

# Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

## Parenting Education & Family Support Subcommittee

### Meeting Notes

September 24, 2009  
 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
 CARE House

**In Attendance:**

Miriana Milo, Carehouse; Bridget Hanigan, 4C; Mary Schusterbauer, OYCA; Joyce Siggall, OLHSA-Head Start; Craig Stone, OFS; Sabrina Williams, Parent Rep; Charles Ludwig, Carehouse; Kevin O’Shea, BBFA/Partnership for Dads; Donna Lackie, OS; Lisa Sturges, GSC-O

**Action Agenda Status:**

<b>PARENTING EDUCATION &amp; FAMILY SUPPORT</b>			
<b>Families support and guide the early learning of their infants and young children.</b>			
<b>OBJECTIVE/ACTION STEP</b>	<b>TARGET DATES</b>	<b>PROGRESS MEASURES</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<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>			
<b>Strategy PE/FS1.A:</b> 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).	Lisa shared with the group that the printing of the resource guide is on hold pending funding for next year. A final draft is now complete and we will be able to finalize the printing and dissemination plan at the October meeting.
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	10/31/09	Resource guide is revised/changed	See Above

resource guide as needed, research potential funding sources and disseminate resource guide on an annual basis.		and disseminated on an annual basis.	
<b>Strategy PE/FS1.B:</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
<b>Strategy PE/FS1.C:</b> 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.	The kiosk will be at the Commerce Township Library in October.
<b>Strategy PE/FS1.D:</b> 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
<b>Strategy PE/FS1.E:</b> Create “Parenting your Infant/Toddler/Preschooler” toolkits			
PE/FS1.E.1 -Research existing publications	4/30/09	Existing publications are reported	Lisa shared with the group that this

to see what is already in place and what is needed		on.	project two is on hold pending funding for next year. More discussion on this will also happen at the October meeting.
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
<b>Goal PE/FS2:</b> <i>Every family with young children has the skills and knowledge needed to provide learning opportunities, leading to school readiness for their children.</i>			
<b>Strategy PE/FS2.A:</b> 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.	No Update
PE/FS2.A.2 -Hold annual parenting conference for families with young children.	5/31/09	Parenting Conference will have been provided.	See above
<b>Strategy PE/FS2.B:</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 subcommittee had an extensive discussion on the Protective Factors/Strengthening Families model. For Oakland County: Donna and Lisa shared a copy of a powerpoint training that we are beginning to develop for trainings with parents. Lisa also shared more information on what the world café/parent café model looks like. Donna reminded the group about the house of cards activity. As discussed last month, this would be an overview training that we

			would take to where the parents are (PTA meetings, parent ed classes, etc.). We discussed piloting this at a parent coalition meeting, 3 local YA meetings, Healthy Families-Oakland groups, and 3 general community locations (such as a library). Mary suggested that we make sure that we consider what parents will take away from the trainings. Donna told the group that herself and two ECIC staff will be attending the National Strengthening Families Conference at the end of October. As a state, as of yet we do not know what will be required from ECIC regarding this model for our scope of work. However, both Donna a Kevin sit on the state version of our subcommittee and will be able to keep us informed of their intent and focus 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:**

Donna provided an update on the budget based on information from our trip to Lansing the day prior. Great Parents Great Start which was originally suggested to be cut from the budget was maintained and the 0-3 Secondary Prevention which was originally suggested to be cut totally from the budget was only cut 25%. In addition, the Great Start Collaborative was cut by \$750,000. This funding still remains up in the air and advocacy is still needed.

Because funding is still unknown, the group did an activity to prioritize the action agenda items. All projects were written on flip chart paper and subcommittee members we asked to prioritize the top three items they felt were most important for children and families in Oakland County. The purple sticky was first priority, the pink sticky was a second priority and the blue sticky was a third priority. Votes were county (3 points for purple, 2 points for pink and 1 point for blue). Continuation of the parenting resource guide was a first priority, continuation of the parenting conference was a second and piloting a Strengthening Families parent training model was a third priority. In addition, parent outreach events and parent ambassadors were two items on the agenda that were noted to only take time and not \$\$ to implement. It is possible that these could continue at some level without much budget needs.

Donna presented a Healthy Start Grant from the Oakland County Health Division for our committee to review and support. The purpose of this federal grant is to reduce infant mortality and maternal health disparities. The populations targeted for this project's outreach and recruitment activities are women of any race with low socio-economic status, especially African American women who are extremely susceptible to poor birth outcomes. The geographic location of this project is the city of Pontiac and bordering neighborhoods in Auburn Hills and Waterford where the overall average infant mortality rate was 13 for the period 2004-2006. Two model home visitation programs will either be expanded or enhanced. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital's Healthy Families America model will add case managers who can serve an additional 100 families per year increasing their capacity to 225 Pontiac families per year. OCHD's Nurse-Family Partnership model, which services 100 Pontiac families per year will be supported with materials and training allowing program continuation. Both programs will be enhanced with enabling resources such as transportation, childcare, translation and hands-on health education. In total, this Healthy Start project will serve more than 1575 vulnerable women, infants and children in Pontiac each year. A motion was made by Mary Schusterbauer to support this grant proposal, Joyce Siggall seconded that motion. Charles Ludwig abstained from the motion all other subcommittee members approved the motion.

### **Announcements:**

Donna Lackie announced an upcoming webinar on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> put together by Chapin Hall (University of Chicago). The webinar, Evidence Based Systems of Home Visitation: Opportunities for Replication and State Innovation, focused on how components of national home visitation models are currently being incorporated into systems of early childhood interventions and care, and shared lessons learned from Virginia's 20-year experience with home visitation and cross-system collaboration. Donna Lackie will provide further information at our next meeting.

Kevin O'Shea announced BBFA's first ever parenting and wellness fair to be held Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. More information about the fair as well as other upcoming events at [www.bbfaprevention.org](http://www.bbfaprevention.org).

Joyce Siggall announced an upcoming Head Start Conference on November 19 and 20 to be held at MSU Troy Campus. Presenters are needed, please contact Connie Sidor at (248) 409-1605.

**Next Steps:**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 1:00-3:00 at Carehouse.