



Agenda

Day I - Monday, March 14, 2011

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Registration	Centennial ABC
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Welcome and Introductory Remarks	Big Ten AB
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Keynote Address Education Begins at Birth: Implications for Practice & Policy Harriet Meyer, M.A., Strategic Initiatives, Ounce of Prevention Fund http://www.ounceofprevention.org/home/index.php	Big Ten AB
Description:	Broadly speaking, the early childhood field knows 'what it takes' to improve outcomes for young children at risk of school failure. And yet, the field has made only incremental advances through 20 th century interventions for these children – advancing glacially toward its aim of putting all children on equal footing at kindergarten's door. To deliver 'what it takes' will require the field to make changes in our practice, systems development, and at the state and federal policy level. Ms. Meyer will discuss strategies for closing the gap between what we know and what we do – across practice, systems development, advocacy, and communications - in order to achieve exponential impact.	
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch & Networking	Big Ten AB
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Learning Labs	
Child Care	What is Quality? Presenters: Brooke Rains , Direct Services Specialist, Child Care Network; and Jill Lawler , Capital Area Community Services Head Start Area Education Supervisor	TBA
Description:	Participants will experience what quality looks and feels like for infants and toddlers, preschool age children, and school age children. Presenters will share information about quality environments and participants will engage in demonstrations and discussions related to developmentally appropriate materials and other quality elements. The session will conclude with a facilitated discussion focused on lessons learned, how to utilize Great Start CONNECT, and using social media for dissemination.	
Early Education	Utilizing P-8 (prenatal through grade 3) Data to Improve Quality, to Build Collaboration, and to Demonstrate Outcomes Presenter: Sharon Ritchie , Senior Scientist and Director of First School, FPG Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<i>invited</i>)	TBA
Description:	How is your community using data across early childhood and early elementary settings? This session will highlight effective practices and local successes utilizing data as a mechanism for improving quality in early learning and care settings, as a systemic tool for demonstrating educational outcomes, and as a catalyst for building local collaboration. Participants will have the opportunity to hear national, state, and local perspectives---as well as engage in dialogue about potential options for their community.	
Family Support	Poverty 101 Presenter: Dr. Donna Beegle, Ed.D. , President, Communication Across Barriers	TBA
Description:	The focus of this learning lab will provide an opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of the impact of poverty and learn some effective strategies for working with people living in poverty. Participants will learn about the internalized impact of poverty and the differences in priorities, language and relationships that are affected. Participants will also learn how to develop a welcoming climate and how to implement changes in communication, teaching and learning styles to enhance connections and success.	



Day I - Monday, March 14, 2011 (cont.)

Pediatric & Family Health	Implementing the First Steps of Medical Home Presenters: Jametta Lilly , Manger, Wayne Children’s Healthcare Access Program; Maureen Kirkwood , Manager, Kent Children’s Healthcare Access Program; and Rebeca Velázquez , Operations Coordinator, Kent County First Steps	TBA
Description:	Ensuring all young children are connected to a medical home is a goal that many counties are interested in pursuing. The implementation of medical home can appear overwhelming and may prevent GSCs from moving forward. This session will provide detailed information and activities for the beginning steps of implementing medical home including developing partnerships, collecting and analyzing data, and developing plans to secure funding. The new medical home toolkit focused on the CHAP (Children’s Healthcare Access Program) model will be used as a resource for this session and participants should plan to spend some time thinking about how they can use the information in their own community to begin implementing medical home.	
Parenting Leadership	Strengthening Families: Protective Factors Presenters: Joyce Bos , Director for Western Regional Resource Center; Donna Lackie , Co-Director, Oakland Great Start Collaborative; and Maggie Sprattmoran , Executive Director, Leelanau Children’s Center	TBA
Description:	This session will present an overview of the body of work from Strengthening Families, known as the Protective Factors. Participants will learn what the five protective factors are and why they are important in early childhood development. Participants will have the opportunity to learn how the Protective Factors have been incorporated into a Michigan high quality early learning environment, as well as, how Oakland’s Great Start Collaborative is outreaching to underserved families through the Parent Café model. Participants will practice some hands on learning and be given time to see how to integrate these tools into their own community.	
Social-Emotional	Kicking it Up a Notch for Children’s Social-Emotional Health! Infusing Simple Strategies into Local Systems Presenters: Mary Mackrain , Consultant, Michigan Department of Community Health; and Lisa Sturges , Project Specialist, Oakland GSC	TBA
Description:	Participants will be introduced to practical tools that have been successful in promoting public awareness of social-emotional health at the state and local level; including standardized training & coaching, focus group messages, screening tools, and other resources for building social-emotional knowledge. Furthermore, participants will learn about additional resources to help sustain this knowledge and change practice-preventing negative outcomes for children at risk. Join this interactive session and take time to reflect, discuss and plan for how to engage new practices in your local community efforts, and "kick it up a notch" on behalf of infant & young children's mental health!	
Public Education & Public Will	“Stand Up, Speak Out” Presenters: Teri Banas and Brenda Brissette-Mata , ECIC Communication Staff	
Description:	Communication requires two key participants – a person with something to say and a willing listener. Learn how you can effectively stand up for young children and grab the ear of a variety of people – Legislators, business leaders, philanthropists, the media and the general public – about the issues that matter to you most – our children! This session will help you to tailor your talk to fit your audience. Learn how to deliver your message with confidence, and respond to difficult or opposing opinions. Yes, you can!	
Group Governance & Leadership	Making the Most of Your GSC & GSPC Meetings! Presenters: Stephanie Wagner , Great Start Consultant - Capacity Building Team, ECIC; and Linda Steigenga , Director of Instructional Services, Mason-Lake-Oceana ISD	
Description:	This session will focus on increasing the productivity of collaborative groups through skilled facilitation. Hands-on activities and group discussions will push past theory into a practical and detailed menu of tools, strategies, and protocols for successful group development. Concepts such as the Two Types of Communication, Assessing and Using the 7 Norms of Collaboration, and Meeting Success Strategies will be introduced. Included will be time for reflection and planning for the practical application of information.	





Day I - Monday, March 14, 2011 (cont.)

Group Governance & Leadership	Boosting Local Investment in Early Childhood Presenter: Stephanie Van Koevering , Interim CEO, Women's Caring Program	TBA
Description:	<p>Learn how to build local monetary, practical and grassroots support for the needs of young children in your community. This session will teach you to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Develop effective fund development strategies ★ Identify and connect with funders ★ Prepare winning presentations, and ★ Use your public relations/outreach activities to support fundraising efforts. <p>Participants will leave with practical, tested strategies and lists of possible partners in their own communities, along with the basic elements of a local fundraising plan. In addition, hands-on practice in "making the ask" will be offered, with one-on-one feedback from a small panel of foundation staff.</p>	
5:00 p.m.	Conclusion	

Day II - Tuesday, March 15, 2011

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast	Centennial ABC (Registration) Big Ten AB (Breakfast)
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction of Keynote	Big Ten AB
8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Keynote Address Investing in Kids: Why It Pays Off for State Economies Tim Bartik , Senior Economist, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, and author of <i>Investing in Kids: Early Childhood Programs and Local Economic Development</i> www.upjohninst.org/staff/bartik.html	Big Ten AB
Description:	<p>Nationally renowned economist, Tim Bartik shows in his new book that investing in children at an early age has similar economic impacts as commonly used economic development tools including tax incentives. After a brief presentation touching on some of the arguments and common misconceptions and objections to early childhood investment, participants will engage in an interactive conversation and learn how local communities can best convey the importance of early childhood to a variety of target groups particularly local.</p>	
10:30 a.m.	World Café	Big Ten AB
Description:	<p>Participants will engage in table conversations building off of the keynote address and identify next steps for how they will apply knowledge gained in their own communities.</p>	
11:30 a.m.	Break	
11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch and Fierce Heart Awards	Big Ten AB





Day II - Tuesday, March 15, 2011 (cont.)

1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Keynote Address What Are We Learning About Collaborative/Coalition Effectiveness? Pennie Foster-Fishman, Professor, Department of Psychology; Senior Outreach Fellow, University Outreach and Engagement, Michigan State University</p>	Big Ten AB
Description:	Michigan State University has been engaged in a year-long evaluation of Great Start at both the state and local levels. Pennie Foster-Fishman, a national expert on coalition building, will provide an overview of the evaluation results from a statewide survey conducted last year. The data presented will respond to three primary questions: 1.) To what extent are the Great Start Collaboratives and Great Start Parent Coalitions effective? 2.) What factors influence their effectiveness? 3.) What does the data suggest are next steps for the local work?	
2:45 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Workshops	
Child Care	<p>Coaching and Consultation Presenter: Kristin Tenney-Blackwell, Great Start Child Care Quality Improvement Program Manager, ECIC</p>	TBA
Description:	Participants will build knowledge about coaching and consultation methods to improve early learning and care quality. Topics include: what is quality, when is coaching an appropriate method, when is consultation an appropriate method, qualifications to consider for coaches.	
Child Care	<p>Administering Child Care Scholarships Presenters: Pam Smith, Project Leader, Child Care Network; Lori Bush, Director of Family Support, Child Care Network; Lisa Hoffert, Child Care Commitment Coordinator, Women’s Caring Program; and Carol Walters, Member, Women’s Caring Program Board of Directors</p>	TBA
Description:	Q & A Session - Participants will build knowledge about current child care scholarship models including operating a scholarship model, and lessons learned. The presenters will provide brief overviews of their models and then answer questions.	
Early Education	<p>How Community Partnerships Can Improve Efficiency and Support Best Practices Presenter: Elizabeth Villaverde, Early Childhood Consultant</p>	TBA
Description:	Early learning communities are based on partnerships between a variety of stakeholders aimed to improve coordination, service delivery, and overall quality of early care and education programs. This session will focus on strategies for effective community collaboration and supporting topic specific strategies such as community wide needs assessments, joint recruitment and enrollment, and engaging non-traditional early learning partners. The session will highlight successful strategies that many communities utilize across Michigan and include examples from specific regions of the state.	
Pediatric & Family Health and Social-Emotional Health	<p>Using Developmental Screening to Create System Linkages Presenters: Chris Baker, Early Childhood Consultant, Ottawa GSC; Jan Shangle, Coordinator, Ottawa GSC; Catrina Wiskur, Parent Education Facilitator, Genesee ISD/GSC; and Lisa Sturges, Project Specialist, Oakland GSC</p>	TBA
Description:	Developmental screening is an essential part of building a local early childhood system. This session will provide case examples from Ottawa, Genesee, and Oakland that show how integrating developmental screening into the existing system not only ensures more children are assessed, but also creates common practices and connections between existing services to better serve children and families. Utilizing both professional and family on line access features from Brookes Publishing allows depth and breadth to common child development information within each community. Both counties will also discuss associated initiatives including social and emotional health training and implementation of Reach out and Read that ensure the systems are prepared to better serve children after the referrals are received.	





Day II - Tuesday, March 15, 2011 (cont.)

Parenting Leadership	Using Family Stories as a Catalyst for Change Presenters: Teresa Marvin , Parent Liaison, Michigan Department of Human Services	TBA
Description:	This session will focus on using family stories as a catalyst for change; in individual family situations, community systems and state policy. Participants will explore their passion for Early Childhood issues and how their personal experience can move others to action.	
Parenting Leadership	Parenting Leadership Model Presenters: Bryn Fortune , Director of Parenting Leadership, ECIC; Jessica Rowland , Parent Liaison, Ionia GSPC; and Amy Zarend , Parent Liaison, Monroe GSPC	TBA
Description:	This session will provide an overview of ECIC's model of parenting leadership as well as local examples that bring the model to life. Participants will gain an understanding of the working model, the background and context it was built from, and why it is critical to effective systems building. Participants will also learn from current promising practice examples in Michigan and have an opportunity to reflect on this component of their work and think about how to move forward in this area.	
Family Support	Coordinating Home Visitation Services – Kent County Welcome Home Baby Program Presenters: Jill Eldred , Program Manager, Welcome Home Baby - Kent County; and Bonnie Rencher , Clinical Nurse Manager, Welcome Home Baby-Kent County	TBA
Description:	Welcome Home Baby is the primary gateway to Kent County's Early Childhood System connecting with new parents in the first days of their child's life. It is a universal and voluntary program that provides families an opportunity to have a Maternal Child Nurse visit them in the home. The nurse is able to discuss feeding, taking the baby's temperature, how access their medical home, and how to access quality child care. Families are offered a menu of community services. This presentation will provide the results from the first 6 months of operation. It will also highlight the process of a community approach in the implementation and coordination of services between home visiting and health care providers. The coordination and alignment of services has indeed created systems changes for Kent County.	
Public Education & Public Will	Strategies for Effective Outreach via Traditional and Social Media Presenter: Andy Heller , Media Director, ECIC	TBA
Description:	With Michigan running a \$1.8 billion deficit, funding for early childhood is most definitely not assured. Local communications and advocacy efforts – including traditional media and social media - will be critical to ensuring that early childhood is recognized as crucial to the development of children and the Michigan economy. This session will provide tips, tools, and strategies for building relationships with media in order to increase media coverage. We will also have a "case study" Q&A, so bring examples of problems you've had with media and social media.	
Public Education & Public Will	Intensive Training and Consultation for Areas Represented by Legislators Serving in Key Leadership Positions (by invitation only) Presenters: Matt Gillard , Policy and Advocacy Consultant, Michigan Association of United Ways; and Holly Wingard , Great Start Consultant, Public Education and Public Will Building, ECIC	TBA
Description:	This session will convene specific GSC Directors/Coordinators, Parent Liaisons and RRC Program Directors that are represented by members of the House and Senate serving in leadership positions crucial to early childhood policies and funding. Participants will be provided with detailed information about each relevant committee, their impact on early childhood programs and services, and strategies that can be used to provide the education and data needed to encourage their support. Information about the experiences that participants have had with these key legislators will be encouraged to ensure that each communications plan is created as a logical next step. <i>(Participants will be invited prior to the conference).</i>	



Day II - Tuesday, March 15, 2011 (cont).

Group Governance & Leadership	Increasing Impact Through Your Local Great Start Strategic Plan	TBA
Description:	Presenters: Joan Blough , Vice President of System Planning and Evaluation, ECIC; and Alissa Parks , Senior Director for Great Start Consultation and Technical Assistance, ECIC	
Description:	All Great Start Collaboratives have completed their initial three-year Great Start Strategic Plan and Early Childhood Action Agenda. This local plan is the guiding document for all of the Great Start Collaborative work. Across the state, the quality and depth of strategic plans varies greatly. This session will provide examples of strong Great Start strategic plans and discuss how to improve your plan to make the Great Start work more impactful. Participants should bring a copy of their local strategic plan for review and discussion.	
Group Governance & Leadership	Integrating the Regional Improvement Plan and the GSC Strategic Plans to Improve Quality	TBA
Description:	Presenters: Mary Luchies , Great Start Quality Project Technical Assistance Consultant, ECIC; and Alicia Williams , Great Start Consultant, Child Care and Early Learning, ECIC	
Description:	This session will share lessons learned and specific examples of integrating the RRC Quality Improvement Plan with the GSC Strategic Plan and Early Childhood Action Agenda to improve early learning and care quality both locally and regionally.	
5:00 p.m.	Conclusion	

Day III - Wednesday, March 16, 2011

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast	
	Registration: Centennial ABC Breakfast: Big Ten AB	
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Table Topics – World Café Style	Big Ten AB
Description:	This is an opportunity to connect with your peers like you never have before! Tables will be assigned topics (generated ahead of time) and participants will be able to move between tables to guide their own learning. This may include asking questions, sharing lessons learned, and connecting with your peers with the goal of increased knowledge to use back in your community. This session is a different spin on the previously held “Good Ideas Workshop” and will help you think more deeply about your local early childhood system building work.	
10:30 a.m.	Break	
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion: The Status of Great Start in Michigan	Big Ten AB
Description:	Moderator: Judy Y. Samelson , Chief Executive Officer, ECIC	
Description:	The panel will include perspectives from ECIC, State Government (Governor’s Office and State Departments), business, & philanthropy. Each panelist will speak briefly regarding the state of early childhood in Michigan and respond to questions from the audience.	
12:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Big Ten AB
	Judy Y. Samelson, Chief Executive Officer, Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC)	
12:15 p.m.	Conclusion	
	Big Ten AB	

