



### **About Great Start Collaborative-Wayne**

Launched in 2006, Great Start Collaborative-Wayne (GSC-W) is a non-profit organization that offers key resources to help children from birth to age 5 establish a strong, healthy foundation for a successful life. Great Start Collaborative-Wayne, which is funded by private and public donors.

GSC-W seeks to engage the entire community to assist Wayne County families in providing a great start for children ages 0-5. Whether a parent, educator, professional or business or community leader, there are opportunities for all to get involved in building a strong foundation for young children. So, as they grow older, they will be well-equipped to for a successful and healthy life.

### **Vision**

To provide a Great Start for every child in Wayne County: safe, healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life.

### **Mission**

To engage the entire community to assure a coordinated system of services and resources to assist all Wayne County families in providing a great start for their children from birth through age five.

There are five components to GSC-W, which include:

- **Physical Health Care**-Comprehensive physical health and child development services – including screening, assessment, intervention, as well as timely and appropriate referral for specialized developmental, behavioral and psychosocial assessment and intervention.
- **Social-Emotional Health Care**-Specialized developmental and mental health services designed to promote the social-emotional well-being of all young children and address the needs of children at-risk of developing mental health problems.
- **Early Care & Education**-Early care (child care) and education services that support children's early learning, health and social-emotional well-being.
- **Basic Needs, Economic Security & Child Safety**-Services and supports that address the basic, daily living needs of families as well as child and family safety.
- **Parenting Education and Family Support**- Parenting Education supports for parents in the critical role they play in their child's overall development. Family Support for the healthy development of children that address the stressors impairing the ability of families to nurture the well-being, safety and overall development of their children.



### **Committees:**

There are five committees for GSC-W, which include:

- **Business Engagement:**  
This committee focuses on educating and engaging the business community on the importance of investing in early childhood development and assist in leveraging funds. Early childhood investment is economic development.
- **Data Collection and Evaluation:**  
Provides and collects ongoing statistical information that aides in establishing goals and objectives, which is give to the community at-large.
- **Executive:**  
An elected body that oversees the work of Great Start Collaborative-Wayne.
- **Marketing and Communications:**  
Plans, develops and administers internal and external marketing and communications initiatives to increase awareness and inform the target audiences of Great Start Collaborative-Wayne's purpose and key issues impacting young children and their families.
- **Public Policy and Advocacy:**  
Advocates for the young child by identifying issues that impact them and their family and informs stakeholders of their importance.