



# Early Childhood & Community Partners Committee Report

## October 9, 2012 Meeting

Co-Chairs: Jean Garratt & Linda Herbert

**Members:** Brandy Archer, Jennifer Chambers, Jane Clarke, JoAnn Cook, Candice Davies, Jean Garratt, Cathy Hengesbaugh, Linda Herbert, Courtni Holst, Jennifer Lapa, Amy Mason, Sally Mowers, Robin Schutz, Melissa Sell, Jeanne Smith, Andrea Spaanstra, Diane Tamblyn, Amy Gallant, Jeri Kay Thomas

**Meeting Attendance:** Candice Davies, Jean Garratt, Linda Herbert, Jennifer Lapa, Gwendolyn Marion, Tricia McKay, Robin Schutz, Kathy Virden, Nichole Walker

### Summary of Key Notes & Activities:

- **Welcome to the Committee**
  - Parent Representatives - Gwendolyn Marion & Nichole Walker
  - Tricia McKay – Child Care Network/Great Start to Quality, Quality Improvement Consultant
- **Fall K Observation Survey**
  - The completed survey has been forwarded to all five school districts.
  - Observation surveys began the week of September 17. Teachers had 2 weeks to complete.
  - Problem in Brighton with some of the students not having a UIC (Unique Identification Code). This caused a delay with their completion of the K Observation Survey's. Their goal is to have them completed by October 15.
  - Approximately 1800 public school kindergarten students in Livingston County.
  - Follow-up User Survey – Regarding overall experience: what went well, difficulties, what needs improvement, etc. Send to kindergarten teachers in November.
  - Hope to have preliminary data available at the November meeting.
  - Kindergarten Summit – February 12, 2013
- **QRIS Update**
  - Great Start to Quality will not be completing the PQA's (Program Quality Assessment) for GSRP. Great Start to Quality will still do PQA's for tuition-based and Head Start programs. If it is a mixed classroom, assessments will fall under GSRP.
  - 156 Licensed home & child care centers in Livingston County.
  - 38% participating in Great Start to Quality rating system.
  - Self Assessment Survey – 10 Centers & 4 Homes; waiting for validation.
  - 32 – Number of centers & homes that have logged onto the Self-Assessment Survey, but have not submitted anything.
  - 4 Programs have received their PQA.
  - 5 Programs are waiting to receive their PQA.
  - Assessment Specialists go into homes/centers to review & score the PQA.
  - December 15 – The Great Start to Quality rating system will go on-line for parents to view ratings of all licensed homes/centers.
- **County-Wide Transition Document**
  - Transition forms will be filled out in the spring
  - Transition & Parental Consent Forms were given to some parents as part of their orientation packet in the fall.
  - Completed transition forms from early childhood providers will be sent to LESA. These forms will then be distributed to appropriate school districts.

- Follow up with schools:
  - Did you utilize Transition Forms sent to you in Spring/Summer 2012?
  - What did you do with the forms after you used them? Properly shredded?
  - Interest in being part of a team to develop rubrics for the Transition Form?
- **Livingston Promise Provider Recommendations *This is now complete***
  - Livingston Promise Preschool Scholarship Agreement – This is complete. A copy is attached.
  - Our committee will provide criteria recommendations to the Livingston Promise Committee about provider quality indicators for reimbursement from Livingston Promise for preschool.
  - Requirements in the agreement include:
    - Parent Utilization Report – for each family enrolled in program
    - Monthly child/family counts
    - Financial invoices & reports
    - Licensed childcare/preschool center
    - Criminal background checks
    - Immunization records for all pets
    - Insurance coverage – accident & liability
    - Flexible family policies
    - Trainings – minimum of 3 network trainings, 20 hours of professionals development
    - Participate with Livingston Promise program & facilitate 3 visits by Child Connect personnel
    - Create Professional Development Plan
    - Agree to an environmental assessment of the child care/preschool program
    - Adhere to professional ethic standards as defined by NAEYC
    - CPR, Pediatric & Infant First Aid certified
- **Livingston Promise Data & Assessment**
  - Our committee will partner with Livingston Promise to help gather data of children, families and childcare centers in Livingston County.
  - Livingston Promise Action Agenda – Data & Assessment section distributed.
    - Work with GSC & partners to collect data, review & summarize.
    - Determine program capacity/quality.
      - EC qualifications.
      - Incentives
      - On-going quality of ECP participants
  - Candice will gather current data for Head Start Early Childhood programs.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 1:00 pm LESA – Hunter Room**

## Great Start Livingston Action Agenda 2011-2013

<b>Early Childhood &amp; Community Partners Committee:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Children are ready to succeed in school and life.</b></li> <li>• <b>Families have access to high quality early care and education.</b></li> </ul>			
<b>Goal 1: Increase access to and coordination of high quality child care and early education programs.</b>			
<u>Target: Providers</u>			
Improve access to affordable education and networking opportunities for child care providers including relative aid care.			
	2011	2012	2013
Objective 1: Provide educational opportunity for childcare providers including relative aid care.			
1. Utilize the Great Start Community Learning Resource Hub and highlight local training opportunities to maximize participation.	X		
2. Utilize local organizations that provide trainings relevant to our local providers.	X		
3. Network, share information and provide support with childcare and relative providers.	X	X	X
4. Maintain a central location of calendar of events, information, classes and more – utilizing Great Start CONNECT and CCFS		X	X
<u>Target: Education Community:</u>			
Improve communication and development of shared goals between the 0-5 and K-12 communities and parents.			
	2011	2012	2013
Objective 1: Continue ongoing communication with key kindergartens, preschools, and principals to advance the work of the GSL Kindergarten Readiness Committee.			
1. Address the GSL Kindergarten Readiness Committee-Parking Lot Issues identified.	X		
2. Continue to engage the Kindergarten teachers, elementary principals, preschools, and parents through the results of kindergarten readiness surveys, development of countywide indicators, and implementation of these indicators.	X		
Objective 2: Ensure adequate communication to preschools and parents regarding kindergarten readiness expectations and the transition from preschool to kindergarten.			
1. Review and adopt Recommended Indicators county wide with curriculum directors.	X	X	
2. Distribute and educate to preschools, parents, child care providers, relatives and Kindergarten teachers.		X	
3. Utilize communication/advocacy committee for dissemination	X	X	X

- Note #1: Add something indicating the intent to increase SE readiness indicators: All Livingston County Kindergarten teachers using the observation survey by a certain date. Include language from the work plan goal.
- Note #2: Add something related to the work plan goal to create one common kindergarten intake/enrollment form.
- Note #3: If appropriate, add something indicating the importance of including social and emotional health in all aspects.
- Note #4: If appropriate, add something related to Early On referrals from DHS.
- Note #5: Add something about engaging members of the Parent Coalition in the work of the committee.