

Branch County Great Start Community Conditions

Goal: Increase community awareness of existing programs and services.

Strategy: Create a public awareness campaign to announce existing programs and services.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Identify existing programs and services.	Great Start Asset Summary, FSN, Great Start Collaborative Body and Parent Coalition *Printing budget allocation needed.	GSC Marketing Committee	January 2007 – June 2007	Updated Asset Summary available in hard copy and electronic version.	
Draft a public relations plan to distribute the Asset Summary report.	Marketing Committee, media alliances	GSC Marketing Committee	January 2007- June 2007	Written summary plan with timeline.	
Execute the public relations plan.	Media contacts, GSC Committee, GSC Parent Coalition, Service Agencies, Focus Group Attendees, etc...	GSC Coordinator	June 2007- December 2009	Increased utilization of services, reported by FSN Committee member collaboration. Follow up with focus group participants, indicating greater knowledge of services.	
Update Asset Summary report	Media contacts, GSC Committee, GSC Parent Coalition, Service Agencies, Focus Group Attendees, etc...	GSC Coordinator	Every 6 months	Updates available on website and by providing inserts to report. Inform community through ongoing public relations campaign.	

Branch County Great Start Community Conditions

Goal: Create a community-wide strategic plan.

Strategy: Create and distribute a community report card on early childhood.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Develop a report card format for GSC Committee approval	ECIC template, other GSC communities and the GSC assessment findings.	GSC Coordinator	November 2007 – January 2008	Report reviewed and approved by GSC and ready for printing.	
Develop a distribution plan for report	Media contacts, GSC Committee, GSC Parent Coalition, Service Agencies, Focus Group Attendees, etc... *Printing budget to be utilized.	Community Report Committee	January 2008- March 2008	3000 copies distributed within county. Media coverage. Available online.	

Branch County Great Start Community Conditions

Goal: Create a community wide strategic plan.

Strategy: Collaborate with the Family Services Network (FSN) to integrate the Early Childhood report into their strategic plan.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
GSC Committee meets with FSN Coordinator		GSC Board Chair	April 2008	Minutes from the meeting.	
Outline a collaborative proposal.	GSC Committee and FSN Committee	GSC Coordinator and FSN Coordinator	June 2008 – July 2008	Collaboration agreement.	
Integrate early childhood issues into FSN county- wide strategic plan	GSC Committee and FSN Committee	GSC Coordinator and FSN Coordinator	July 2008 – December 2010	Strategic Plan document and on-going meetings.	

Branch County Great Start Physical Health

Goal: Increased public awareness of successful keys to avoid the poverty trap.

Strategy: Implement Ruby Payne, "Bridges out of Poverty" materials.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Identify available materials and cost associated.	ECIC and FSN Bridges out of Poverty trained members.	GSC Coordinator and Parent Liaison.	January 2008 – June 2008	List of options.	
Submit options identified to the GSC Board and discuss implementation strategies.	GSC Committee, ECIC * Budget allocation needed.	GSC Coordinator and Parent Liaison.	June 2008- December 2008	Strategies developed.	
Implementation plan created and approved by GSC board.	GSC Committee	GSC Coordinator and Parent Liaison.	June 2008 – December 2008	Implementation plan document. Agreement to participate by community partners.	
Implement plan with community partners.	GSC Committee and FSN Committee	GSC Coordinator, Parent Liaison and FSN Coordinator	January 2009 – December 2010	Count number of people that receive the formalized material and training. Update assessment data and review changes.	

Branch County Great Start

Physical Health, Parenting Education and Family Support, Basic Needs and Safety

Goal: Develop a “No Wrong Door” system of service delivery.

Strategy: Create a social service flow that allows for multiple points of entry by people utilizing programs and services.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Documentation of current process/flow chart.	DHS, FSN, nonprofits, human services	GSC Coordinator and FSN Coordinator	July 2008 - December 2008	Document in place and current points of entry identified.	
Create a new flow chart representing multiple points of entry	DHS, FSN, nonprofits, human services	GSC Coordinator and FSN Coordinator	January 2009 - June 2009	New flow chart to add to the Asset Summary report.	
Train all point of entry agencies and share flow chart with all agencies in the delivery system.	DHS, FSN, nonprofits, human services	GSC Coordinator and FSN Coordinator	July 2009 - December 2009	Training sign in sheet.	
Distribute the flow chart and enhanced system to the community.	DHS, FSN, nonprofits, human services, and media allies, focus groups, schools, etc...	GSC Coordinator/Committee and FSN Coordinator/Committee	January 2010 – December 2010	Increased access of services, reported by FSN Committee member collaboration. Follow up with focus group participants, indicating greater knowledge of services.	

Branch County Great Start Social – Emotional Health

Goal: Provide support for foster children and families.

Strategy: Form a support group for fostered children and families.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Identify foster families within Branch County	GSC and DHS	Collaborative Coordinator and DHS Foster Licensing Program Manager	January 2008 – December 2010	Number of foster families identified.	
Survey licensed foster families of specific support needs.	GSC, FSN, Licensed Foster Parents and Parent Liaison.	GSC, FSN and DHS	March 2008 – April 2008	Program list and support topics document	
Establish a regular support group meeting.	GSC, FSN, Licensed Foster Parents and Parent Liaison.	GSC, FSN and DHS	April 2008- December 2010	Sign in sheets, yearly focus group session to gain feedback and statistics.	

Branch County Great Start Social - Emotional Health

Goal: Assist in building a statewide foster care placement system to promote continuity of care and stable relationships for children in placement.

Strategy: Provide transition support services for foster children during and after placement.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Create collaborative mental health partnerships.	Community Mental Health (Pines Behavioral Health), Pediatricians, School Counselors.	DHS, GSC and FSN	August 2008 – December of 2008	Number of established collaborative relationships.	
Address the funding requirements.	*Allocate budget necessary, private insurance, public assistance and donations/scholarships.	Collaborative Mental Health Partners, GSC Coordinator	January 2009- May 2009	Established community funding to assist those who are not funded by other programs.	
Offer transition support to children in foster care placements.					

Branch County Great Start Parenting Education and Family Support

Goal: Build community will and support for young families and children.

Strategy: Creating a public awareness campaign to educate on the importance of early childhood education and issues.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Create a communications campaign. *Coordinate this with Community Conditions goal of existing programs and services.	Personal Stories, Marketing Committee, Assessment Facts and Media Alliances. *Budget allocation needed.	GSC Marketing Committee	January 2007- June 2007	Written summary plan with timeline.	
Include the business community in the formation and execution of communications campaign.	Chamber Members, Small Business Alliances		January 2007- June 2007	Businesses institute family friendly policies.	
Execute the communications plan.	Media Contacts, GSC Committee, GSC Parent Coalition, Focus Group Attendees, Service Agencies and Business Contacts	GSC Marketing Committee	June 2007 – December 2010	Increased donations to the endowment fund Increased family friendly policy and focus group feedback.	

Branch County Great Start Early Care and Education

Goal: Improve Parenting Skills

Strategy: Change the terminology and approach of parenting classes to benefit and not an admission of “bad” parenting.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Research other well-attended parenting classes and determine reason for their success,	Internet referrals, ECIC	GSC Committee, Coordinator, Parent Liaison	February 2008	Program Models, curriculum and marketing material.	
Identify collaborative organizations to provide classes, workshops to parents.	GSC, FSN *Funding resources identified	Community Supported	April 2008	Collaborative meeting with timeline and responsibilities.	
Re-brand parenting classes	GSC Marketing Committee *Allocate budget for marketing	GSC Marketing Committee	July 2008	Message that says parenting classes are for everyone and its fun. Reports from focus groups and class attendance.	
Offer a parent meeting class with improved “positive structure” and welcoming language	GSC, FSN And Collaborative Partners	GSC Parent Liaison and Community Supported.	September 2008	Parent attendance, feedback on program evaluation.	

Branch County Great Start Early Care and Education

Goal: Provide available quality daycare for all families regardless of income.

Strategy: Create funding sources to allow universal access to quality daycare.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Identify all childcare options by age, price, hours and licensing	Childcare Resources	Early Care and Education Committee, GSC Coordinator	2008	Part of assets summary.	
Identify area businesses to champion a childcare scholarship campaign	Childcare Resources, Local Business allies, GSC	Early Care and Education Committee	2008	Number of scholarships granted to licensed childcare homes and/or facilities.	
Create a fundraising campaign to provide sliding scale fees to all families	Childcare Resources, Local Business allies	Early Care and Education Committee	2009	Funds developed for childcare use.	
Assist child care centers with funding and TA to become accredited.	Childcare Resources, Local Business allies and GSC	Early Care and Education Committee	2009-2010	Number of centers accredited or in the application process.	

Branch County Great Start Basic Needs and Safety

Goal: Position mentors and volunteers to “coach” families to make better choices and to become independent and responsible parents.

Strategy: Facilitate buy-in and participation from all Family Services Network agencies.

OBJECTIVE (Measurable step to work toward a strategy identified to accomplish a goal)	RESOURCES	ROLES/RESPONSIBILITY	START/END	EVALUATION (And how will we measure progress along the way?)	STATUS
Research “best practice” family mentor models	DHS, Childcare Resources, Internet,	GSC Coordinator, GSC Parent Liaison	April 2008		
Meet with FSN to select best practice research	FSN, Internet, Erica Oliver	GSC Coordinator and FSN	January 2009	Best practice model selected.	
Meet with churches and other faith based organizations	Local churches and faith based organizations	GSC Coordinator	January 2009	Selection for best practice model	
Meet with Senior Services: Foster Grand-parent program.					