

## **COPPER COUNTRY GREAT START COLLABORATIVE**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT Thursday, January 8, 2009**

#### **Committee Updates**

**The Executive Committee met on December 3rd. Marie Sarchet, our new Technical Assistant, met with the group. Progress on the data analysis was discussed and direction was given on how to proceed with the data analysis and reporting.**

**The Communication Committee met on December 8th. The draft of the communication plan was reviewed. Plans for media including newspaper, radio presentations, brochure and website were finalized.**

**Emilie was a guest on the Copper Country Today radio program on December 14th and Ray Sharp and Emilie were guests on the Keep It In the U.P. radio program on December 18th.**

**The Data Committee met on December 12th. Plans for were finalized for presenting and choosing indicators at the January 8th meeting.**

#### **Early Childhood Challenge**

**Taryn Mack attended the 2nd annual Early Childhood Challenge in Lansing on November 18th. Emilie was unable to attend due to a previous commitment. The conference centered around the Status of Young Children in Michigan. In the state update, we learned that boilerplate language for the 0-3 Secondary Prevention Program has been changed to include alignment to the Great Start Collaborative Strategic Plan. There was also a discussion regarding assessment versus screening, and the need for local Early On staff to be trained in the DECA/IT, a social emotional assessment tool for infants and toddlers. The bulk of the day was spent on the Strategic Priorities & Benchmarks for 2010 & 2015. Taryn attended the breakout session on Social and Emotional Health. They had a lively discussion regarding the importance of social emotional health and learning, the importance of prevention, and how to provide better social emotional health to infants and toddlers and their families. Thanks to Taryn for attending and sharing this important information.**

#### **Technical Assistance Webinar**

**A Technical Assistance webinar was held on December 17th. Despite some technical difficulties we were able to review information on the ECIC work plan for 2009. There was also a follow-up to the Early Childhood Challenge and an update on the**

**budget. We appreciate any effort that is made to use technology to save on travel time and costs.**

### **Upcoming Trainings**

**We hope to be a video conference site for an up coming training on February 5, 2009. The conference is entitled “The Protective Factors of Parental Resilience; Social Connections; Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development; Concrete Support; and Healthy Parent-Child Relationships”. The session will focus on the Strengthening Families and Protective Factors approach to supporting children and families with evidence based programs and services. Registration details will be sent out as soon as we get them.**