

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

Parenting Education & Family Support Subcommittee

Meeting Notes

May 28, 2009
 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 CARE House

In Attendance:

Miriana Milo, Carehouse; Suzi Wilson, Catholic Social Services; Joyce Siggall, OLHSA-Head Start; Brenda Jenkins, New Hope-Circle of Parents; Rosemary Spatafora, OCYA-Safety Bear; Bridget Hanigan, 4C; 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
<i>Goal PE/FS1: 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).	On 5/20 (only about a week prior to this meeting), Lisa sent out an email with a link to an online evaluation of the resource guide. The email went out to a data base created by Jean Jocque of users who had ordered the guide. Lisa brought in the results to date from the online evaluation of the resource guide for the group to review. There was not much data (only

			six responses) so the group agreed that a second email should be sent out to try to reach more users. In addition, Kim will send to parent coalition members and the evaluation will also be sent to home providers. The group discussed adding in the e-mail how long the survey would take. They also suggested creating hard copies that might be given to parents at meetings or home visits.
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,	Due to some question of stability on the kiosk, Dennis Spatafora added more weight and support to the bottom of the kiosk before it was hosted by OLHSA in

		resources); findings are reported.	May. This location was very successful with the kiosk being emptied of many of its contents. Once delivered and a count taken, Lisa will work at replenishing the stock for the Farmington Library location throughout the month of June. Lisa completed the 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. This will be very helpful in month's to come.
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 group was able to review the list of materials for each toolkit throughout the month. Some additional suggestions included shaken baby information, information on the importance of play, toilet training, bike helmet safety and communicating with children on safety issues. At the subcommittee meeting, the group discussed a pilot plan for

			dissemination. Donna suggested that she and Lisa meet to look at who has the materials, what is available electronically, cost who will cover the cost of printing for which items, what is available in different languages, and which populations would most need to be targeted. The group also discussed including a sheet on the purpose of the toolkits. They also thought that a different folder with a different age appropriate picture and a title that stated that this was a parenting toolkit would be good to distinguish between the three kits. Finally, the group suggested that before printing, strategic leadership and parent coalition review the list as well.
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.	Both conferences were a success. Lisa provided the results of the online exhibitor/presenter evaluation. This evaluation also had only been sent about a week prior. However, there were 25

			respondents for this evaluation, 15 presenters and 10 exhibitors. By next month's meeting, the parent evaluations should also be complete. The group will spend time next month reviewing these. In addition, Donna suggested that we spend some time doing some planning for the 2010 conference(s). She stated that with questionable funding it would be important for our group to decide what our vision for these conferences are. She offered several options including one site that doesn't cost anything, not offering child care, charging exhibitors a small fee, and searching for other grant funds to cover cost. The evaluations should help guide some of this discussion.
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			
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.	10/31/08	Guidelines for what assessment is necessary for Oakland County will be reported.	The group has been discussing the possibility of using the "5 protective factors for promoting healthy families." Based on information gathered by Donna at the Smart Start Conference, Lisa developed a one page document that defines the 5 protective factors. In addition it lists key programs and trainings available for families. Donna will work with Lisa to further develop these lists. The group discussed that this one-pager could be for programs and/or

			for parents. In addition if we used this for training it could be for professionals or for parents. Lisa will work on completing the suggested edits for the document. Next month we will need to begin to develop a plan on the number and types of trainings that might be offered. Donna also mentioned that there will be a national conference on the protective factors in October in Atlanta and possibly a couple of our subcommittee members could attend. This can be further explored next meeting as well.
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	12/31/08	Present assessment of parent education and family support services to GSC-O Strategic Leadership (ideas include geomapping or other visual techniques)	See above
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:

We will need to begin work on our Year Three Action Agenda throughout the summer months. A draft will be due by Labor Day. Lisa will bring a beginning draft to our June meeting to begin the discussion. She will send it prior to the meeting for review.

Announcements:

Brenda announced that on Monday, June 29th she will be offering a train the trainer for Circle of Parents for parents, leaders and facilitators. Contact Brenda if you are interested in participating.

On June 23rd, CAREHouse will be having its Stewards of Children training. The cost is \$350.00 and more information can be found at www.darkness2light.org.

Next Steps:

The next meeting is scheduled for June 25th, 2009 from 1:00-3:00 at Carehouse.