

Great Start Collaborative-Oakland 2009 Action Agenda Summary

Physical Health

Goal 1: Screening & Resources

All young children and their families have access to basic screening and health care resources.

- Strategy A: Provide education and mentorship to parents so that all children are screened for preventable health problems.
- Strategy B: Create a health outreach unit that would provide information and guidance for basic healthcare screening and resources.

Goal 2: Medical Home

Every child has a medical home.

- Strategy A: Create a "Medical Homes for All Young Children" initiative.

Goal 3: Immunizations

Increase immunization rates among young children.

- Strategy A: Improve the accuracy of immunization data in the Michigan Care Improvement Registry
- Strategy B: Provide educational opportunities and materials for parents on the importance of immunizations.

Goal 4: Infant Mortality

Reduce infant Mortality.

- Strategy A: Continue public awareness and education efforts on safe sleep and the importance of prenatal care

Goal 5: Childhood Obesity

Reduce childhood obesity during early childhood years in Oakland County.

- Strategy A: Align and partner with existing public awareness and education efforts on obesity prevention.

Goal 6: Subcommittee Membership

The Physical Health Subcommittee will be representative of the broad range of physical health care services and facilities in Oakland County.

- Strategy A: Increase subcommittee membership.

Social-Emotional Health

Goal 1: Challenging Behaviors

All children with challenging behaviors have access to quality early care and education.

- Strategy A: Collect data regarding challenging behaviors in early care and education programs (home- and center-based) including disenrollment rates, usage of resources, disparities in expulsion, need for resources and training needs for the development of a child care expulsion intervention plan.
- Strategy B: Understand the scope of sensory integration needs in Oakland County and the resources available to address these needs.
- Strategy C: Monitor implementation of additional CCEP services to assure services are meeting the needs of Oakland County.

Goal 2: Access

There is **One Call for All** for families to access services that will enhance the social emotional development of their children 0-5.

- Strategy A: Develop *One Call for All* for families with children 0-5 in need of social emotional support.

Goal 3: Maternal Depression

Pregnant women have access to adequate prenatal and post partum services for maternal depression.

- Strategy A: Gain an understanding of current practices, gaps in services, potential partnerships, and legislative initiatives to support and promote prenatal and post partum depression services.
- Strategy B: Develop public awareness and outreach messages to reduce the stigma attached to maternal depression.

Parent Education

Goal 1: Awareness

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.

- Strategy A: Create a Parenting Education and Family Support Resource Guide for families with young children.
- Strategy B: Create a central database and calendar for programs and services for young children and their families.
- Strategy C: In conjunction with the Community Engagement workgroup, outreach to the community to increase utilization of parenting resources throughout the community.
- Strategy D: Provide training on the importance of early childhood development and community resources, including empowering parents.
- Strategy E: Create "Parenting your Infant/Toddler/Preschooler" toolkits.

Goal 2: Access

Every family with young children has the skills and knowledge needed to provide learning opportunities, leading to school readiness for their children.

- Strategy A: Provide high quality parenting education and family support services that are research based.
- Strategy B: Assess the availability and accessibility of existing parent education and family support services in Oakland County.

Early Care and Education

Goal 1: Special Needs

Children with special needs are identified early and are connected to appropriate early intervention services.

- Strategy A: Outreach to physicians and provide technical assistance on child screening/assessment and community resources.
- Strategy B: Outreach to GSC partners and others and provide technical assistance on child screening/assessment and community resources.

Goal 2: Professional Development

Early childhood care and education professionals have access to professional development and technical assistance.

- Strategy A: Provide training and networking opportunities for early care and education professionals that address the diverse and special needs of families.
- Strategy B: Connect child care professionals to training opportunities and community resources.

Goal 3: Quality Rating and Improvement System

High quality early care and education is available for families in their communities.

- Strategy A: Identify high quality early care and education programs and research QRIS for Oakland County.
- Strategy B: Provide quality improvement training and technical assistance to early care and education programs.

Goal 4: Kindergarten Readiness

Children are prepared for kindergarten, teachers and schools are prepared for the children they will receive, and parents are prepared to participate in the process.

- Strategy A: Research kindergarten status assessment for Oakland County.
- Strategy B: Build partnerships between schools and early childhood programs to ensure a smooth transition into elementary school.

Basic Needs

Goal 1: Resource & Referral

Increase awareness of available community resources and referral & resource systems.

- Strategy A: Promote the use of United Way 211 Information & Referral Service.
- Strategy B: Gain an understanding of the current resource and referral systems and which community organizations and families are using to access service information.
- Strategy C: Assist early childhood services and supports in connecting their information to the 211 Database.

Goal 2: Housing

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.

- Strategy A: Connect with other collaborative groups with housing Goals.

Goal 3: Transportation

Raise awareness of the need for more transportation resources for very low-income families with young children.

- Strategy A: Understand what other groups are doing to address this need.