

Great Start Collaborative
Michigan Works! Conference Center
January 28, 2014

Meeting Notes

In attendance: Yvonne Donohoe, Woody Smith, Chasity Gouker, Angie Norvell, Kristin Witt, Cheryl Bloomquist, Kathy Kundrat, Candice Hamel, Rene' Beyette, Eileen Mikulski, Courtney Barnett, Samuel Campillo, Sara-Jo Vidor, Jennifer Savage, Mike Hill, Steve Rawlings, Brigid Wilson, Bob Gluszewski, Nancy Kida, Denise Busley, Maggie Sprattmoran, Donna Morrison, Jim Rowlett, Jill Murphy, Robin Hornkohl, Mary Manner, Doug DeYoung, Ray Antel

Welcome (Mike Hill & Steve Rawlings)

Inspiration: Denise Busley, founder & owner of Grand Traverse Pie Company

- I believe in "Us"—people can do anything, we sent men to the moon; treating humanity better is way easier than landing on the moon
- We are relatively isolated in northwest lower Michigan; we can wrap our arms around this region and make change happen
- Fetzer Foundation video from the Business Plenary *The Shift*
<http://amara.org/en/videos/0EthQCRycog/en/144055/>
- When I became a youth mentor it opened the door to much that is unseen in the lives of children and youth
- 1 in 10 children will be sexually abused by contact before they reach their 18th birthday
- Zero Tolerance (a community-owned initiative) event is held here annually in April. We presented it to the Big Ten Council of Presidents and asked for an opportunity to disseminate information via Big 10 sports. Penn State bowl money is being distributed to rest of the Big 10 universities; Traverse City received Michigan State University's share of the money (\$180K) to train all child/youth workers—there is a simple solution even though the issue is complex and convoluted
- We must make the shift from shame, blame, punish to asking the right questions and creating the change we want to see

5 to ONE

5 to ONE Satellites: in small groups, think about what could happen at satellite locations—the activities, programs and services that could happen there, and who might be involved. Think of a location in your community that could become a satellite. Plan a two-minute report to share with the whole group. Create a visual to represent your ideas.

Group A *Solar System* (Jim, Donna, Jill)

- Early childhood room in school
- Activities: parent ed, play groups, family activities
- Home visiting
- Combined funding
- Rooms in schools, churches, libraries, potential business areas
- How to get started: staff person at each satellite, volunteers not enough
- Parent driven, parent coalitions could be bases to start
- Start up: start slowly, one site that is successful

Group B Lighthouse (Robin, Mike, Maggie)

- Lighthouse visual: Beacons of light, hope, visually beauty
- Leelanau county focus, lots of existing resources but cuts impact awareness
- Gaps in southern part of county
- A demo site in Suttons Bay/Pshawtown to serve migrants, the Band to coordinate effort
- Bingham Tshp. Lots of need, not much happening
- Play groups, lots of things to do, parent driven, protective factors embedded

Group C Rainbow (Brigid, Steve, Bob)

- A rainbow leading to the rock in Kingsley
- Colors in rainbow represent the services available
- Focus on parents finding resources, especially things that don't cost money
- Place for kids to play, parent education on finding childcare
- Homework and dinner program—tutoring, free or low-cost meal for low income families
- Multi-purpose facility
- Satellite could be a group of resources not necessarily housed in a single building... school, rock and library, a group of close buildings
- Transportation is important—there is a bus stop at the rock

Group D Sun (Sam, Courtney, Sarah, Jennifer)

- The Sun—a hub, with rays of light being the counties
- Non-brick & mortar, moving activities from place to place to make it easy for people to get to
- Non-traditional hours so parents can access it
- Having a “211-person” staffing the site to talk to people
- Having play groups, children’s activities and parent activities that create mentors and connections
- Home-based services, prevention services especially
- How to get the word out about the satellites: TV, radio, billboards—but these haven’t worked to recruit foster parents; instead, what if people at grocery stores, doctors offices handing out info plus a healthy snack or treat to get people’s attention

comment we should all be approaching our local newspapers to get the word out to families; get their commitment

Group E (Cheryl, Kathy, Candice)

- A teacher and a bus (1970’s head start)
- Hub has one vision, one message—training that supports programming, not a program
- Take services out to families at library, or homes, or schools, wherever people are already in that community
- Discover where parents go, would look different in different places
- Network
- Non-traditional hours, weekends, must fit the community
- People in the community must have power and ownership over the satellite
- Getting the people in the community on board
- Route to take it to the families

Group F (Angie, Kristin)

- Talked about many of the same places as other groups
- Kaskaska, GT out-county areas
- In rural communities people are meeting at the libraries
- Communities touch each other, must not be in isolation
- What is available, what is the resource—must be very clear to staff
- Linking to all resources, “dot connector”
- Get the word out by greeting people broadly in the community
- Common intake, info from a parent is easy, basic and consistent
- Parents who can't access in person could apply online to receive info
- Have an app or QR code branding for smart phone
- Good communication between, among communities with consistent message
- Book mobile, ice cream trucks

Group G *Spider Web* (Doug, Yvonne, Woody)

- Community centers, within every community there is a place that gets boosted with enhanced services
- Bowling, music classes, tae kwon do, etc.
- Still some families who won't come because of barriers like lack of transportation, homeless
- Families in need will be seeking help, so everywhere people might go is connected
- Support places like libraries that have their own mission, fun stuff going on plus broad-based support
- Maybe the visual is a spider web?

Group H *Garden* (Rene', Chas, Nancy, Ray)

- Ditto, ditto, ditto
- Warm and welcoming, childcare, meals, maybe a monthly dinner
- Host DHS worker, others on a rotating basis
- A place to have coffee in a comfortable place and talk about concerns they have about their children
- Kitchen & garden
- Childcare site
- Satellite of the satellites
- Connect through online
- Central location with busing for families
- Play groups, resource site
- Garden visual

Wrap up (Mike Hill): I am proud of this activity, because we truly have the voice of five counties!

GSRP Update: Yvonne Donohoe-McCool & Angela Norvell

30+ year history of publicly funded preschool in Michigan

501 slots (a slot is a half day) before this year's expansion

809 slots after expansion

Focus has been on expanding opportunity in small communities like Frankfort & Bellaire, on working with new partners, and expansion through TCAPS

Next step is another \$65M proposed in the 2015 budget which will increase the number of slots available

Overall we are doing a good job of identifying highest risk children; only 2% of children enrolled in GSRP live in families whose income is over 250% of federal poverty level

We are fortunate to have good partners in Head Start, local districts and community partners

Next topics to address will be new set asides for 0 – 3, transportation, special services, program quality improvement

TBAISD GSRP Staffing

- Angie—lead specialist
- Sue Hawkins (preK diagnostics)
- Marsha Miller
- Robin Hornkohl

Some facts about GSRP

- Begun in 1985
- Over 500,000 children have participated in the program
- Kids in GSRP did better in school
- Kindergarten teachers rate them higher in creativity, attendance, completing assignments
- Savings of 42% due to reduced retention

Adjourn 12:10 p.m.

Next meeting: MARCH 18, 2014

Northwestern Michigan College

1701 E. Front Street, Traverse City MI

Campus map: <https://www.nmc.edu/about/maps/index.html>

9:00 a.m. in the Milliken Auditorium at the Dennon Museum

Michigan State University College of Human Medicine/Munson Health Care/Northwestern Michigan College Health Lecture Series Guest Speaker:

Dr. B. Keith English, Academic Chair Department of Pediatrics, MSU College of Human Medicine

<http://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2013/college-of-human-medicine-names-new-pediatrics-chair/>

10:00 a.m. (immediately following the lecture) at the Oleson Center

Great Start Collaborative Meeting

Dr. B. Keith English, guest presenter