

2010-2013 Strategic Plan for Early Childhood in Lenawee County



Lenawee County Great Start

A partner of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation



Growing Great Kids in Lenawee County

Collaborative Members

Chairman, David Stanifer
Probate Court Administrator

Chair - Elect, Dr. Thomas Pinard
Doctor of Chiropractic

Treasurer Roger Ferguson
Assistant Vice-President,
United Bank & Trust

Vice - Chair, Kathleen Schanz, O.P
Executive Director, Lenawee United Way

Roger Myers
Director, Community Mental Health

Steve Krusich
Superintendent
Lenawee Intermediate Schools

Mark Haag
Superintendent, Onsted Community Schools

Jim Hartley
Superintendent
Madison School District

Mike Kight
Director, Lenawee Health Dept.

K.Z. Bolton
Lenawee County Commissioner

Kathy Burke
Professor of Early Education
Siena Heights University

Reverend Linda Farley
First Christian Church

Burt Fenby
Director, Community Action Agency

Bob Herrera
Assistant Superintendent
Lenawee Intermediate Schools

Linda Feeney
Lenawee County Education Foundation

Jane Spence
Parent Representative

Megan Karpinski
Young Children's Services
Lenawee Intermediate Schools

Linda Albog
Program Manager
Dept. of Human Services

David Bull
Director, Head Start

Kristen Columbus
Parent Representative

Pamela Johnson
Program Manager
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Brooke Rains
Direct Services Specialist
Child Care Network

Christine MacNaughton
Lenawee Community in Schools

Lisa Eack
Parent Liaison

Lisa Leader
Newborn and Maternal Services
Promedica North Region

Gretchen Hofing
MSU Extension Educator

Becky Gilleylen
Director, Bethany Child Care

Edward Manuszak
Principal, Tecumseh Public Schools

David Pray
Superintendent
Clinton School District

Heather Perez
Parent Liaison

Tim Kelly
Director, Lenawee Human Services

Honorable Gregg Iddings
Lenawee Probate Court Judge

Joseph Satterelli
Community Member

Mary Vallad
Director of Nursing
Lenawee Health Department

Deana Smith
Head Start Health Services Manager

Representative Dudley Spade
Michigan State Representative

Dear Lenawee County Community Members,

The members of Lenawee's Great Start Collaborative have approved this strategic plan as the guide for our community work around young children and their families for the next three years. We understand that support for young children has an impact on every area of the community; workforce development, economics, safety, and school success. We believe every child deserves the opportunity to enter school healthy, safe and ready to succeed. When children in the community have their needs met, the community is better as a whole.

We are committed to working together to develop systems of support and to implement the strategic plan to the best of our abilities and maintain our commitment to the young children of Lenawee County.

Sincerely,
Members of the Lenawee Great Start Collaborative

Collaborating to better
coordinate community resources
and support to provide a
great start for all children

Lenawee Great Start
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The Lenawee Great Start Collaborative is building a “great start” system around five key components to accomplish better results for young children and families in our community



Goals & Objectives

Social & Emotional Health

- All children will start school socially and emotionally healthy
- Children 0-5 with social and emotional deficits receive support and services

Parent Leadership

- Parents use community resources that support healthy child development
- Parents are advocates for their children’s success and well-being

Early Care & Education

- Expand early education opportunities for families in need
- Champion the importance of high quality child care

Physical Health

- All children 0-5 are insured and have a primary care provider
- Support a comprehensive maternal health education plan

Basic Needs and Safety

- Enhance the safety of children 0-5 in Lenawee County
- Improve access to food, clothing, shelter and transportation for families with young children

Key Strategies

- Providing families social and emotional information and a coordinated system for accessing support or services
- Ensure all parents have access to early childhood resources and Kindergarten readiness information that is consistent throughout the county
 - Expand playgroup opportunities and increase the capacity of at-risk preschool programs
- Increase access to primary care providers for families with young children and promote an understanding of the link between maternal health and child well-being
 - Increase community support and awareness of children’s basic needs and safety



Great Start Parent Coalition Parent input is vital to the development of a system of support for young children and families. A Parent Coalition was in formed in 2008 to work in conjunction with the Collaborative. The Coalition is a partnership of parents working together to advocate for the needs of all families in Lenawee.

Great Start Collaborative Community leaders who understand the importance of investing in young children came together in 2007 to begin the work of forming a Great Start Collaborative. Michigan’s Early Childhood Investment Corporation officially recognized Lenawee’s Collaborative in April 2008. **Lenawee’s Future**, a status report on the well-being of Lenawee’s children, was published in January 2009. The findings were shared with over 300 community members who provided feedback used in this strategic plan. The Collaborative set goals and developed strategies to address the physical health, early education, social and emotional health, early care, parent education and basic needs and safety of children in Lenawee. This strategic plan will guide the community work of supporting young children and their families for the next three years.



Growing Great Kids in Lenawee County

Vision All children in Lenawee County will start school healthy, safe and ready to succeed

Mission To assure a coordinated system of community resources and services that provide a great start for all children

