Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County Family Support Committee Meeting

May 12, 2022

Zoom Meeting 2:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Present: Kristin Klug, Resha Willis, Alice Walker, Codi Benjamin, Bridget Griffith, and Kelly Sheppard

Welcome

* Group completed introductions and shared what they were looking forward to about summer.

Review Minutes

* Reviewed February minutes

ASQ Poster Update

* Colors and animals were changed to Sea animals/colors. Everyone agreed that looked good.
* Bridget will start to edit the actual content and send to members for review.

Playgroup

* Resha said playgroups are very well attended with 8-16 people at each one.
* Resha said families have asked for more dates and times. Kelly and Bridget will connect with Resha about what other dates/times might be possible to add to playgroups and if a second playgroup facilitator is needed.
* Flyer is attached

Parent Needs Brainstorm Session

* + - Housing: Is the language being used by families a barrier to getting help with housing? Background check and lack of credit scores are barriers.
    - Potty training
    - Mental Health services and support
    - Transportation and help with gas
    - Food Needs:
      * WIC Project Fresh where families can get fresh produce
      * Alice helps with gardens in town that grow fresh produce for families
      * Kelly will talk with Sheri Butters about collaborating on some of these large issues, create a community forum?

Jackson Reads Event

* Huge success!
* Partnered with Ella Sharp Museum and FREE Museum Days
* Close to 1,000 bags of books were handed out to families
* 4 authors did presentations and signed books
* Over 40 volunteers were present to help

Trusted Advisors Update

* Still seeing food as a huge need. Families are still quarantining and needing food to be delivered.
* Housing is also a huge need. Many families are staying in hotels even when they have a housing voucher due to not being able to find anyplace to use the voucher on.
* Families who are transitioning to housing need furniture. Kim Brown’s, with the JCISD, info was given to Alice to help support families with McKinney Vento. St. Vincent gives start up kits and Neighbors Keepers are supports as well.

Next Meeting

* No meeting in June or July
* Group agreed that meeting in August would be beneficial
* Hope to have the August meeting in person, place TBD

Member Sharing

* Kristin Klug – Recruiting for pregnant moms-age 3 children. They are always enrolling.
* Codi Benjamin - EHS has a bilingual, Spanish speaking, home visitor starting soon. This will really help in connecting with the Spanish speaking population. Diapers: all that is needed to receive diapers and wipes is the name, address and number of children in diapers (3 and younger).
* Alice Walker – She is helping to organize the gardens in town that grow fresh produce for the community.

**Next Meeting: August 11th 2:00-3:00 Face to Face! Location TBD**