

Great Start Collaborative of Jackson County
January 13, 2022
School Readiness
1:00-2:00 P.M.
Via Zoom



Present: Katie Wimmer, Anna Weide, Mariann Gladstone, Mary Belknap, Kelly Sheppard, Bridget Griffith, Karyn Head, Jean Allison, Wendy Bell, Cathy Brubaker, and Kelly Friedland

Welcome

- Group completed introductions and shared what is the best thing they did over the holidays.

Review minutes

- Reviewed the minutes from the December meeting.

Bright by Text data

- Free texting programs for pregnant moms through age 8.
- We have print materials on Bright by Text if anyone needs resources.
- Bridget has been sending out community events including:
 - Winter Book Blast January 22nd 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. The first 400 children receive a free bag of books.
 - Family Workshops

GSRP/Head Start update

- Many classrooms have had to go virtual due to Covid.
- GSRP children have had a lot more face to face learning this year compared to last year.
- ECSs have been supporting the programs.
- Only 19 GSRP openings in the county.
- Children can enroll up until February 16th to be counted for funding purposes, but we continue to enroll after count.
- Head Start is required to have 100% of their staff and anyone serving children be vaccinated.
- Salvation Army blended Head Start/GSRP classroom will be closing. Classroom will officially close Jan. 27th.

- We will make sure all of the children are offered a preschool spot somewhere else.
- We will be launching the enrollment form for fall sometime in February.

0-3 work

- Bridget and Kelly have a meeting scheduled with WIC.
- Will work on partnering with Early Head Start
- Providing information to GSRP families with younger children.
- Early Head Start playgroups were held at parks over the summer, December were being held at First Presbyterian Church in a nursery room, but now doing socialization virtual.
- Janine Head from Henry Ford Allegiance works closely with breastfeeding mothers.

Jackson Health Network connection

- Great Start Collaborative services were offered to pediatricians for any resources their families might need.