

# Great Start Collaborative-Oakland Parenting Education & Family Support Subcommittee Meeting Notes

March 26, 2009  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
CARE House

**In Attendance:**

Craig Stone, OFS; Joyce Siggall, OLHSA-Head Start; Brenda Jenkins, New Hope/Circle of Parents; Bridget Hanigan, Oakland 4C; Miriana Milo, Carehouse; Charles Ludwig, Carehouse; Suzi Wilson, Catholic Social Services; Stacey Weaver, Parent; Kim Bowyer, GSC-O; 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>			
OBJECTIVE/ACTION STEP	TARGET DATES	PROGRESS MEASURES	STATUS
<b>Goal PE/FS1:</b> <i>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).	Due to conference planning, final edits and additions to the resource guide have not yet been completed. However, 1000 copies of the first edition have been ordered in order to ensure that there are enough copies for the two conferences as well as the many outreach opportunities throughout March and April. Lisa suggested that with the second edition

			finalization not happening until May, we send out the evaluation to those who have ordered the resource guide. The group agreed to this. We will see what response we get back over the next six weeks.
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
<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).	A total of 300 posters with tear off notepads were printed. Lisa reported that the process did not go as smoothly as we had hoped, especially the extended printing/gluing process. In addition, due to the size, mailing the posters was not an option. Thankfully, many people offered to help distribute them and they were brought to WIC offices, YA offices, libraries, some child care agencies, friend of the court waiting rooms, OFS offices, OLHSA, etc. The group decided that next year we would start the process much sooner so that printing is completed by the

			end of January and distribution happens in February. Additionally, about 100 small tear off notepads have not been glued- these can still be used throughout the year at outreach events.
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.	Utilizing space at both child care agencies and libraries, the kiosk is scheduled for into next year. It spent its first month at the host site of the Farmington library. Feedback from the librarian was very positive; in fact she wished she could have it year round. The kiosk will be in Lake Orion at the CERC building for the month of April. Lisa brought up the issue of publication tracking. She suggested that a form be created 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. The group also suggested that we could put a picture on our website of the kiosk and a question- "where is it now" asking people to guess where the kiosk with the free parenting resources is." Lisa will look into this possibility.
<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	7/31/09	The model is implemented in	See above

schools and with community partners, aligning with Great Start Community Awareness Action Plan.		schools and with community partners.	
<b>Strategy PE/FS1.E:</b> 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 toolkit workgroup was scheduled to meet after the subcommittee. This workgroup will (1) define the ages for each of the 3 groups and (2) begin to build a matrix of what materials might be included in each of these 3 toolkits. At the subcommittee meeting, the group discussed where/how the toolkit might be distributed. Ideas included through pediatrician offices, home visiting programs and health clinics. The group reiterated the importance of making sure that the population with the greatest need be the target for these toolkits.
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.	Plans for two conferences continue. Donna provided the adult and child count for both conferences. Lisa put the word out for volunteers both for Friday

			<p>afternoon set up as well as conference day. Lisa mentioned that the final conference brochure is almost finalized with speakers times set up and vendors. Confirmations will be sent next week. Children's entertainment and schedule is also set. Both sites have a final meeting next week to go over any final details. T-shirts for the conference volunteers have been ordered. Buckets were donated for both children and adults. Lisa brought in a list of both bucket contents.</p>
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.	<p>The group has been discussing the possibility of following the model that the state level parent education and family support subcommittee will be using--the "5 protective factors for promoting healthy families." At our last meeting, the group decided that next month we would do an activity where we define what each of those 5 factors mean. The group divided into teams of two and each group discussed one of the 5 factors. Each group discussed (1) what this means in Oakland County, (2) where families can find it in Oakland County and (3) what we can do to support it in Oakland County. After, each group shared their discussion with the larger group. Donna suggested</p>

			that this might become a one page document that we could then use for local training, talking about intentionality, or considering parent education program reviews or self assessments. Lisa agreed that she would review the website and report back next month on how other states have used this model.
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:**

None at this time.

**Announcements:**

Craig Stone announce the parenting fair to be held that Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Baker.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. On April 30, Carehouse will be having a Circle of Light at 6:15 at the Oakland County Courthouse. An illumination flyer will be out soon.

Kim Bowyer announced that her next Parent Coalition meeting was on April 20, 2009 at the Pee Wee Patch in Lake Orion.

**Next Steps:**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2009 from 1:00-3:00 at Carehouse.