



**Project Sussex Kids:**  
**The Sussex County Council for Young Children**  
**Families of Infant, Toddlers, and Preschoolers Subcommittee Meeting**  
**May 11, 2015; 1:00pm**  
**Project Self-Sufficiency**

- Welcome and Member Introductions: **Deborah Berry-Toon, Haley McCracken, Devon Eehalt, Elsie Lorber, Peggy Askew**
- Program History and Review
  - Steering Committee meetings held – February 5, 2015 & April 9, 2015
    - Steering Committee Members:
      - Melissa Bischoff – Supervisor and Case Manager, PSS
      - Kathy Nauta – Parent and Community Resident
      - Deborah Berry-Toon, Executive Director; PSS
      - Haley McCracken, Program Coordinator, PSS
      - Jamie Bernard, Executive Director; DASI
      - Kris Imbrie, LCSW, Family Therapist
      - Maureen Strelzik, LCSW
      - Lauren Conklin, Ogdensburg School Social Worker
      - Lis Schuman, bi-lingual case manager; PSS
      - Kathy Baklarz; Special Child Health Services
      - Donna Laval; Perinatal Mental Health Coordinator, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health
      - Tammy Miller; Director of Special Services, Hopatcong Borough Schools
      - Kathy Kwasnik; United Way of Northern NJ, Success by 6
      - Linda Pumphrey; Director, DCP&P
  - Partnership Celebration held – April 29, 2015; 9am & April 30, 2015; 7pm
- Region Outreach
  - Newton – held meeting with Parental Liaison
    - **Connected through Project Launch**
  - Montague – continued outreach
  - Hopatcong – planning resource fair for the Fall; attending Safety Town Event
  - Ogdensburg/Franklin – outreach continued
    - **Community Center or Firehouse**
  - Sussex/Wantage – held Father Daughter Dance on 4/24/15
  - Vernon – presented PSK at SCA meetings on 5/4/15
  - **General Suggestions for Outreach;**
    - **K Orientations**
    - **Mommy Parties**
    - **Parent Support Groups**
    - **Set up resource tables and childcare centers**

- **Library/library meeting groups**
  - **Community Centers**
  - **Town Days**
  - **Food Stores**
  - **Food Pantries**
  - **Bark's Garage Sale**
  - **Billboards**
  - **Churches**
- Objectives
  - Resource Guide
  - Website
  - Facebook Page, Twitter, Blog
  - Information and referral line
  - Grow NJ Kids; **state implementation through Division of Family Services; once childcare centers get on board; it will be an incentive for others to implement Grow NJ Kids**
  - Parent Leadership Training
- Discussion
  - **Parent Feedback**
    - **Finding resources in general**
    - **Outdated information on the internet**
    - **2-1-1 hard to navigate**
    - **Activities for younger children**
    - **Volunteer opportunities for younger children**
    - **Pediatricians in Sussex County**
    - **Assistance signing up for insurance**
    - **Difficulty communicating with the doctor**
  - Mission Statement
  - Family Needs Assessment
  - Outreach to diverse population
  - **Speakers**
    - **Speech Therapist**
    - **Presentation on importance of established routine in the home and in schools for all children**
  - Times for meetings
  - Disseminating Information
  - Volunteers for Events
  - Articles/Resources
    - **Child Development Charts**
    - **NJ Herald Children's Page**
- Next Meeting Dates: July, September, November  
(Peggy can meet on Mondays during the day and/or Tues-Fri at 7-7:30pm)