

FY19 Early Childhood Action Agenda – Ionia Great Start Collaborative

<p>This Goal, Objective and Strategy(ies) targets the following early childhood outcome(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children are born healthy. <input type="checkbox"/> Children are healthy, thriving, and developmentally on track from birth to third grade. <input type="checkbox"/> Children are developmentally ready to succeed in school at time of school entry. <input type="checkbox"/> Children are prepared to succeed in fourth grade and beyond by reading proficiently by the end of third grade. 		<p>And addresses the following early childhood components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x Physical Health x Social-Emotional Health x Family Supports and Basic Needs x Parent Education x Early Education and Care
<p>% and # of children not reaching targeted outcome(s), broken down by demographics when possible (Targeted Problem(s)): Children 0-17 investigated families for abuse and neglect increased from 2,122 (2010) to 2,408 (2016) 22% of Michigan Children have two or more adverse childhood experiences impacting their development. 23% of children have a parent who is depressed 21% of parents reported that transportation is a barrier to access services and supports.</p>		
<p>Goal related to the targeted problem(s):</p> <p>Improve maternal and prenatal wellness in Ionia County</p>		
<p>Objective(s) related to the goal:</p> <p>Increase awareness of and access to maternal and prenatal care and supports in Ionia County</p>		
<p>Strategy 1:</p> <p>Coordinate resources to decrease transportation barriers for families in Ionia County to increase access to supports and services for pregnant women and families.</p>	<p>Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy:</p> <p>Ionia County does not have a public transportation system.</p> <p>Families cannot afford the cost of transportation options.</p> <p>Families are unaware of transportation options available.</p>	<p>Performance Measure(s):</p> <p>A list of options for transportation to supports and services will be generated and shared between agencies.</p> <p>Families are accessing financial supports to decrease transportation barriers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Led Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy came from Strengthening Families Assessment 	<p>System Characteristic(s) Addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Mindsets <input type="checkbox"/> Components <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connections <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Power</p>	

Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Gather feedback on transportation barriers from cross-sector service providers.	FSW Committee GSC/GSPC	January 2019	Staff time Printing	Notes from FSW meeting with agency input.
Work with local agencies to organize opportunities for families to access services.	FSW committee GSC/GSPC	February 2019	Staff time Printing	List of transportation opportunities will be created.
Partner with local agencies to provide financial support to address transportation barriers.	FSW	October 2018 - June 2019	Funding Staff time	Financial assistance and/or transportation tokens will be available to parents through partner agencies.
Strategy 2: Develop strategies to increase awareness of the effects of substances, trauma and social/emotional health during pregnancy	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Community is unaware of the effects of trauma, substances, and social emotional health during pregnancy.	Performance Measure(s): Increased awareness in the community on how social emotional health and substances effect pregnancy. Number of parents, agencies, school staff, and community members who attend events and activities.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Led Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy came from Strengthening Families Assessment	System Characteristic(s) Addressed X Mindsets <input type="checkbox"/> Components X Connections <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations <input type="checkbox"/> Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Power			
Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Gather feedback on social/emotional health, trauma and substance abuse during pregnancy from cross-sector service providers.	FSW with support from GSC and GSPC	October 2018 - January 2019	Committee time	Feedback logged and results discussed at FSW meeting.
Partner to build a trauma initiative team to become trauma informed and responsive community. .	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Staff time Funding	Number of meetings attended
Partner and promote Social/Emotional Health events and activities in Ionia County.	FSW GSPC GSC	October 2018- October 2019	Staff time Committee time Funding	Number of events, activities, and attendees logged.
Partner and promote substance abuse prevention events and activities in Ionia County.	GSC Director Parent Liaison Health Department	October 2018- October 2019	Staff time funding	Number of meetings, events, and activity partnerships.
Use GSC website and social and local media to promote events and activities.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Funding Staff time	Report on website and social media platforms.

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% and # of children not reaching targeted outcome(s), broken down by demographics when possible (Targeted Problem(s)):
Fewer than 1/3 of children receive the recommended 1 hour of physical activity a day
Parents reported they do not know what is developmentally appropriate and how they can help their children.
Parents and childcare providers report need help with learning about social emotional health and behaviors
On parent survey 23% of children had a parent who is depressed

Goal related to the targeted problem(s):
Improve wellness for children birth to age 8.

Objective(s) related to the goal:

- 1.) Partner to promote physical health and wellness awareness and supports.
- 2.) Partner to promote social emotional health awareness and supports.

<p>Strategy 1:</p> <p>Increase availability of child development and wellness information.</p>	<p>Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy:</p> <p>Families do not know the developmental stages and how to help their child. Children spend more time inside and on digital devices. Poverty level</p>	<p>Performance Measure(s):</p> <p>More families are educated about developmental stages. More families are empowered to lead a healthier lifestyle.</p>
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Promote the Connections program at events in every district, using the Family Connection Pack as an incentive.	Parent Liaison, GSPC, GSC	Ongoing	Staff Time Funding	Number of families signed up for Connections.
Partner with community agencies to hold a Diaper drive to support families facing economic barriers.	FSW GSC	February 2019	Funding Staff time	Diaper drive completed

	GSPC			
Provide Welcome Home Baby Packs in the community and at events in every districts to connect families to local resources on child development and wellness.	FSW GSC GSPC	Ongoing	Committee Time Staff Time Funding	Number of Welcome Home Baby Packs distributed
Gather feedback from recipients of Welcome Home Baby Packs and Connections Packs to judge efficacy.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	September 2019	Staff Time	Feedback Gathered
Update, promote, and distribute Quick Connect flyer to connect families to local resources.	Parent Liaison GSPC GSC	Quarterly updates	Financial support Printing	Update log Event log
Strategy 2: Develop partnerships with local health providers to develop and promote physical health education events and activities for kids and families.	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Lack of knowledge of physical health opportunities and supports		Performance Measure(s): More families are educated about physical health. More families are empowered to lead a healthier lifestyle.	
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Partner with local agencies to continue health and wellness events in the community.	FSW	October 2018- October 2019	Financial support Staff time	Number of events and attendees at wellness events.
Partner with local agencies to hold Kid's Day activities at the Ionia Free Fair.	GSC GSCPC	July 2019	Funding Staff Time Committee Time	Number of Families attended Number of Partner Agencies involved
Partner with local dental health providers to increase awareness of and access to dental health and resources.	FSW Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Dental bags	Number of bags distributed
Promote local physical health activities using the Family Activity Calendar on the GSC website and social and local media.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Funding Staff time	Report on website and social media platforms.

Strategy 3: Use core parent group to develop a parent led strategy in Ionia County	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Parents need to be empowered and be leaders in the community.	Performance Measure(s): Parents will plan and develop a parent led strategy		
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Increase number and diversity of parents in the Core Parent Group	GSPC Parent Liaison	Ongoing	Staff Time	More Parents in the Core Parent Group
Develop and lead a Parent Led activity supporting one of the 5 Protective Factors.	GSPC	October 2018 - September 2019	Funding Staff Time Volunteer Time	Activity Held
Continue parent financial supports to address the barriers in building community voice, as identified by parents.	GSC Director	Ongoing	Funding	Financial Supports Distributed
Partner with ECIC to complete the Strengthening Families Assessment	Parent Liaison GSPC GSC Director	October 2018 - September 2019	Funding Staff Time	Assessment Completed

Strategy 4: Advocate for and build new partnerships within the early childhood system to increase the number of trainings on Social/Emotional Health that include parents, teachers, childcare providers, and community members.	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Increase countywide on problem behaviors in children. Stigma attached to social emotional issues. Adverse childhood experiences are on the rise.	Performance Measure(s): Increase the number of community members reached by promoting social emotional health.		
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Partner with local agencies to gather feedback on available resources and needs.	FSW SRAC GSC	October 2018 - January 2019	Committee Time Staff Time	Feedback gathered and logged
Join Trauma Initiative to become trauma informed and responsive.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Staff time Funding	Number of meetings attended
Partner with local agencies to provide and promote Social/Emotional Health training opportunities in local districts.	FSW SRAC GSPC GSC	October 2018- October 2019	Staff time Committee time Funding	Number of events, activities, and attendees logged.
Promote local activities using the Family Activity Calendar on the GSC website and social and local media.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Funding Staff time	Report on website and social media platforms.

Strategy 5: Maintain parenting class opportunities in local districts to educate parents on child learning and development.	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Parents don't know what they don't know. Families reporting lack of parenting resources.	Performance Measure(s): Increase attendance at parenting classes		
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Gather feedback on options and community needs.	FSW SRAC GSC	October 2018 - January 2019	Committee Time Staff Time	Feedback gathered and logged
Partner with local agencies to provide and promote parenting skills class opportunities.	FSW SRAC GSPC, GSC	October 2018- October 2019	Staff time Committee time Funding	Number of events, activities, and attendees logged.
Promote local activities using the Family Activity Calendar on the GSC website and on social and local media.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018- October 2019	Funding Staff time	Report on website and social media platforms.

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<p>% and # of children not reaching targeted outcome(s), broken down by demographics when possible (Targeted Problem(s)): 20% - 35% of kindergarteners need deferred kindergarten placement in the local districts. Number of children receiving the childcare subsidy continues to drop 251 (2012) to 103 (2018) Childcare centers are full with waiting list especially for infants The number of childcare providers continues to drop leaving parents with fewer options for quality care. Ionia county has a lower number of 3 and 4 year olds who attend preschool. Ionia County 40% Michigan average 52.7%</p>		
<p>Goal related to the targeted problem(s):</p> <p>Increase access to high quality early care and education services and supports.</p>		
<p>Objective(s) related to the goal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Review and make recommendations regarding the components of the Great Start Readiness Program. 2.) Increase families’ knowledge, understanding, and utilization of childcare subsidy, and high quality childcare options via Great Start to Quality. 3.) In collaboration with the region’s Great Start to Quality Resource Center, link licensed and registered providers in the GSC/GSPC geographic area to Great Start to Quality for the purpose of achieving higher levels of quality. 		
<p>Strategy 1:</p> <p>Facilitate a school readiness advisory committee, which meets regularly and is comprised of required and recommended members representing the diversity of the GSC/GSPC area, to advise the Great Start Readiness Program staff.</p>	<p>Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy:</p> <p>Families do not have access to quality childcare. Lack of childcare options. Licensed providers are full with waiting list.</p> <p>Families cannot afford quality childcare</p> <p>Free preschool for 3 year olds is not available</p>	<p>Performance Measure(s):</p> <p>Use of joint recruitment and enrollment by families increases. Enhancements are made to GSRP based on input.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Led Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy came from Strengthening Families Assessment 	<p>System Characteristic(s) Addressed X Mindsets X Components X Connections <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations X Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Power</p>	

Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Recruit parents, providers, and community members who represent the diversity of the area and programs and services, to ensure equal representation and engagement	SRAC with support from GSC and GSPC	Ongoing	Staff Time Funding	Increase in membership and diversity
Engage families, childcare providers and impact the current availability and/or need for wrap around care (i.e. child care) or care that is not offered through GSRP/HS (i.e. summer, weekends, weather days, etc.)	Resource Center SRAC	October 2018- October 2019	Meeting time Funding	Feedback gathered, logged, and presented to SRAC.
Strategy 2: Build collaboration between the GSQ, GSC, and GSPC to improve parent access and participation to child care resources.	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Families do not have access to quality childcare. Families cannot afford quality childcare GSQ website is on the 5th page of google search for childcare in Ionia County making it difficult to find. Other childcare websites are now available.		Performance Measure(s): Increased family knowledge and understanding of child care subsidy Increased family utilization of greatstarttoquality.org to search for child care	
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Develop a plan to increase family knowledge and understanding of the child care subsidy and promote GSQ website.	Resource Center Parent Liaison GSC Director SRAC	October 2018 - September 2019	Staff Time Funding	Plan developed
Implement plan to increase parent knowledge and understanding of the child care subsidy and promote GSQ website.	Resource Center Parent Liaison GSC Director SRAC	October 2018 - September 2019	Staff Time Funding	Plan implemented
Strategy 3: Build collaboration between the GSQ, GSC, GSPC, to connect and support providers.	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy:		Performance Measure(s):	

	<p>Childcare centers are full and participation is optional</p> <p>Other online options available to promote their business.</p> <p>Need for provider feedback to address root causes.</p>	<p>Increased provider connection to Great Start to Quality</p> <p>Increased provider participation in Great Start to Quality</p>		
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Create tool and gather feedback from providers to find the root cause for the lack of participation.	Parent Liaison GSC Director SRAC	October 2018 - November 2018	Staff Time Incentive for providers	Tool developed and sent out to providers for feedback.
Share feedback with GSQ and the SRAC and discuss results.	Resource Center Parent Liaison GSC Director SRAC	October 2018 - September 2019	Staff Time	Feedback shared and results discussed.
Implement plan to increase provider participation.	Resource Center Parent Liaison GSC Director SRAC	October 2018 - September 2019	Staff Time Funding	Plan implemented

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<p>% and # of children not reaching targeted outcome(s), broken down by demographics when possible (Targeted Problem(s)):</p> <p>47% of children were not proficient in 3rd grade reading.</p> <p>Number of children who qualify for special education k-2 is higher than the state average Ionia 15%, State 10.3%</p>	

Kindergarten teachers report dramatic increase in behavior and social emotional issues over the past years
 Parents surveyed said they do not know what it means to be kindergarten ready.
 20% - 35% of incoming kindergarteners needed deferred kindergarten placement in local districts.

Goal related to the targeted problem(s):

Children are prepared to succeed in school.

Objective(s) related to the goal:

Increase awareness of and supports for school readiness.

<p>Strategy 1:</p> <p>Promote and support early learning programs in Ionia County.</p>	<p>Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy:</p> <p>Parents report they do not know what it means to be kindergarten ready, and what they can do to help their children.</p> <p>Lack of early childhood experiences available</p>	<p>Performance Measure(s):</p> <p>Increase the number of families accessing early childhood supports .</p>
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Promote and provide financial support for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.	GSC Director SRAC Parent Liaison	October 2018-September 2019	Funding Staff time	Increase in the number of children signed up for DPIL
Partner with local libraries in each district to connect with parents and support activities or events they are planning.	Parent Liaison GSC Director	October 2018-September 2019	Funding Staff Time	Number of activities or events Number of attendees
Promote local literacy activities using the Family Activity Calendar on the GSC website and social media.	GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018-September 2019	Funding Staff time	Report on website and social media platforms.
Continue collaboration to support evidence based literacy and social/emotional playgroups.	GSC Director Early On Early Head Start SRAC	Ongoing	Funding Staff Time	collaborate and provide financial support for playgroups.

	Parent Liaison			
Strategy 2: Promote partnership and alignment to support the transition into kindergarten to strengthen the Early Childhood system in Ionia County.	Prioritized root causes related to the objective and addressed by this strategy: Parents report they do not know what it means to be kindergarten ready and how they can help prepare their child at home. Kindergarten teachers and preschool teacher are often not working together to plan for kindergarten transition. Kindergarten teachers and early childhood providers often have different beliefs on what is developmentally appropriate for incoming kindergarteners.	Performance Measure(s): Transition to kindergarten plans are implemented in each district. Parents, schools, childcare centers, and the community will come together to ensure children are ready to start kindergarten.		
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Activities (small wins to carry out the strategy)	Persons or Groups Responsible	Target Dates	Resources Needed	Progress Measures (outputs of activities):
Hold preschool partnership activities in each district with local providers, parents, and schools.	SRAC GSC Director GSRP Director GSPC	October 2018- October 2019	Funding Backpack supplies volunteer time Staff time	Preschool/Kindergarten meetings will be logged and notes will be taken.
Collaborate with parents, agencies, schools, and communities to create a kindergarten transition packet to hand out to every child at Kindergarten Round-ups.	SRAC GSC Director Parent Liaison	October 2018 - April 2019	Funding Staff Time Volunteer Time	Number of Packs distributed
Gather feedback from recipients to judge the efficacy of the transition packs.	SRAC GSC	Ongoing	Staff Time Committee Time	Feedback gathered and logged
Use Kindergarten Roundup survey results as a tool to educate and advocate in the local community about families experiences regarding children entering kindergarten.	Parent Liaison GSC Director	October 2018- May 2019	Staff time Printing	Survey results compiled into report and shared with local districts.

