



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings February 2, 2015 2015 Vol. 2, No. 5

Welcome to the ECI **Monday Musings**. It is a compilation of information, practical advice, training announcements, and/or success stories. **Monday Musings** is intended to disseminate information to Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders in a timely fashion. (We may on occasion send out a separate email with information if it needs immediate attention or if for a specific audience.)

Please let us know if you have something you would like to contribute or have suggestions or comments at jeffrey.anderson@iowa.gov

Back Issues of Monday Musing are available [here](#).

“What its children become, that will the community become.”
-Suzanne La Follette

State Information:

RSVP for the 2015 ECI Day-on-the-Hill March, 5 2015 (RSVP by February 25, 2015)

The 2015 Early Childhood Day on the Hill event will be held on **Thursday, March 5th**! Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. This year’s event will focus on the importance of brain development in the first 2,000 days of life. The keynote presentation will be given by Dr. Andrea McGuire, followed by regional and individual meetings with legislators. More information will follow closer to the date.

To register for the 2015 ECI Day-on-the-Hill:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/66KDPRS>

For an outline of the 2015 ECI Day-on-the-Hill visit:
[Save the Date](#)

A Day-on-the-Hill preparation webinar is planned for February 10, 2015, 9:00 – 11:00 AM.
Materials will be presented and well as logistics for the day.
To sign up for the February 10 webinar:
<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/608060769>



Iowa Department of Public Health Seeking Nominations for the Family Support Participant of the Year and the Family Support Professional of the Year. (Due February 18, 2015)

IDPH has some exciting news from the world of Iowa Family Support and they need your help! This is our chance to recognize and honor the hard work of families and family support professionals in Iowa.

One family and one family support professional will be selected from all nominations received and will be recognized at the opening night reception of the **2015 Child Abuse Prevention and Family Support Conference** (April 13, 2015). The person who has nominated said family or family support professional

of the year will be notified via email early March if their nominee has been selected. The conference registration will be coming out soon!

Please see both nomination forms attached to this email and feel free to share with others in your agency, your program and as well as family support programs in your area! **Nominations are due no later than February 18, 2015 at 4 p.m** and should be returned via email to PJ West at pj.west@idph.iowa.gov. I have included an audio-photography-video consent and release form if needed.

Early Childhood Iowa 2014 Annual Report

The Early Childhood Iowa Annual Report is now available [here](#).

The report includes data on the state-wide indicators and the performance measures for funded strategies and programs. Addendum items will be added to the ECI website within the next two weeks.

Early ACCESS Annual Report

The Early ACCESS Annual Report is now available on the Department of Education website:

<https://www.educateiowa.gov/documents/legislative-information/2015/01/early-access-governors-report-2015>

Keep Up with the Iowa Legislature

The legislative session began on Monday, January 12, 2015 and it is projected to last until early May. The following **websites and digital tools** can help you understand what is happening daily in the state capitol.

The Legislature's website is at www.legis.iowa.gov and contains legislators' names and contact information, all current as well as archived legislation, the *Code of Iowa*, the *Constitution of Iowa*, the *Iowa Administrative Code*, the *Iowa Court Rules*, *House and Senate Chamber Rules*, election laws and lobbyists' names and clientele lists. You will also find live video streaming of House and Senate proceedings when they are in session.

The Senate/House tab in the top tool bar will take you to the session calendars—daily House and Senate debate calendars, committee meeting schedules, a legislative social calendar and a listing of capitol complex events. The website hosts educational pamphlets about how our government works, fiscal publications, an appropriations chart, a legislative terminology glossary, a tutorial on Iowa's budget process, instructions for purchasing the Iowa Code in print or electronic format and a list of legislative contacts, among many other features. Be sure to check out the "Tour the Capitol" videos and photos under the "Resources and Civic Education" tab.

The website for the Office of the Governor is at www.governor.iowa.gov and contains links to information about Governor Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds, as well as information on the flag status, how to request a proclamation, how to request a letter greeting, how to apply for executive clemency and how to access executive orders, news releases and speeches.

The information experts at the **Law Library** can help you navigate this information and find the legal information that you need. Contact them at 515-281-5124, 800-248-4483, or law@lib.state.ia.us.



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Federal Information:

Meet the new Director of the Federal Office of Child Care: [Rachel Schumacher](#)

Other Information:

New Report from the National Research Center on Hispanic Children and Families

The Center's newest brief looks at family structure, living conditions, and adult employment in low-income Hispanic children's households. It identifies differences in the characteristics of those households headed by parents born in the United States and those born elsewhere. In some cases, children with at least one foreign-born parent have notable advantages. Read it [here](#).

Join the Center for a webinar on **Wednesday, February 11** from **1:30-2:30 p.m. ET**: *Characteristics and Experiences of Low-Income Hispanic Families and Households*. The webinar will address how low-income Hispanic families are formed and structured, and other characteristics of these families. Respondents will address the implications of this research for programs and policy. Register [here](#).

Physical Health: Diet, Exercise, and More

This article from the new issue of *Early Developments* focuses on FPG's latest research, resources, and projects on physical health. [Here](#) are stories and snapshots of FPG's latest research, resources, and projects on physical health.

Tax Season is Upon Us

The following links provide you with the information you'll need to **get your taxes filed**.

- Federal tax forms and publications: www.irs.gov/
- Iowa Individual Income Tax Forms: www.iowa.gov/tax/forms/indinc.html
- Additional tax forms, instructions, and publications can also be found on this page from the University of Iowa Libraries: <http://guides.lib.uiowa.edu/taxes>
- Many public libraries in Iowa offer tax help. For contact information and links to libraries' websites go to <http://directory.silo.lib.ia.us/cgi-bin/directory.CGI>

Family Engagement Webinar, February 12, 2015

Join the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership for a free webinar! [Family Engagement and Marketing: An ECE Leader's Guide to Accomplishing Both](#)

For more information about Early Childhood Iowa, visit our website:

<http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org/>

To join the ECI Stakeholders, please complete the commitment survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FSXR5F2>

2015 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

April 3

June 5

September 4 November 6

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 9:30

February 6

March 6

May 1

August 7

October 2

December 4

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

February 10 (Webinar)

March 5 (AM) Held in conjunction with the ECI Day on the Hill

May 12 (PM)

September 8 (AM)

December 8 (PM)

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

March 12 (9:00 – 4:00 PM)

April 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)

June 4 (9:00 AM – Noon)

August 4 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

ECI Area Directors

All day

April 8

(June will be regional meetings)

September 16

(December will be regional meetings)

Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill

March 5, 2015