



Traverse Bay/Manistee

WORKING
TOWARD
GREAT
FUTURES

COMMUNITY LEADER ACTION LIST:

WHAT CAN I DO RIGHT NOW – AT MY BUSINESS, IN MY ORGANIZATION OR IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD TO SUPPORT EARLY CHILDHOOD?

- Join the Great Start Collaborative and add your expertise and voice to the initiative
- Ask how your business or organization can create a “Read to Kids Zone”
- Join or Renew your membership to the Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce to ensure ongoing legislative advocacy for early childhood
- Talk to your elected officials, fellow business leaders, employees and the public about the vital role early childhood care and education plays
- Survey your organization’s employees to determine ways you can be supportive of their early childhood needs
- If you are an employer, support parents of young children by considering such family friendly options as flexible schedules, telecommuting, access to reliable childcare resources and services, and flexible spending accounts to cover childcare costs
- Arrange to provide on-site employee parent education and service opportunities through Great Start Traverse Bay/Manistee
- Promote early childhood with check stub inserts, informational posters and handouts through your Human Resources department
- Fund early childhood projects either financially, with direct volunteerism or through in-kind contributions
- Provide your expertise to groups working to solve issues related to young children and their families
- Spread the word that if we wait until Kindergarten to invest and intervene with children it will be too late
- Nurture a supportive environment in your neighborhood. Assist your friends and neighbors who may need parenting support by helping them connect to resources and information
- If you are a parent, educate yourself about child development and creative play activities for your child

IF I HAVE SPECIFIC IDEAS OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, WHO DO I CONTACT?

Mary Sue Wilkinson, Great Start Specialist at 231-233-2948

You may also visit www.tbgreatstart.org to leave comments and input and to check for upcoming events.

www.tbgreatstart.org | 231.922.6437

ANTRIM | BENZIE | GRAND TRAVERSE | KALKASKA | LEELANAU | MANISTEE

