

How Can You Participate?

- Join the Huron County Great Start Collaborative or one of the workgroups to create a comprehensive early childhood system.
- Be an advocate for children and families by contacting your elected officials expressing the importance of investing in early childhood programs and services.
- Watch for and participate in Great Start Huron County community outreach events.
- Become actively involved in the Parent Coalition.
- Be an advocate for the importance of the early childhood years by working with Huron County Great Start.

What is the Great Start Parent Coalition?

The Great Start Parent Coalition consists of parents, grandparents, and caregivers of young children, ages birth to 12 years, in Huron County.

Its purpose is to increase parent participation in early childhood planning and decision making for the county.

The Coalition:

- Serves as a "voice" for parents.
- Assists in building public support for early childhood as an investment.
- Supports and participates in the assessment and strategic planning work of the Great Start Collaborative.
- Strengthens the commitment of parents in the community on behalf of young children.

Under the direction and guidance of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC), the Huron County Great Start Collaborative is the official collaborative committee charged to oversee the planning, implementation, and ongoing improvement of the infrastructure of Huron County's comprehensive early childhood system. This initiative is primarily funded by ECIC and is supported by the Huron County Child Abuse and Neglect Council, the Huron County Community Collaborative, and the Huron Intermediate School District.

ECIC is funded through the Michigan Department of Education, the Child Care Development Quality Funds, and the Kellogg Foundation. For more information about ECIC, go to www.ecic4kids.org.

For more information about
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Huron County's Great Start Initiative

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HEALTHY,
PREPARED,
AND EAGER
TO SUCCEED IN
SCHOOL**



www.greatstarhuron.com

What is the Huron County Great Start Collaborative?

Huron County Great Start is a partnership of local leaders acting as the planning and decision-making body for Michigan's Great Start system at the local level.

Convened by the Huron Intermediate School District (HISD), the collaborative includes: parents; business leaders; directors of public health, mental health, human services, Regional 4C Association, MSU Extension, Head Start, MI School Readiness Program, a licensed day care center, philanthropic and/or charitable organization(s), organizations that provide services on behalf of minority populations; the ISD superintendent; the juvenile court judge; a CEO of a hospital; the Early On coordinator; an elementary school principal; a representative of a faith-based organization; and an elected governmental official.

The collaborative's work focuses on assisting all Huron County families in providing a great start for children from prenatal through kindergarten entry.



Great Start Vision

A Great Start to ensure all children in Huron County are safe, healthy, prepared, and eager to succeed in school.

Great Start Mission

The purpose of Great Start is to assure a coordinated system of community resources and supports to assist all Huron County families in providing a great start for their children from prenatal to kindergarten entry.

Great Start System Definition

Huron County's comprehensive Great Start early childhood system will provide a single, interconnected, and intertwined network of public and private services and supports working together in our community to accomplish better outcomes for children and families.

Great Start Results

- Infants, young children and their families are physically healthy.
- Infants, young children and their families are socially and emotionally healthy.
- Families support and guide the early learning of their infants and toddlers.
- Families have access to high quality early care and education.
- Children are ready to succeed in school and in life.
- Families of infants and young children are economically stable.
- Infants and young children live in safe families.

Partners in the collaborative are committed to establishing and maintaining a comprehensive early childhood system that ensures links and collaboration among all early childhood initiatives and programs in the community.

Great Start System Components

Basic Needs, Economic Security, and Child Safety

Services and supports that address the basic daily-living needs of families as well as child and family safety.



Physical Health Care

Comprehensive physical health and child development services including screening, assessment, and intervention, as well as timely and appropriate referral for specialized developmental, behavioral, and social-emotional assessments and interventions.



Social-Emotional Health Care

Specialized screening, assessment, and intervention services designed to promote the social-emotional well-being of all infants and young children, including infants and young children at risk of developing emotional disturbances and infants and young children with diagnosed emotional disturbances.

Parenting Education and Family Support

Services and supports for parents in the critical role they play in the healthy development of their infants and young children.



Early Care and Education



Early care (child care) and education services that support the early learning, health, and social-emotional well-being of infants and young children.