

# 2010-2013 Strategic Plan for Early Childhood in Lenawee County



## Lenawee County Great Start

A partner of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation



## Growing Great Kids in Lenawee County

### Collaborative Members

**Chairman, David Stanifer**  
Probate Court Administrator

**Chair - Elect, Dr. Thomas Pinard**  
Doctor of Chiropractic

**Treasurer Roger Ferguson**  
Assistant Vice-President,  
United Bank & Trust

**Vice - Chair, Kathleen Schanz, O.P**  
Executive Director, Lenawee United Way

**Roger Myers**  
Director, Community Mental Health

**Steve Krusich**  
Superintendent  
Lenawee Intermediate Schools

**Mark Haag**  
Superintendent, Onsted Community Schools

**Jim Hartley**  
Superintendent  
Madison School District

**Mike Kight**  
Director, Lenawee Health Dept.

**K.Z. Bolton**  
Lenawee County Commissioner

**Kathy Burke**  
Professor of Early Education  
Siena Heights University

**Reverend Linda Farley**  
First Christian Church

**Burt Fenby**  
Director, Community Action Agency

**Bob Herrera**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Lenawee Intermediate Schools

**Linda Feeney**  
Lenawee County Education Foundation

**Jane Spence**  
Parent Representative

**Megan Karpinski**  
Young Children's Services  
Lenawee Intermediate Schools

**Linda Albog**  
Program Manager  
Dept. of Human Services

**David Bull**  
Director, Head Start

**Kristen Columbus**  
Parent Representative

**Pamela Johnson**  
Program Manager  
Dept. of Human Services

**Brooke Rains**  
Direct Services Specialist  
Child Care Network

**Christine MacNaughton**  
Lenawee Community in Schools

**Lisa Eack**  
Parent Liaison

**Lisa Leader**  
Newborn and Maternal Services  
Promedica North Region

**Gretchen Hofing**  
MSU Extension Educator

**Becky Gilleylen**  
Director, Bethany Child Care

**Edward Manuszak**  
Principal, Tecumseh Public Schools

**David Pray**  
Superintendent  
Clinton School District

**Heather Perez**  
Parent Liaison

**Tim Kelly**  
Director, Lenawee Human Services

**Honorable Gregg Iddings**  
Lenawee Probate Court Judge

**Joseph Satterelli**  
Community Member

**Mary Vallad**  
Director of Nursing  
Lenawee Health Department

**Deana Smith**  
Head Start Health Services Manager

**Representative Dudley Spade**  
Michigan State Representative

Dear Lenawee County Community Members,

The members of Lenawee's Great Start Collaborative have approved this strategic plan as the guide for our community work around young children and their families for the next three years. We understand that support for young children has an impact on every area of the community; workforce development, economics, safety, and school success. We believe every child deserves the opportunity to enter school healthy, safe and ready to succeed. When children in the community have their needs met, the community is better as a whole.

We are committed to working together to develop systems of support and to implement the strategic plan to the best of our abilities and maintain our commitment to the young children of Lenawee County.

Sincerely,  
Members of the Lenawee Great Start Collaborative

Collaborating to better  
coordinate community resources  
and support to provide a  
*great* start for all children

Lenawee Great Start  
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The Lenawee Great Start Collaborative is building a “great start” system around five key components to accomplish better results for young children and families in our community



## Goals & Objectives

### Social & Emotional Health

- All children will start school socially and emotionally healthy
- Children 0-5 with social and emotional deficits receive support and services

### Parent Leadership

- Parents use community resources that support healthy child development
- Parents are advocates for their children’s success and well-being

### Early Care & Education

- Expand early education opportunities for families in need
- Champion the importance of high quality child care

### Physical Health

- All children 0-5 are insured and have a primary care provider
- Support a comprehensive maternal health education plan

### Basic Needs and Safety

- Enhance the safety of children 0-5 in Lenawee County
- Improve access to food, clothing, shelter and transportation for families with young children

## Key Strategies

- Providing families social and emotional information and a coordinated system for accessing support or services
- Ensure all parents have access to early childhood resources and Kindergarten readiness information that is consistent throughout the county
  - Expand playgroup opportunities and increase the capacity of at-risk preschool programs
- Increase access to primary care providers for families with young children and promote an understanding of the link between maternal health and child well-being
  - Increase community support and awareness of children’s basic needs and safety



**Great Start Parent Coalition** Parent input is vital to the development of a system of support for young children and families. A Parent Coalition was in formed in 2008 to work in conjunction with the Collaborative. The Coalition is a partnership of parents working together to advocate for the needs of all families in Lenawee.

**Great Start Collaborative** Community leaders who understand the importance of investing in young children came together in 2007 to begin the work of forming a Great Start Collaborative. Michigan’s Early Childhood Investment Corporation officially recognized Lenawee’s Collaborative in April 2008. **Lenawee’s Future**, a status report on the well-being of Lenawee’s children, was published in January 2009. The findings were shared with over 300 community members who provided feedback used in this strategic plan. The Collaborative set goals and developed strategies to address the physical health, early education, social and emotional health, early care, parent education and basic needs and safety of children in Lenawee. This strategic plan will guide the community work of supporting young children and their families for the next three years.



## Growing Great Kids in Lenawee County

**Vision** All children in Lenawee County will start school healthy, safe and ready to succeed

**Mission** To assure a coordinated system of community resources and services that provide a great start for all children

