MEDIA ADVISORY

Great Start to Host Celebration with Children and Legislators

Who: Ottawa County Great Start Parent Coalition and Great Start Collaborative
Local Children and Families

What: Nature! Nibbles! Networking!

The Great Start Collaborative and Parent Coalition will be kicking off their new 3-Year Strategic Plan with this free program. The event will include a chance for children and caregivers to enjoy a winter story and craft activity with a Hemlock Crossings naturalist, sample some healthy treats and talk with Ottawa County’s Great Start representatives and local legislators about what’s happening locally and across the state that impacts young children and their families.

When: 12:30 – 2:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 20, 2012

Where: Hemlock Crossings Nature Center, 8115 West Olive Road, West Olive, MI 49460.

Why: Increasingly, state and local communities are recognizing the importance of investing in young children. Gov. Snyder has just released his budget proposal and the priorities we pick will help determine how families will fare in the coming year and whether children will have the support they need to get off to a great start in life and at school.

The Early Childhood Investment Corporation was founded to lead Michigan’s early childhood plan, known as the Great Start Initiative. The Ottawa County Great Start Collaborative is a public-private partnership dedicated to working on behalf of local families to make sure children from birth to age 5 are safe, healthy and ready for school. Great Start not only supports parents, it is also made up of parents. The Great Start Parent Coalition offers a vital link, ensuring that programs and services are meeting the needs of families in our community, as well as helping to increase awareness, expand points of view and inspire action to improve the lives of young children.

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