



Minutes

March 17, 2008

Members Present: Larry Arreguin (Vision IT), Julie Boggs (Office of the Prosecuting Attorney), Kate Boyes, (The Guidance Center) Sheri Ann P. Campbell (Parent Representative), John Colina (Colina Foundation), Mia Cupp (Wayne Metro), Runae Ford (Parent Representative), Fred Eaton (Comcast), Dianne Flynn-Hahn (Schoolcraft College), Cheryl Frost (Children's Outreach), Ann Funchess (Spaulding for Children), Duane Haywood (Wayne County Dept. of Human Services), Andrea Hawkins (Parent Representative), Julia Hernandez (Parent Representative), Susan Hooks Brown (Southwest Solutions), Rosetta Howard (Parent Representative), Carol Matthews (Parent Representative), Kristen McDonald (The Skillman Foundation), Kurt Metzger (United Way), Nasirah Mitchell (Parent Representative), Lena Montgomery (Wayne RESA-Early On), Mary Mueller (Children's Hospital), Karen Murphy (YWCA of Western Wayne County), Michael Napper (Parent Representative), Carole Quarterman (4C), Mylon Reynolds (Wayne County Head Start), Ramana Roberson (Parent Representative), Veronica Rosa (Parent Representative), Dr.Carolynn Rowland (Detroit Dept. of Health and Wellness Promotion), Katie Silverman (U of M Dearborn), Sarah Smith (Parent Representative), Amber Strickland, (Parent Representative) Sally Stinson (Community Mental Health), Deborah Spring (Vistas Nuevas Head Start), Deborah Swasey (Wayne County Dept of Human Services), Rashida Tlaib (Representative for Rep. Tobocman), Shafyla Thompson (Parent Representative), Anne Marie Valdez (Child's Hope), Barbara Wilson (Parent Representative)

Members Absent: Dr. Dahan Alnajjar, (ACCESS), Cynthia Barnes (Parent Representative), Sharlonda Buckman (Detroit Parent Network), Michelle Butler (Home Based Child Care), Helen Oliver Brooks, (Detroit Public Schools) Shenetta Coleman, (Detroit Dept. of Human Services), Loretta Davis (Wayne County Health Department) Hoon-Yung Hopgood (State Representative), Rana Ismail (Parent Representative), Denise Osgood (UAW) Marilyn Schmitt (Wayne County Infant and Toddler Interagency Coordinating Council), Chris Todd, (Southern Wayne/Monroe Co. AEYC) Kathie Tuggle (Angel Wings Family Child Care), Pastor Jerome Warfield, (Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church), Suzanne Figurski-excused (Jefferson Elementary School), Christopher Wigent-excused (Wayne RESA), Brian Whitsett, (Parent Representative)

Guests Present: Cherie Ross Barber (ECIC), Leseliey Welch (Healthy Start Detroit Dept. of Health and Wellness Promotion) Colin Newlin (Braintree)

Staff Present: Pat Sargent, Deborah Strong, Elaine Koons, Linda Stanko, Caryn Pack Ivey

Call to Order: John Colina, Chair called the meeting to order.

Agenda: The agenda was amended to include the Treasurer's Report.

Minutes: The minutes were approved as presented.

Introductions: were made all around

Member Announcements:

- Carole Quarterman announced the 4C Public Policy Forum that is coming up on March 31, 2008 from 9:30 until noon with Jack Kresnak as the keynote speaker (please check GSC-W website for flyer). She announced the upcoming Mayor's Breakfast/Stand for Children on April 22 at the Detroit Yacht Club and the Emergency Child Care Assistance Fund (ECCAF) benefit on April 3rd (check GSC-W website for a link to details on our event page)
- Mary Mueller thanked everyone who voted for Children's Hospital which will receive an additional fun center as the top national vote getter in online voting from the Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation.
- Deborah Spring announced a Children and Literacy VIP dinner fundraiser at Los Galonos in Mexicantown.
- Fred Eaton announced that Comcast Cares Day is May 3rd. All Comcast offices will be involved in projects in the community. His office will be doing work at the Belleville and Sumpter Twp. Head Start sites.
- Michael Napper announced that Detroit Parent Network is doing a Parent Leadership training March 29th-9am until 4 pm, at Youthville in Detroit on Woodward. The cost is \$10 and includes membership to DPN.
- Annemarie Valdez announced the April 26th Child's Blue Ribbon Walk for Kids to raise awareness for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- Sally Stinson announced that The Guidance Center's-Family Resource Center in Southgate is having a Spring Carnival on April 17th at the Aquinas Center.
- Linda Stanko announced that The Healthy Downriver Family Expo is April 26th at the Holiday Inn in Southgate.

(Please check our events page, www.greatstartcollaborativewayne.org for more information on upcoming events. To post events for children and families throughout the county contact Linda@greatstartcollaborativewayne.org

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Wilson gave a brief overview of the finances for GSC-W there is approximately \$14,000 in ECIC funds that will be carried over from the Oct-Jan. planning period of this fiscal year into the Feb.-Sept fiscal period.

Presentation: Dr.Carolynn Rowland, from Detroit Dept. of Health and Wellness Promotion, did a presentation on infant mortality. Her presentation showed statistics on babies dying before one year of age because of pre-term birth, low birth weight, birth defects and unsafe sleep practices. She also talked about IVAN, an organization trying to improve the health of babies that will grow into healthy contributing adults. The presentation gave ways to promote and protect the health of women prior to conceiving and resources for women becoming pregnant. In conclusion Dr. Rowland proposed that the work of IVAN become a part of Great Start Collaborative-Wayne. There was some discussion of the presentation. Sally Stinson spoke of

supporting Dr. Rowland's request to roll IVAN into GSC-W. Pat suggested that the goals of the Physical Health Action Team would benefit from this proposal. Larry Arreguin made a motion for Great Start Collaborative-Wayne to absorb IVAN into the Physical Health Action Team, Fred Eaton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Legislative Update: Rashida Tlaib, from Representative Tobocman's office, gave a brief update of the state budget. She suggested that the Collaborative sign up for information to be emailed to them regarding the legislature and what is going on. She passed around a sheet for interested parties to sign up. She said the schedules of hearings can be emailed to constituents the day before. One issue that was being worked on was legal immigrant's inability to get drivers licenses and what Rep. Tobocman's office has been working on to correct the situation. There was also discussion on term limits. Carole Quarterman asked if we could get an email on which Representatives were term limited. The discussion led to talk of the Public Policy and Advocacy Policy Committee being aware of which legislators are for early childhood investment. Larry Arreguin suggested that the Public Policy and Advocacy Committee shape the Collaborative's approach to present to legislators.

ECIC update: Cherie Ross Barber gave a brief update on ECIC. Star Power is May 21st and everyone is invited to come along. Caryn Pack Ivey will serve on the ECIC planning committee for the event.

Parent Liaison: We now have 17 GSC-W parent representatives with new members Shafyla Thompson and Amber Strikland. Caryn and the parent reps. are moving forward with the formation of the Wayne County Parent Action Coalition (WCPAC). The Coalition did receive ECIC training on developing a vision statement and has met several times.

Marketing and Communications Committee: Mia announced the April 28th event that will release the Early Childhood Action Agenda GSC-W has created. It will be called *How are the Children? A Time for Action*. The keynote and Great Start Children's Champion award recipient for his work as a child advocate will be Jack Kresnak. Jack was a long time Free Press reporter specializing in children's issues and now serves as President and CEO of Michigan's Children. Five organizations will be spotlighted for their work in early childhood: Great Parents/Great Start, Universal Parenting Programs-RESA, Even Start Family Literacy Program-Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, Fatherhood Initiative-Detroit Parent Network, Family Friendly/Focused Business Practices-Valassis Communications, Wayne County Infant Mental Health Initiative. Invitations will be going out as well as email blasts.

Data Committee: Carole Quarterman gave a report on the goals of the Data and Evaluation Committee. Currently they are recruiting members. Their main goal is to drive change at a county level with an interactive data base using real time. Data would come from all agencies and anyone will be able to access it. The Kresge Grant funds this project. All were invited to attend a focus group following the Collaborative meeting to contribute. They are also looking to work with an evaluation consultant to look at the process of creating the Collaborative. The Data Collection and Evaluation meetings are the first Tuesday of the month from 3:00-5:00 pm at the Skillman Foundation in Detroit.

Update on the Early Childhood Action Agenda: was given to members as a written report.

Adjourned: 11:15

Next meeting

Monday, May 19, 2008

U of M Dearborn, Fairlane Center South

19000 Hubbard Dr., across from A & W

Breakfast 8:30, Meeting 9:00

Come in the main door of the building off of Hubbard Dr.

Park in the lot adjacent to the main door.

