

Great Start Parent Coalition Meeting
June 23, 2008
10:30AM – 11:30AM
Mid-Michigan Children's Museum

Present: Julie Kozan, Sarah B, Lula, Dalia, Toinette, Willie, Celeste, Pam, Maureen, Whitney, Serena, Rich VanTol, Laura Hill

❖ **Ground Rules**

- All cell phones should be put on vibrate before the meeting begins
 - If you must take a phone call, step out of the room
- Respect whoever is speaking
 - Only one person speaks at a time
 - Give undivided attention to the person speaking
 - Do not interrupt
 - No side bar conversations
- Handle Problems appropriately
 - Speak to Sarah and/or Lula outside of regular meeting time to discuss
 - Phone call or email
 - Be proactive when discussing a problem
 - Explain situation and offer possible solutions
 - Contact person for problems within coalition
 - Call the point person for the project that you have a problem with
 - If emailing – email both Sarah and Lula, someone will get back with you
 - Sarah and Lula will speak with one another and share issues with each other so there is no need to call both – only the point person
- If you are unable to attend an event you signed up for – call the point person at the earliest possible time to cancel
 - If you attend an event that you did not sign up for – be aware that you are welcome but you may not have a job to do other than support
- Be punctual for all meetings and events
- Participation is expected by all
 - Be active
 - Share thoughts
- All members will be held accountable to uphold set rules of Parent Coalition

- Perhaps in October we can discuss the idea of having each member sign a copy of the rules stating that they agree with them and will uphold
- Ruth will send out hard copy of rules to all Parent Coalition members
- Rules will be posted at each meeting
- ❖ **Star Power Rally**
 - Meeting with Roger Kahn's office went well
 - Invite "Franklin?" to meeting
 - Andy Coulouris attended GSC meeting as a result :)
 - At retreat suggest possibility of inviting legislators to meetings
 - Talk to St. Clair rep at Petoskey, find out how they did it
- ❖ **DEAR Event**
 - Skipped
- ❖ **Parent Reports**
 - A time to talk about what you do in the community i.e., PTA meetings, committee meetings etc.
 - do not pertain to action items
 - A time to talk about things we don't know – ex. Hang flyers, conversation with co-worker about program, etc.
 - What is the difference between Parent reports and open forum?
 - Parent report
 - A time to discuss what you have done in the community, since our last meeting to further the Parent Coalition mission, i.e. attended other parent/child friendly events, discussed the Coalition in any way, etc.
 - Open forum
 - Time to share anything you want
 - Personal info – ex. "It's my birthday!"
 - Ideas/opportunities we can participate in
 - A place to ask questions
 - Clarify information on upcoming events
- ❖ **Ad Hoc Groups**
 - Each group should meet before the retreat on July 27 to discuss their plans
 - Lula is Point Person (PP)
 - WalMart action even needs to meet, Sarah is PP
 - Take Sydney to WalMart event
 - New Ad Hoc group – communications
 - Meeting to discuss August event and communications July 7 from 12-2 at Transitions Center
 - If you are unable to attend July 7 meeting contact Sarah
 - Everyone needs to bring assessments to July 7 meeting
- ❖ **Retreat**
 - Lula is PP

- July 28, 2008
- Need Venue
 - Hoyt Library
 - Whitney will contact Trish Burns about Library
 - Can we bring food in?
- Topics for retreat
 - Posters
 - Marketing
 - Legislators
 - Get to know you
 - Team building
 - If you have ideas for topics contact Lula
- **Miscellaneous**
 - Sharing Information
 - Send information to Julie that you would like to be shared with group
 - ◆ Julie will distribute as necessary either snail mail or email
 - ◆ Keep Julie posted of all changes in contact information
 - Have set aside time to share information at meetings
 - ◆ Updates on different organizations we are involved in
 - Inviting New parents
 - Invite to a Parent Coalition meeting first
 - After they have attended Coalition meeting, invite to full GSC board meeting
 - ◆ All GSC meetings are open door, anyone is welcome at any time
 - If you are inviting someone to attend a meeting, please make sure you are present at that meeting as well
 - Zoo
 - Have meeting to discuss problem with those who signed up to attend and didn't and those that didn't sign up but attended
 - Parent Coalition Definition
 - Need a simple layman's term definition of who we are and what we do
 - ◆ Brochure is in progress
 - ◆ Sarah and Lula will brainstorm at retreat
 - Maybe a book mark with a brief definition
 - ◆ When talking to someone tell what the Parent Coalition has done for you, how we have helped others
 - Posters
 - Create Parent Coalition poster to hang in schools and organizations such as Underground RR, Victims Rights, etc.
 - Grief counseling

- Wayne Cartwright on Hospital road
- Snow funeral Home
- CAC
- Infant Mortality at Anderson Center
 - ◆ Sarah or Lula get card for Celeste's family
 - Nephew was premature and did not survive
 - ◆ Bring card to July 7 meeting for group to sign