

## **COPPER COUNTRY GREAT START COLLABORATIVE**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**Thursday, May 7th, 2009**

#### **Committee Updates**

**The Executive Committee met on April 27th. The group discussed the Wilder and presenting the results at the Collaborative meeting. The Infrastructure Review was also discussed and committee members will send preliminary information to Emilie before the meeting on the 20th of May. We also finalized our agenda for today, and discussed logistics and a date for the Strategic Review. The group was brought up-to-date on Star Power, the Community Presentations, Doctors' presentation, and fulfilling our obligation for a Diversity Event and Legislative Events.**

**The Data and Communications Committees have not met since February, but will need to meet in the next month or so.**

#### **Technical Assistance Conference Calls and Meetings**

**A monthly technical assistance conference call was held on March 19th and focused on the Social Emotional Area of the Great Start Strategic Priorities. We have posted a report for parents on our website on Social Emotional Readiness for School. Taryn participated in the call with me. I will continue to share the dates and contents of the calls with you. Members are welcome to participate.**

**Heather and I attended a TA meeting in Escanaba on the 12th of March. Star Power was discussed, as well as having a conference call from Matt Gillard, the Legislative Liaison for ECIC. He stressed the importance of keeping Early Childhood money in the budget. I attended the April TA as a conference call, as that was the day of the big storm. I sat in on a conference call regarding the RFP for Child Care and the role of GSC Directors. Cathy sat in on a conference call last week regarding use of Title I funds for Early Childhood, the ECIC Strategic Fund, and the State budget.**

#### **Community Report Presentations**

**I have presented the Report to the Community on the Status of Young Children to the following groups: ISD Staff, ISD Board, Elementary Principals, Health Department Staff, Mike Lahti, KFRC and BHK home visitors, HSCB, Portage Health Doctors, MTU Child Care Advisory Board, the Parent Advisory Committee for Special Education, and Community Presentations in each county. I will meet with at least nine more groups in the next month, including the Kiwanis, Rotary,**

**Baraga County Human Services, DHS staff, SKIP group, BHK parent group, Mental Health staff, KBIC parent group, and Infant Toddler staff from BHK in L'Anse. If there are any other groups that would like to meet, please let me know.**

### **Media Events**

**Heather and I were on "Copper Country Today." I was also on the "Copper Country Today" program by myself to discuss the Community Report. Ray and I were on "Keep it in the U.P." with Dick Storm, and Cathy and I were on the "Education Corner" with Kris Schourek. There were two articles in the Gazette and the Sentinel, as well as ads for the community presentations.**

**We will be running spots on the radio and doing press releases for Star Power. We hope to have some TV coverage as well.**