

WHY ARE HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMS IMPORTANT?

Studies have shown that high-quality early childhood programs have led to:

- ◆ Improvements in educational performance, including higher test scores.
- ◆ Reductions in special education, grade retention, and school drop-outs.
- ◆ Increases in high school and college graduation rates.
- ◆ Reductions in juvenile delinquency and criminal activity later in life.
- ◆ Higher earnings and tax revenues by child and parent.
- ◆ Reductions in welfare necessity & child abuse.

QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IS FUTURE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

Parents who have access to high-quality early child care and education programs exhibit lower absenteeism rates from work.

Children attending quality early childhood development programs are more likely to become adults who participate in the workforce with higher rates of productivity.

(Lessons Learned: A Review of Early Childhood Development Studies, Jean Burr, Ph.D. and Rob Grunewald, 2006)



FIVE FOCUS AREAS

- ⇒ **Physical Health Care**
High-quality physical and child development services, including referrals for children with development concerns.
- ⇒ **Social-Emotional Health Care**
Specialized child development and mental health services that promote the social-emotional well-being of all young children.
- ⇒ **Parent Education & Family Support**
Excellent Support for parents in the critical role they play in their child's overall development.
- ⇒ **Early Care and Education**
High-quality early care and educational services for children that prepare them to succeed in school and life.
- ⇒ **Basic Needs, Economic Security & Child Safety**
Access to supports and services that assist families to be safe and financially stable.

It is the policy of the Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) that no discriminatory practices based on gender, race, religion, color, age, national origin, disability, height, weight, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliations and beliefs, or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed in providing instructional opportunities, programs, services, job placement assistance, employment or in policies governing student conduct and attendance. Any person suspecting discriminatory practice should contact the Associate Superintendent for Special Education, 1013 South US-27, St. Johns, MI 48879, or call 989-224-6831.

**A Great Start for
EVERY CHILD
in Clinton County!**

**Safe, Healthy and Eager to Succeed
in School and in Life!**

CLINTON COUNTY



**Need more information about the
Great Start Collaborative
or Parent Coalition?**

Visit us at
www.clintongreatstart.org
Or Contact
Karen Black
Great Start Director
black_k@ccresa.org
Maria Cook
Great Start Parent Liaison
mcook@ccresa.org
(989) 224-6831

As funded by: The Early Childhood Investment Corporation
through the Intermediate School District.
www.ecicforkids.org

WHAT IS THE GREAT START COLLABORATIVE?

The Clinton County Great Start Collaborative is a partnership of community leaders, business owners, charitable and faith-based organizations, health and human service agencies, educators, and parents.

It is committed to establishing and maintaining a comprehensive early childhood system which is a network of county-wide supports and services working together to achieve better results for young children and families.

The Collaborative:

- ◆ Engages community partners in the planning and coordination of services.
- ◆ Addresses the factors that influence a child's readiness for school and life.
- ◆ Promotes community awareness of early childhood issues.
- ◆ Advocates for quality early childhood programs and services.

CLINTON COUNTY GREAT START COLLABORATIVE

VISION

A Great Start for every child in Clinton County - safe, healthy and eager to succeed in school and in life.

MISSION

The purpose of Clinton County Great Start is to assure a coordinated system of community resources and supports to assist all our families in providing a great start for their children.

WHAT IS THE GREAT START PARENT COALITION?

Why Become Involved:

Are you willing to be a voice for our learners?

Are you passionate about children having the tools they need to be ready to enter school?

Do you have a desire to be the best parent or caregiver you can be?

Do you want to understand what building blocks a child needs to succeed in learning?

The Great Start Parent Coalition is made up of parents, grandparents, and caregivers of children 0 to 12 years old in Clinton County.

We discuss issues that our children face, build parent leaders, help parents find a voice in the community, and assist in building public support for early childhood as an investment.

We meet monthly so parents can brainstorm and network with one another. There are NO FEES. Meetings always include dinner, childcare and transportation reimbursement.



Joining our group is a great way to become involved in your community and strengthen your family! The learning possibilities are endless:

- Tune up your education about Early Childhood.
- Network with other parents/caregivers.
- Learn what resources are available to strengthen families in your area.
- Hone your public speaking skills, develop leadership skills, share your voice, and learn advocacy skills that make a difference!

Parent Coalition Members represent all areas of Clinton County including:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| * Bath | * Ovid-Elsie |
| * DeWitt | * Pewamo |
| * Fowler | * St. Johns |
| * Maple Rapids | * Westphalia |

For additional information:



Facebook:

[Clinton Great Start](#)



Website:

www.clintongreatstart.org

View Activity Calendar on website for upcoming events in Clinton County!