

Great Start Collaborative Kent County-----Action Agenda 2010

Our Strategic Plan Report entitled "Making Strides" outlined our work for a three year span from 2008-2010. Our current early childhood planning has included five core areas: **Infrastructure, Family Support and Education, Health, Early Care and Education, and Communications.** The primary large goals for each area for the upcoming year are as follows:

Infrastructure

- Complete our early childhood blueprint and share with the community at large

Family Support and Education-Welcome Home Baby

- Continue to secure funding for a minimum of three years of operation-Hire key management staff in 2009
- Launch demonstration project in early 2010 in Metro and St. Mary's Hospital
- Pursue sustainable funding via Federal support and/or use of Medicaid funding
- Align all Home Visiting Assessments and develop electronic methods and releases for sharing data

Family Health-Children's Healthcare Access Program (C.H.A.P.)

- Expand to at least one additional Medicaid health plan
- Continue to work on addressing issues regarding access to behavioral health services for children
- Initiate dental workgroup to focus on issues of access to pediatric dental services
- Participate in community efforts regarding childhood obesity

Early Care and Education-Family, Friends and Neighbor Care

- Connect with and engage providers who will participate in the program for a sustained period of time
- Establish what we can reasonably document as benefits and growth for the children and providers enrolled
- Connect with community partners who will assist us in the next phase of growth in the larger community

Early Care and Education-Regulated Care and Education System

- Develop the work plan for the Western Region and support it's vision
- Continue research on what we will do to standardize quality points in the Early Care System in Kent County
- Continue our exploration of the concept of Shared Services. Involve the business community and the appropriate partners. Conduct focus groups with providers and seek legal and business consultation to see if the concept is viable.

Communication

- Expand communication efforts among parents/families
- Develop a stronger "ask" for all levels in our community
- Better engage and utilize the business and community leaders who are already involved and supportive
- Strengthen our relationships with legislators. Become acquainted with new candidates.
- Engaging the faith community in our work