

Community Wellness WG Minutes

7/21/2025

Welcome

- Ice Breaker: If you could spend a summer anywhere in the world, where would it be?

Working Group Mission

- To strengthen the linkages between early childhood stakeholders and to improve their ability to support children and families.
- Who are the early childhood stakeholders?
 - Early childhood stakeholders encompass a diverse group of individuals and organizations that have direct or indirect interest in the early education system. These stakeholders include parents, children, caregivers, school board members, administrators, social service providers, and teachers.
- How can we work together to help children and families thrive?

SIA Wellness Campaign

- Was piloted successfully last school year
- Was challenging due to lack of participation from the stakeholders
- Will continue seasonally, but will require partner participation
- Moving to seasonal newsletters will lessen the load – multiple newsletters a month was too big an undertaking
- Will begin brainstorming ideas for fall newsletters
 - Previous fall newsletters will be sent out to WG to help spark ideas.
 - Revamp what was sent out last year with new/updated information.
- Instead of sending separate newsletters for teachers/educators - have any information that would be of interest posted on the website to encourage educators to use the website.

- Change the structure of the newsletter to encourage viewers to explore the website in its entirety – not only the resource hub.
 - The website is still under review/audit - page suggestions should be sent to the backbone team to share with the web auditing committee.

SI Alliance Project Updates

- SIA website audit in process
 - Partners are encouraged to review their organization's information on the Resource Hub and provide needed edits through their profile.
 - Continue to share with Vanessa and Kat flyers, events posts, job posts, etc. As they come up.
 - Early Intervention Equity Project
 - Pre-K and Kindergarten Transitioning Events
 - Upcoming event: UFT BBQ @ PS 21 on 8/7/25

Introducing the Help Me Grow (HMG) System

- HMG is a nationally recognized resource and referral linkage system that guides families through a complex web of services to connect them to appropriate community supports. It helps communities maximize existing resources to make sure everyone feels supported.
- The SIA Advisory Board voted to explore how the SI Alliance can plan to implement the HMG system in Staten Island's North Shore.
 - HMG overview document will be sent to WG.

Partner Updates

- Partners will put together a presentation on SI Mental Health – mini presentation in September for SC meeting
- OPWDD – present during October SC meeting
- NYCDOHMH monthly webinars – posted on the website.

Closing

- Next Meeting: August 18, 2025