

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

Basic Needs, Economic Security & Child Safety Subcommittee

Meeting Notes

January 8, 2009
 9:30-11:30 AM
 Oakland County Child Care Council

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

Recap: Chandra Jones provided a recap of our last meeting in December

Updated information Poverty Summit of November 13, 2008. (reported by Nicole Denson). Region 8 planning meetings have begun (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Monroe counties). Access to early childhood programs will be one of the first priorities. GSC-O will be requested to provide information to assist the effort. The next Region 8 meeting will be held in Oakland County.

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: <i>Increase awareness of available community resources and referral & resource systems.</i>					
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.	Ongoing

				1-8-08 Approved final letter to 2-1-1. Letter will be signed by Committee Chairperson, Chandra Jones	
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 partners. 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 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. 1-8-08 Continued review of	

				<p>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 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>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.</p>	
<p>Lead # 3 BN/ES/CS1.B.4 -</p>	<p>Access to</p>	<p>Basic Needs Subcommittee</p>	<p>3/31/09</p>	<p>Communicate with</p>	

Research community resources in specific townships/municipalities	information Time	GSC-O Staff Other Potential Partners		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	
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	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	

Oakland County				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	
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	
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 lastg meeting. Added: Do you know of other	

				<p>transportation resources? What are they?</p> <p>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 lack of transportation?</p>	
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Summer Lunch Program Notes from presentation by Jerry Sedick 12-11-08.

OLHSA was requested by the City of Pontiac to operate the summer lunch programs in 2006, since they were no longer able. OLHSA built on the long established programs in Pontiac with established networks and expertise.

- Program is federally funded, but operated through Dept of Ed in Michigan.
- Free and reduced lunch eligibility required
- Funding continues but it has been very difficult for the state to recruit sites, host organizations
- Oakland County had a few specific sites (camps, etc) but very few open sites, although Gleaners is now open in Hazel Park
- OLHSA is not able to take on other sites, but regularly get callers who need the service outside Pontiac. Program is expensive to run and OLHSA cannot afford the loss
- Breakfast, lunch, and snacks are allowed but there is very low reimbursement for each
- OLHSA only provided lunches for the whole City of Pontiac, so they benefited from economy of scale
- Because Pontiac has 50% eligible, the whole city is eligible based on Free and Reduced lunch eligibility and no eligibility paperwork is required
- Serves 0-26, over 18 only if disabled
- Private sites must maintain paperwork files for eligibility.
- State publishes lists of areas with high eligible populations
- Younger children can show up and get food, but parents cannot be fed.
- Food cannot be taken off site
- Any food service organization can bid for the service, but the reimbursement is less than \$3.00 for an approved lunch
- OLHSA advertises their sites in the Oakland Press, flyers sent home with students, PSA's, OCHD, and other agencies

- OLHSA interested in new Pontiac sites, especially need in NE. Each site must have 2 trained site supervisors and one must be there when the food is distributed.
- OLHSA has been serving 1100-1200/day

Next Meeting: February 12, 2009, 9:30-11:30 AM, Oakland County Child Care Council.