

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

Parenting Education & Family Support Subcommittee

Meeting Notes

April 23, 2009
 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 CARE House

In Attendance:

Charles Ludwig, Carehouse; Suzi Wilson, Catholic Social Services; Kevin O’Shea, Partnership for Dads/BBFA; Gerri Smalley, GPGS-Oakland; Sabrina Williams, Parent Rep; Kim Bowyer, GSC-O; Donna Lackie, OS; Lisa Sturges, GSC-O

Action Agenda Status:

PARENTING EDUCATION & FAMILY SUPPORT Families support and guide the early learning of their infants and young children.			
OBJECTIVE/ACTION STEP	TARGET DATES	PROGRESS MEASURES	STATUS
Goal PE/FS1: <i>Increase the awareness, utilization, and communication of existing parenting education and family support services in order to empower parents to assist their families in becoming self-sufficient.</i>			
Strategy PE/FS1.A: Create a Parenting Education and Family Support Resource Guide for families with young children			
PE/FS1.A.1 -Create a dissemination plan for the Resource Guide (to partners and community).	10/31/08	Completion of a dissemination plan for the Resource Guide (i.e. order forms, number set aside for partners).	Due to conference planning, final edits and additions to the resource guide have not yet been completed. However, 1000 copies of the first edition have been ordered in order to ensure that there are enough copies for the two conferences as well as the many outreach opportunities throughout March and April.
PE/FS1.A.2 -Solicit feedback from users of the parent education resource guide.	7/31/09	Feedback is collected from users (i.e. tear out postcard, survey).	See Above

PE/FS1.A.3 -Revise parent education resource guide as needed, research potential funding sources and disseminate resource guide on an annual basis.	10/31/09	Resource guide is revised/changed and disseminated on an annual basis.	See Above
Strategy PE/FS1.B: Create a central database and calendar for programs and services for young children and their families.			
PE/FS1.B.1 -Assess the feasibility of coordinating with other existing efforts, such as the Oakland Youth Assistance Calendar, WIKI site, 211 and Oakland Helplink,	09/30/09	The feasibility of coordinating with other existing efforts is reported; a plan for coordination is discussed.	No updates
Strategy PE/FS1.C: In conjunction with the Community Engagement workgroup, outreach to the community to increase utilization of parenting resources throughout the community			
PE/FS1.C.1 -Create a plan for activities related to Parenting Awareness Month	1/31/09	Working with Oakland Parenting Awareness Coalition, a plan is created for Parenting Awareness Month (i.e. outreach, promotion, activities and/or events).	No updates.
PE/FS1.C.2 -Research the feasibility of creating a traveling exhibit/kiosk for parent resources	6/30/09	A workgroup is created to research the feasibility of creating a traveling exhibit/kiosk for parent resources (i.e. location, cost, resources); findings are reported.	Utilizing space at both child care agencies and libraries, the kiosk is scheduled into next year. It spent the month of March at the Farmington library and the month of April at the CERC building in Lake Orion. Feedback has been mixed. Sites are excited to be able to highlight many different parenting programs and parenting information, however, there is some question of stability. Dennis Spatafora will work on adding more weight to the bottom before it is hosted by OLHSA in May. Lisa continues to work on a form for publication tracking in order to know (1) which publications are included, (2) how many are put in the

			kiosk, (3) how many are left at the end of the month, and (4) how many extra we have.
Strategy PE/FS1.D: Provide training on the importance of early childhood development and community resources, including empowering parents			
PE/FS1.D.1 -Create a “train the trainer” model focusing on the importance of early childhood development and community resources.	4/30/09	A model is created which focuses on communicating the importance of early childhood development and community resources.	No update
PE/FS1.D.2 -Implement the model in schools and with community partners, aligning with Great Start Community Awareness Action Plan.	7/31/09	The model is implemented in schools and with community partners.	See above
Strategy PE/FS1.E: Create “Parenting your Infant/Toddler/Preschooler” toolkits			
PE/FS1.E.1 -Research existing publications to see what is already in place and what is needed	4/30/09	Existing publications are reported on.	The toolkit workgroup met last month in order to (1) define the ages for each of the 3 groups and (2) begin to build a matrix of what materials might be included in each of these 3 toolkits. In order to determine the materials, several different models were used including the AAP’s Bright Futures guidelines, the Five Protective Factors, and the five key component areas for the Great Start Collaborative. Lisa brought in samples of each of these toolkits. Donna suggested that the list of materials for each toolkit be sent to the group so that each subcommittee member could think about and suggest missing materials. At the subcommittee meeting, the group discussed where/how the toolkit might be distributed. Ideas included through pediatrician offices, home visiting

			programs and health clinics. The group reiterated the importance of making sure that the population with the greatest need be the target for these toolkits. Other considerations in the future will include budget and a timeline for dissemination.
PE/FS1.E.2 -Work with community partners to create contents, based on key parenting concepts at each of these ages	7/31/09	Key parenting concepts are named; contents are created.	See above
PE/FS1.E.3 -Create a dissemination plan, based on available resources to reproduce (such as web-based, through programs, libraries, birthing hospitals, physicians, etc).	10/31/09	A dissemination plan is created.	See above
Goal PE/FS2: <i>Every family with young children has the skills and knowledge needed to provide learning opportunities, leading to school readiness for their children.</i>			
Strategy PE/FS2.A: Provide high quality parenting education and family support services that is research based.			
PE/FS2.A.1 -Research the feasibility of expanding the conference to two locations	10/31/08	A workgroup to research the feasibility of expanding the conference will be created.	One conference down and one to go!! The first conference was a success with things running very smoothly. Donna provided the adult and child count for both conferences. Lisa put the word out for volunteers both for Friday afternoon set up as well as conference day for the second conference. Lisa also brought in a sample of an evaluation for speakers and vendors to complete. The group made suggestions. Lisa will make the changes and will send the evaluation out after both conferences are complete.
PE/FS2.A.2 -Hold annual parenting conference for families with young children.	5/31/09	Parenting Conference will have been provided.	See above

Strategy PE/FS2.B: Assess the availability and accessibility of existing parent education and family support services in Oakland County			
<p>PE/FS2.B.1 -Define what information we want and/or need to know when we assess existing parent education and family support services for Oakland County.</p>	<p>10/31/08</p>	<p>Guidelines for what assessment is necessary for Oakland County will be reported.</p>	<p>The group has been discussing the possibility of using the “5 protective factors for promoting healthy families.” At our last meeting, the group did an activity where we defined what each of those 5 factors mean including (1) what this means in Oakland County, (2) where families can find it in Oakland County and (3) what we can do to support it in Oakland County. Lisa shared the compilation of these discussions at this month’s meeting. Donna suggested that this might be put into a one page document that we could then use for local training, talking about intentionality, or considering parent education program reviews or self assessments. Lisa will work on that for next month. Lisa also shared some assessments and other work that other states have done with this model. Work includes training, materials, working with programs to implement this model, working with parents, and building the model into the system. Donna mentioned that Leelanau has been using this model—Lisa will research what they have done.</p>
<p>PE/FS2.B.2 - Complete an assessment of existing parent education and family support services to include types of programs, location or area served, and other information as defined in PE/FS2.B.1</p>	<p>12/31/08</p>	<p>Present assessment of parent education and family support services to GSC-O Strategic Leadership (ideas include geomapping or other visual</p>	<p>See above</p>

		techniques)	
PE/FS2.B.3 -Research standards of quality and research-based practices by type of program.	3/31/09	Report on findings.	See above
PE/FS2.B.4 -Work on accessing additional funding to expand current parenting education and family support services in Oakland County.	9/30/09	Potential funding sources are identified and at least one proposal for funding is completed.	See above

Other Issues and Concerns:

None at this time.

Announcements:

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. On April 30, Carehouse will be having a Circle of Light at 6:15 at the Oakland County Courthouse.

Next Steps:

The next meeting is scheduled for May 28th, 2009 from 1:00-3:00 at Carehouse.