

GOAL 1: Community Support for Parents and Parenting Skills: The community values and supports effective parenting skills.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

Parenting Education

- Partner with community and school organizations to plan and promote learning opportunities which meet the expressed needs of parents
- Research and support ways to give all parents the tools they need to become more effective first teachers for their young children.

Support Systems:

- Research and promote the means to provide all parents with opportunities to meet their social and emotional needs, with particular attention to the special needs of young mothers, single parents, kinship parents, and fathers.
- Involve the members of the Parent Coalition in assessing and helping to fill the needs of other parents through peer to peer learning opportunities.

Public Awareness of the importance of effective parenting of young children:

- Promote the importance of early (reading and math) literacy
- Maintain a website with pertinent information and links to parenting information sites.
- Include a “support for parents” message in all Action Steps pertaining to private sector engagement.

SPECIFIC TARGET: SCHOOL PREPARATION SERVICES	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE <u>MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT</u>
Parent Education	GSCC, Parent Liaison and PC members	1. Update Website monthly	Ongoing	
Parent Support Systems	Same	1. Facilitate and promote a Grandparents Raising grandchildren Support group. 2. Participate in the initiatives of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Taskforce 3. Assemble and publish a Family Fun Guide	Once a month meetings Oct. 1 -2007 – Sept. 30 2008 By June 2008	
Public Awareness	GSCC, PC, and all GSC members	1. Convene an Early Literacy Taskforce composed of GSC members, librarians, reading recovery educators, etc. to research and implement programs that increase family literacy skills 2. Participate in Discovery Days 3. Convene Communications Committee	By Dec. 31 2007 Feb. – April 2008	

GOAL 2: Private Sector Engagement in Early Childhood: The private sector understands the importance of the early years and is actively engaged in the planning and support of early childhood development initiatives.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

Participation in state-wide ECIC events:

- Star Power Rally
- Cosmic Celebration
- Staff TA meetings
- Presentations sponsored by other GSCs

Local Action:

- Continue to build partnerships with local Chambers of Commerce, EDC, etc.
- Make contacts with individual business leaders
- Make presentations to service clubs
- Sponsor speakers through-out the community
- Utilize print and radio media to promote messages about ec/economic development link
- Recruit business leaders to join GSC groups and activities.

SPECIFIC TARGET ACTIONS:	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT
Presentations	GSCC and local early childhood champions. Professional speakers	1. At least 2 professional speakers 2. At least 1 presentation to a local group per quarter 3. Recruit 1 new business champion per quarter	Oct. 1, 2007 – Sept. 30, 2008 Oct. 1, 2007 – Sept. 30, 2008 Oct. 1, 2007 – Sept. 30, 2008	

GOAL 3: Collaborative Governance: The early childhood system of care is governed by an informed, effective, coordinated, and clearly defined structure tailored to needs and resources of our community.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

1. Shared Vision and Mission:
 - The members of the St. Joseph County Great Start Collaborative understand and support the Vision and Mission of the ECIC..

2. Shared Information:
 - The members of the SJ GSC are informed about the issues and implications of conditions which exist in our county, in order to fill their roles as experts and champions of early childhood development.
 - The GSC Coordinator will make current research and best practice literature available to members.
 - The GSC Coordinator will maintain and share updated data on community conditions, as available.

3. Membership:
 - The membership of the SJC GSC is aligned with the required membership specified in the grant, in a manner which supports and enhances the existing infrastructure of the county collaborative system.

SPECIFIC TARGET ACTIONS:	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE <u>MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT</u>
Support for Vision and Definition of Structure	GSCC, ECIC staff, and all GSC members	1. The SJC GSC will convene a Summit of GSC members and ECIC administrators for the purpose of creating an agreement about GSC local governance structure, membership, and GSC activities.	January 30, 2008	

GOAL 4: Early Education: All children arrive at school ready to learn, and all schools are ready to educate.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

1. Advocacy for expanded programs and resources
 - Professional and parent members will attend Star Power '09
 - All members will participate in opportunities to connect with legislators and policy makers, as organized by the GSC
2. Support for school readiness and access to programs
 - All members will support the initiatives of the Early Literacy sub-committee
 - All members will support the initiatives and research projects of the Data Committee
 - Coordinate with the Transportation Authority to provide access to services for young families.
3. Public Awareness of the need for early childhood education
 - All members will support the initiatives of the Communications Committee

SPECIFIC TARGET:	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE <u>MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT</u>
1. Star Power	GSCC and PL	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase attendance to at least 20 2. Attendees will include members of the HSC, ECWG, and PC. 	May '09	
2. School Readiness	GSCC and committee members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement Born Learning trails in 2 locations 2. Implement Reach out and Read in 2 locations. 	Spring '09 Summer '09	
3. Transportation	GSCC and Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit Transportation Authority staff to participate in early childhood planning activities 1. Make appropriate car seats and safety restraints available on vehicles where possible 	Ongoing	
4. In home services		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convene a group to investigate 0-3 Secondary Prevention grant or other funding sources to expand in-home services to families. 2. Coordinate with 4Cs to support the development of in-home professional development for child care providers 	Fall '08 – grant due in January Fall '08	

GOAL 5: Healthcare: All families have access to comprehensive, high quality health care, including mental health and substance abuse intervention.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

1. Participation in solutions that integrate physical care, mental health, and substance abuse treatment.
2. Access to healthcare for all
 - a. Advocate for insurance solutions
 - b. Disseminate information on health disparities
3. Support for adequate prenatal care.

SPECIFIC TARGET:	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE <u>MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT</u>
1. Access to services	GSCC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate on initiatives of the Access to Healthcare Taskforce 2. Participate in the initiatives of the Family Fitness Project 3. Partner with TR Health to sponsor at least 1 Unnatural Causes workshop 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Winter '09</p>	
2. . Prenatal services	All ECWG members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate with all service providers (Preg. Helpline, P.Parenthood, WIC, physicians, MIHP, MSUE, etc to provide educational info. 2. Support the action agenda of the Access to Healthcare taskforce 	Ongoing	
3. Integration of services	GSCC and all partners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate Safe Kids Healthy Students grant to fund the development of local resource center[s] which integrate access to all health services. 		

GOAL 6: Basic Needs: All families’ basic needs are met.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

1. Investigate systemic solutions to access to nutritious, sustainable, and affordable food sources.
 - a. Participate in nutrition portion of Family Fitness Project
2. Investigate funding options to revitalize Wraparound
3. Support public awareness of housing issues and options.

Specific Target:	Responsible Persons:	Action Plan	Timeline	Evidence of Change Midyear Progress Report
1. Nutrition	GSCC and Family Fitness Taskforce	1. Support and participate in projects of the Family Fitness Project	Ongoing	
2. Housing	GSCC and all partners	2. Sponsor speaker/s relevant to Unnatural Causes 1. Correlate early childhood data and housing problem data from 211 and other sources. 2. Support and participate in annual Project Connect and other housing initiatives.	Spring 2009 Winter 2009 Monthly	
3. Crisis Team	GSCC and all partners	1. Initiate and participate in developing solutions to early childhood services gaps identified by the Crisis Team in their interactions with families through-out the county.	Ongoing	

GOAL 7: Funding: The early childhood system of care attracts strong, sustainable funding from public and private sectors.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

1. Increase private sector engagement in planning and policy agendas.
2. Produce an updated Children's Report Card – to include new indicators as identified.

SPECIFIC TARGET:	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT
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GOAL 8: Childcare: All families have access to high quality, affordable childcare.

This goal includes the following interventions/strategies:

1. Develop expanded financial, educational, and peer supports for child care providers
 - a. Child care scholarship fund
 - b. Provider licensing and supplies purchasing support
 - c. In-home trainings for providers
 - d. Resource center for providers
2. Participate in the state-wide implementation of Quality Ratings Information System

SPECIFIC TARGET:	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS	ACTION PLAN	TIMELINE	EVIDENCE OF CHANGE <u>MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT</u>
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