last meeting. Added: Do you know of other transportation resources? What are they? Do you refer clients to services close to their homes? Is transportation considered for any referral? Have you had out of county transportation issues? Do you have estimates of how many miss appointments because of transportation issues? Do you know of school opportunities lost because of	

				<p>lack of transportation? 5-14-09 Reviewed the transportation questions developed to date and added the following: Have you tried to use the SMART system? If so, does SMART work for you? Are you aware of the Red Cross transportation services? Do you know DHS will help with car repairs, car acquisition, etc? Are you aware of the MDCH MIHP provider website? Pam will put these questions together into a survey monkey and get ready to e-blast them soon. We hope for results to review at next meeting.</p>	
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Pam reminded members that we will soon be entering our planning cycle for the Year Three Action Agenda and asked members to be thinking of attainable goals for that agenda. Clarified there is no corresponding state committee for us to model after.

Next Meeting: June 11, 2009, 9:30-11:30 AM, Oakland County Child Care Council.