



**Great Start Collaborative Wayne
Minutes
July 17, 2006**

Members Present: Toni Hartke, (Detroit Public Schools) Julie Boggs (Office of the Prosecuting Attorney), John Colina (Colina Foundation), Lucia Cruz (Parent Representative), Candi DeJesus (Parent Representative), Fred Eaton (Comcast), Cheryl Frost (Children's Outreach), Ana Rosa Gonzalez (Parent Representative), Elizabeth Grace (Schoolcraft College), Sonia Harb (ACCESS), Susan Hooks Brown (Vistas Nuevas Head Start), Anne Marie Harris (United Way of Southeastern Michigan), Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood (State Representative), Barbara Trippe (The Guidance Center), Carol Matthews (Parent Representative) Pat Miller (Southwest Solutions), Lena Montgomery (Wayne RESA), Mary Mueller (Children's Hospital of Michigan), Mary Ellen Fritsch (YWCA of Western Wayne County), Mariana Orozco (Parent Representative), Pat Oviedo (Representing Steve Tobocman, State Representative), Caryn Pack Ivey (Parent Representative) Carole Quarterman (Child Care Coordinating Council of Detroit/Wayne County), Veronica Rosa (Parent Representative), Bernell Wiggins (Department of Human Services), Marilyn Schmitt (Wayne County Infant and Toddler Interagency Coordinating Council), Katie Silverman (U of M Dearborn), Mylon Reynolds (Wayne County Head Start), Cherie Ross-Barber (Early Childhood Investment Corporation), Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas (St. Paul's United Church of Christ), and Tamalon Overton (Skillman Foundation)

Staff Present: Pat Sargent, Linda Stanko, and Deborah Strong

- Chair John Colina called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. John added to the Agenda discussion on a mini grant available through the ECIC.
- Introductions were made.
- **ECIC Update:** The guest for the meeting was Cherie Ross-Barber, our Technical Assistance Coordinator from the Early Childhood Investment Corporation. Cherie lives in Wayne County and has a Master's Degree and Infant Mental Health Certificate from Wayne State. She has a wealth of experience working with parents, infants and young children. She will join us periodically and bring us updated information on what is happening at the ECIC level, offer us technical assistance and will take questions back to the ECIC staff and executive committee. ECIC staff will be moving soon. This will help people understand that the ECIC is not a part of state government but is a non-profit public corporation. Staff is providing technical assistance throughout the state. One recent event was for parents from the local collaboratives focusing on leadership. Michigan will also be receiving technical assistance from Smart Start and the plan should be in place soon. The pending budget includes \$1,000,000 for the ECIC which would allow the ECIC to qualify for over \$6,000,000 in other funds. This

would result in additional Great Start Collaboratives and Capacity Building Communities being named based on the applications previously submitted.

- **ECIC Parent Focus Group Report**-Carol Matthews reviewed the June 30th ECIC meeting in Lansing. Representatives from each of the Great Start Local Collaboratives and capacity building communities were invited. It focused on how parents can provide leadership in the Collaboratives; they received books as resources, Words of Advice, Families Serving as Advisors, and Essential Allies, Families Serving as Advisors. Carol will hold a meeting with the other GSC-W parents to share her experience and pass out their books.
- **Legislative Update**-Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood gave an update on the education budget. The Conference Report will be voted on next week and on the Governors desk for approval. He expects it to pass. His suggestion for us was to make sure we thank our own representatives for supporting young children in this budget.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - *Executive Committee* Chair: John Colina Members: Caryn Pack-Ivey, Marie Colombo, Jack O'Reilly, and Susan Hooks-Brown. All three staff members are present at Executive Committee. They meet on the third Monday of the months in which the Collaborative does not meet.

Currently they are filling spots that need representation on the collaborative body and suggesting members for the other three committees.

Data Collection and Evaluation Committee Chair: Marie Colombo Members: Mike Lott, Cecelia Mobley, Mary Mueller, Carole Quarterman, Marilyn Schmitt, Katie Silverman, Bernell Wiggins. Deborah Strong is staffing the committee. Marilyn Schmitt gave a report about their first meeting, which was on July 10th. There was much discussion on the Data Assessment Template. Several additional indicators of local importance were suggested such as 1) estimates of children in family, friends and neighbor child care, 2) legal and undocumented immigration, 3) special needs children, 4) children with asthma and 5) premature births. They would like to identify a consultant that could be used to gather data and come up with a time line for the completion. The suggestion was to have a consultant by July 31st and have the data completed by September 1st. The next meeting will be by August 2nd.

Communications and Marketing Committee has not met yet. Members: Dr. Dahan Alnajar, Deborah Brodrick, Lucia Cruz, Fred Eaton, Rep. Hopgood, Pat Miller and Mia Rye. They will meet in the next two weeks. Pat will staff this committee

Finance Committee has not met yet. Members; Cheryl Frost, Amber Daniels, Kathy Wendler, and Rob Bovitz. Deborah Strong will staff this committee. They will be developing a case statement to be used in seeking donations to GSC-W. Annmarie Harris volunteered to join the committee.

- **First Quarter Report to ECIC** The report is due July 30th. Pat Sargent met with Lena and RESA fiscal staff to review the expenditures to date. We need to do a budget revision due to staffing changes and Pat is checking with the ECIC contract manager to see if the budget revision should be submitted prior to the report.
- **ECIC Coordinator's Meeting and Frameworks Institute:** The meeting will be at the Guidance Center in Southgate at the Center for Excellence on August 23rd.
- **Mini Grant Discussion:** There is an opportunity to apply for a \$5,000 grant from the ECIC. The grant application must be submitted by August 4th and the money spent by September 30th. There was much discussion on what to do and there was a consensus that a county wide parent leadership conference would be valuable. If we expect the event to have over 200 in attendance we will inform Cherie as the ECIC Board would like an opportunity to participate in large Great Start events. Members present signed up to help with the planning of the application and the event should the grant be received. Decisions on funding will be made on August 11th.
- **Early Childhood Systems Building:** Pat shared information on other states engaged in early childhood systems building work.
- **Partners News:** Reverend Drutchas shared the Taylor Human Services will be hosting a Back to School day on August 31st. There will be boxes of food, school supplies and immunizations.
- Adjournment at 11:01.

**Next meeting: September 18th at Downriver
Community Conference, breakfast 8:30 a.m. and
meeting promptly at 9 a.m.**