

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland

Parenting Education & Family Support Subcommittee

Meeting Notes

October 22, 2009
 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 CARE House

In Attendance:

Miriana Milo, Carehouse; Mary Schusterbauer, OYCA; Joyce Siggall, OLHSA-Head Start; Charles Ludwig, Carehouse; Kevin O’Shea, BBFA/Partnership for Dads; Rosemary Spatafora, Safety Bear; 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).	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 upon budget approval.
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	10/31/09	Resource guide is revised/changed and disseminated on an annual	See Above

potential funding sources and disseminate resource guide on an annual basis.		basis.	
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.	The kiosk will be at the Novi Library in November.
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	4/30/09	Existing publications are reported on.	Lisa shared with the group that this project is on hold pending funding for

needed			next year.
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.	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
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.	Lisa shared with the subcommittee that Donna made a presentation on the Protective Factors Model with DHS employees earlier in the month. The powerpoint included information about the model, potential questions to ask of parents, and ways to identify resource needs for families. Chuck suggested that it might be nice to see this presentation, depending on length at our next subcommittee meeting. Donna and two ECIC staff will be attending the National Strengthening Families Conference at the end of October and will be able to provide

			us further information at our next meeting, on how other states are utilizing this model. 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:

Much of our subcommittee meeting was spent on discussion of subcommittee considerations. Details of those discussions follow.

**Additional Subcommittee Members-as a group we discussed if there were additional “voices” that were not yet at the table that could be invited. Some suggestions included someone from the Beaumont Parenting Program, St. Joseph’s Healthy Start, Healthy Families Program, OCHD Nurse Family Partnership Program, and OCHD Public Health Nursing Services Program. In additional other suggestions included Oakland University (nursing or special education program) and DHS. Lisa will work with Donna to follow up with these individuals to see if they would like to collaborate with our subcommittee.

****Co-chairs-**Chuck Ludwig has agreed to stay on as a co-chair for our subcommittee. He spoke a little bit about the commitment before we began a discussion on a possible co-chair. The group discussed several individuals to invite to be our new co-chair. These individuals are actively engaged and involved in the work we do for this subcommittee as well as in their own work with families. Lisa will follow up with these individuals.

****New meeting structure-**The group discussed the possibility that our full subcommittee would meet less often (every other month or every quarter) but would replace those meetings with “task force groups” for individual projects we are working on. Task force group meeting times would be based on project needs (for instance, if someone was on the conference task force group they may meet often between January and May, but probably would not meet at all during the summer/fall months). Subcommittee members would sign up for each project based on the level of involvement they would like to have with each task force. Lisa suggested that levels of involvement might include (1) those that would like to *carry out* the work, (2) those that would like to be *consulted* about the work and (3) those that would like to stay *clued in* to what is happening with the work. Chuck and Mary suggested that the third category would probably be our full subcommittee so that as a group we are always *clued in* to the work of the subcommittee task force groups. Lisa suggested that subcommittee members should be part of the *carry out* task force group for at least one project to allow for full collaboration. Subcommittee members would pick task force groups based on their own interests and their work they do. Task force projects include: parent resource guide, parent outreach events, parenting kiosk, parenting toolkits, parent conference and resource fair, and strengthening families/protective factors. The group agreed that the full subcommittee should meet every other month so that our work continues to move forward. They also suggested that every summer we could have either a longer meeting or a “retreat” for strategic planning. They also agreed that we could try this for a year and see if we think it works for us. Lisa will send out a survey for all subcommittees to choose their level of involvement for each task force group project. Please look for that soon.

Announcements:

Kevin O’Shea reminded everyone about BBFA’s parenting and wellness fair to be held Saturday, November 14th. More information about the fair as well as other upcoming events at www.bbfaprevention.org.

Rosemary reminded everyone about the upcoming PAM Conference in Lansing. She also mentioned the next PAM Oakland meeting would be November 4th and would have someone from the Abilities Center making a presentation about the services they offer. On December 2nd, UWSEM will be presenting information about 211.

Mary mentioned that the parenting calendar is now online only and is looking for ways to forward that link out. She will try to come up with a shorter link to be sent.

Next Steps:

The next meeting was changed (due to Thanksgiving) for November 19th, 2009 from 1:00-3:00 at Carehouse.