



## Montcalm County Great Start Collaborative

### Minutes

10/4/2017

**I. Call to order:**

Call to order at 11:33 am by Nancy Secor

**II. Welcome & Introductions:**

Present: Matt Balenger, Shannon Behrend, Janel Boulis, Verna Carr, Renae Caudill, Mathew Cherry, Cassandra Davis, Liz Ingraham, John Johansen, Terry King, Terri Legg, Christine Mann-Munger, Buffy Marks, Karen Marsman, Lillie McNeil, Phillip Millerov, Cari O'Connor, Nancy Secor, Kelly Taylor, Roger Thelen, Mindy Train, Amanda Troyer, Janelle Behnke

**III. Public Comment:**

None

**IV. Agenda Approval:**

*Motion to accept the October MCGSC agenda, was made by Mindy Train motion seconded by Terry Legg, all voted in favor, none opposed*

**V. Meeting Minutes Approval:**

*Motion to accept the August MCGSC minutes, was made by John Johansen motion seconded by Renae Caudill, all voted in favor, none opposed*

**VI. Director Report: Cari O'Connor**

**Vice Chair Nominations for 2017-2018 year: Please write them on the POC survey before you leave!**

**GSRP Annual Report:** We are finally done with this report and have distributed it to all of our local school districts administrators.

**32P Implementation plan based on the Strategic Plan was submitted for 2017-18.**

We have a review call scheduled for Oct 17<sup>th</sup> with our TA from MDE. Once that is done we will have a plan at a glance for the 2017-18 work.

**Preschool applications for 2017-18 school year:** These are available on line or hard copies for you to help support preschool enrollment. The start of 2017-18 school year will be here before we know it! November –February is the official count day for GSRP. We will be filling ALL exits from the classroom through April 1, 2018. We still have openings in Montabella, Greenville, and Vestaburg.

**Fall Playgroups** are happening throughout Montcalm County. See flyer for additional details. We appreciate your help in spreading the word about these free activities for birth to five children and their parents! Please take some flyers with you for your community!

**MOUs:** Every year we are required to have you sign a formal agreement for your board participation. Some of you have completed but many have not. Please see

myself of Mindy before you leave today if you are unsure if you completed and turned the MOU back in to us! This is the information we use for our progress reporting, our website updates, and our brochure updates.

**Trusted Advisor Grant Update:** We have created a brochure, referral document for providers to refer families with, and a flyer for the families. We have met our obligations for MY Town services marketing and completed training to help have a better understanding of the website supports available to families. We are currently working on a plan to complete the Parent University component. If anyone has a desire to support this activity, please connect with me asap. This is a targeted one-time event that we have funding for through December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017. Any questions please feel free to email me!

**Reminder about principles of collaboration survey:** Agenda item and written feedback. Tell us what you think!!

**MCGSC Collaborative Activities & Support Recognition:**

Greenville Public Schools for hosting the Early Childhood Conference

Several presenters and vendors who volunteered their time on a Saturday to share their expertise! Participants were very grateful!

Sponsors that supported the conference:

Tamarack District Library

Montcalm Prevention Collaborative

Chemical Bank

Greenville Area Community Foundation

Montcalm Care Network

Greenville High School

Early on

Mid-Michigan District Health Department

DHHS

Great Start to Quality

**VII. New Business:**

**A. Highlight Presentation: Head Start & Early Head Start**

Head Start is a high quality preschool program that provides transportation and nutritious meals. Head Start centers are located throughout Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella and Montcalm counties serving children ages three to five. Early Head Start provides home based and center based child development support services in Clinton, Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella and Montcalm counties; serving prenatal moms and children birth to age three.

Video's to show parents the benefits of Head Start

<https://youtu.be/6iAREms6Ytw>

<https://youtu.be/oDiwoh3v6YA>

31 classrooms, observation happen daily. All data is compiled and scored based off the child's ability.

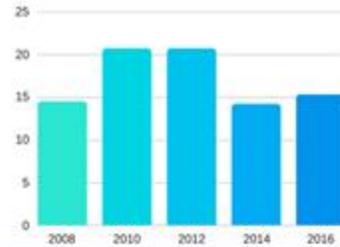
Allowed 1-hour bus rides

**B. Vice Chair Position**

Vice Chair for the 2017-18 MCGSC 6 Board Meetings, would cover when the chair is not able to attend meeting. The Vice Chair would be become chair in October 2018, for the 2018-2019 MCGSC meetings.

Please write who you wish to nominate on the POC survey before you leave!

C. Montcalm Prevention Collaborative Phil Millerov



Percentage of Montcalm County 9th and 11th grade High School students who reported marijuana use in the last 30 days



Medical Marijuana Cards in Montcalm County Vs Isabella County with both having approximately 60,000 people

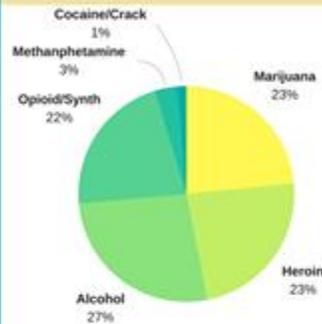
**13.6**

Self reported average age of first use of marijuana by youth in Montcalm County in 2016

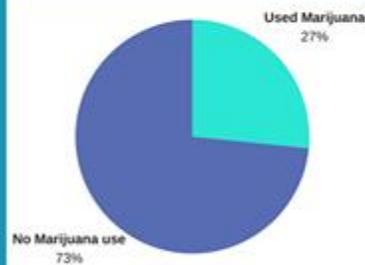


Percentage of students in Montcalm County who reported their parents felt marijuana use to be wrong or very wrong

Drug of choice for people who sought substance use disorder treatment in Montcalm County last year



Percentage of Montcalm County 9th & 11th grade High School students in 2016 who reported using marijuana in their lifetime



• Long-term (cumulative effects of repeated use)

- Potential for marijuana addiction
- Impairments in learning and memory with potential loss of IQ\*
- Increased risk of chronic cough, bronchitis
- Increased risk of other drug and alcohol use disorders
- Increased risk of schizophrenia in people with genetic vulnerability\*\*

**500**

chemical compounds found in the marijuana plant



VALUING EACH LIFE BY CREATING A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

\* Source Materials Available per request at [coordinator@montcalmprevention.org](mailto:coordinator@montcalmprevention.org)

## VIII. Old Business:

### A. Dolly Parton Imagination Library update

1,200 children enrolled. To sponsor a child for one year cost just \$27 and the child will receive 12 books, 1 book each month.

Submitted a grant to the Montcalm Panhandle (did not receive) and Lakeview Area Community Foundation (received grant)

## IX. Committee Reports:

### A. Executive & Communication: Nancy Secor

Did not meet since our last MCGSC Board Meeting

### B. Parent Leadership: Shannon Behrend

September is Infant Safe Sleep month

**PC Meetings:** September 11, 2017 begins our new season of meetings.

Joanne Gordon Anderson will be the first speaker of the school year.

The topic will be “Why Kids Don’t Sit Still”.

**October 9th** our speaker Ashley Wonsey of J & L Apiaries will be speaking on the topic of Natural Skin Care and Healing-with help from the bees! Cheri Bornman will be doing special music with all the children.

**November 13th** our speaker will be Tammie Windischhofer of Just Be Place with the topic of Gratitude the New Attitude.

**December 11th** is the annual Christmas Potluck with crafts, a special visitor, special music with Cheri Bornman for all the families.

**Newsletter** Our monthly newsletter is going out to over 1,515 email addresses! We will be highlighting topics that follow the 6 protective factors each month. Cassie has been doing the lions share of the newsletter. I plan on stepping up as I take on more hours and duties this fall.

### C. Early Care & Education: Mindy Train

Early Childhood Conference Outcomes, attached.

### D. Family Wellness: Jennifer Peterman

- We discussed some Great Start website additions. It was decided that we would not add Tuck Sleep to our site, but are keeping the First Aid for Parents as a resource on our site.
- We were becoming more involved with Sheridan Community Hospital, but due to budget cuts, our contact person was let go. We are hoping to be able to maintain what was already started, but not sure how well any of that is going to go.
- There has been much discussion on the best way to let new moms know that there are resources and answers to questions they may have. The idea is to have a single resource that will give them the most current information at all times, while keeping it simple. The possibility of a website with the information was the latest in our discussion. It is still a work in progress!
- We also discussed 211. It is available in our area – VIA TEXT. It was not very user-friendly. We tried a couple of questions on it, both resulting in EightCap as our resource.
- A meeting with Sparrow Carson was held and they seemed to want to participate with us in our programs and events. We are looking forward to partnering more in the future.
- We looked at and discussed the Safe Sleep Facebook posts for the month of September. They covered Safe Sleep and several of its

related facts, such as smoking during and after pregnancy. There were several website links with helpful information and answers.

- Discussion was had regarding a possible “County-Wide” Baby Shower. We looked at a Safe Sleep board book and were able to order 120 of them. We Care for Kids Council also were able to get onesies with Safe Sleep information on them. These, combined with important information will be given out to new moms. We are still in discussion as to how best distribute them.
- We are still in need of getting more Connections enrollments. Continual promotion is needed.

**E. LICC: Kelly Taylor**

- Training on AuDx hearing screening tool for early childhood staff at MAISD in October
- Early On conference in Kalamazoo 11/15-16, pre conference 11/14 Melonie Potock, regarding feeding issues in young children
- Playgroup still happening throughout the county. Tuesday 9:30am-11am MacNaughton/Vestaburg, Thursday, 9:30am-11am MACC, Friday 9:30am 11am Seiter Center
- You and Me baby classes, Friday 11:30am – 12:30pm at Seiter Center

**X. Roundtable Updates:**

**Lillie McNeil-** New director, Cynthia Derby, Upcoming trainings, flyer available shortly

**Matthew Balenger-** Amazed at all the children exposed to trauma, glad we are working toward a trauma informed community.

**Terri Legg-** Coat drive running through November 15th. Looking for volunteers for the community investment.

**XI. Principles of Collaboration and Feedback:**

**Questions/thoughts for Head Star or Early Head Start?**

- Appreciated hearing about the service 8CAP offers for families
- Would you be willing to present at staff meeting at Alpha Family Center?

**Nominations for Vice Chair:**

- Jen Peterman

**Thought or needs that you have on your participation the MCGSC today?**

- Enjoyed the meeting and connections with other community agencies

**Any other comments:**

- It was nice to hear about MPC
- Great conversation today
- Would be nice to have Phil provide group updates

**XII. Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn the October MCGSC meeting at 1:26pm, was made by Janel Boulis motion seconded by Mathew Balenger, all voted in favor, none opposed*

Next Meeting Date: December 6th, 2017 11:30 am – 1:30 pm at the MAISD 621 New St Stanton

\*\*Please see our website for the most updated calendar information at: [www.GreatStartMontcalm.org](http://www.GreatStartMontcalm.org).

## Overall Results

### “Planting the Seeds for the Future”

### 2017 Early Childhood Conference

210 Registered  
164 Attendees  
136 Evaluations Turned In  
21 Speakers  
14 Vendors  
13 Counties

#### **Sponsors that made this conference possible:**

- Montcalm County Great Start Collaborative
- Great Start to Quality Western Resource Center
- Greenville High Public School
- Greenville Area Community Foundation
- Chemical Bank
- Montcalm Prevention Collaborative
- Tamarack District Library
- Mid-Michigan District Health Department
- Montcalm Care Network
- Early On, Montcalm
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
- Discount School Supply

#### **Early Childhood Expo Rating: 89%**

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 132 responded to this question.*

The attendees enjoyed the Early Childhood Expo. However, the attendees would love to see more vendors that are related to early childhood, so they can purchase stuff to use at their centers.

#### **Key Note Speaker, Esther Combs Rating: 99%**

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 136 responded to this question.*

Most thought that Esther presentation on trauma was beneficial and was a good reminder on how important trauma is and how it affects those that we care for. Also, helped them better understand how to approach those dealing with trauma and how to support them. One thing the attendees wished they had, was a handout of the presentation, to help them better follow along and take notes.

#### **Workshops Rating: 97%**

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 124 responded to this question.*

Everyone enjoyed the workshops, they thought they were very informative and knowledgeable speakers.

#### **Meals: Breakfast Rating: 82%**

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 119 responded to this question.*

Those that did have breakfast, it was good, would to have liked to have seen some donuts. The menu for breakfast was: yogurt, granola, strawberries, blueberries, cranberries and a bagel. As well as coffee.

#### **Lunch Rating: 90%**

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 117 responded to this question.*

Most everyone enjoyed lunch, they did wish that there was a gluten free/vegetarian option. Lunch included: A choice between three different choices of sandwiches, chips, fruit and a cookie for dessert, as well as coffee and water. In between workshops there was a light snack, which included: snack mix, mixed nuts and chocolate and fruit candy.

#### **Location of Event Rating: 100%**

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 136 responded to this question.*

Greenville High School was a great location, it was a nice and clean facility and easy to navigate, plenty of space provided.

## Overall Rating of the Event Rating: 99%

*Of the 136 that turned in the evaluation form, 134 responded to this question.*

Everyone enjoyed the conference; they felt that it was very helpful. For the price, it was very reasonable, especially for the quantity of training hours they received. A large number of attendees are looking forward to next year. They thought it was well organized and presented.

## What did you most like about this event?

- Shorter sessions and more to choose from
- The keynote
- The cost/all day
- The option to do an all-day love and logic
- The variety of information, from young children to adults
- The food was good, staff was kind and school was clean.
- Jo Gordon and the science session
- All of it, love it
- How smooth everything ran
- Free information we received
- The exposure of different topics for the sessions

## What did you least like about this event?

- Vendors were average, need more vendors that benefit early childhood
- Giving up a Saturday
- Cold in the rooms
- Length of the conference
- Topic of the keynote, a little less serious note to start the day, need something funny to get us going
- The love and logic information was choppy and hard to follow with all the technology problems

## Further Comments:

- I feel it is put together so well and I always love my breakout sessions, I always walk away knowing something new
- Love coming to this event each year
- Thank you for the goodie bags and the door prizes

## Is there any topic you would like to have covered next year?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - Gross motor skills                            | - Time management for educators to help with stress |
| - Topics on easier transitions four kids        | - Tricks to get kids attention                      |
| - Love and logic                                | - Conscious discipline                              |
| - Depression with autistic children             | - Program director's session                        |
| - Children and grief                            | - Conflict resolution for preschoolers              |
| - Disagreeing with an opinionated boss          | - Dealing with difficult behavior in the classroom  |
| - More about ACES                               | - Car safety  |
| - Music for children/puppets                    | - Dealing with parents                              |
| - Children behavior in general                  | - Kids with challenging personalities               |
| - Math ideas for preschool                      | - More literacy                                     |
| - Rest time assistance and expectations         | - Fidget, make and take classes, more hands on      |
| - Examples of inexpensive materials             | - More teacher based options                        |
| - Resources in our community to benefit centers | - New food programs (menus)                         |
| - More infant-toddler sessions                  | - Set up of a classroom                             |
| - STEAM   | - Outside activities                                |
| - Speech pathology                              | - Mindfulness                                       |
| - Creative curriculum/TS Gold                   | - Art projects to do with elementary children       |
| - Sign language                                 | - Managing toddlers                                 |