



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings April 20, 2015 2015 Vol. 2, No. 16

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](#).

“The illusions of childhood are necessary experiences: a child should not be denied a balloon because an adult knows that sooner or later it will burst.”

-Marcelene Cox

State Information:

DHS Webpage – Key Information about Child Care Reauthorization

On the [DHS-CCDBG page](#) you will find:

- A link to the OCC site that will contain all of the official documents and information, including the draft State Plan template and Frequently Asked Questions documents
- Timelines for both CCDBG requirements and the State Plan process
- A ‘snapshot’ document of key CCDBG requirements
- DHS – lead staff assignments on key sections of the State Plan
- Implementation Plans – a preliminary analysis of where Iowa may need to submit “Implementation Plans” with the state plan to indicate how we will come into compliance with new requirements

Summer Institute on the Project Approach

The fourth annual Summer Institute on the Project Approach at St. Ambrose University is July 27 -31, 2015. Participants are eligible to receive PD credit and/or graduate credit through the Mississippi Bend AEA.

Last summer there were 50 participants from 11 states and two foreign countries! For more Institute information see this [flyer](#).

To register on-line: [Summer Institute on the Project Approach](#)

For more information contact Sallee Beneke at benekesallee@sau.edu

Shared Visions Awardees Announced

The Iowa Department of Education has announced the Awardees for Shared Vision Programs. The competitive grant application process resulted in a total of 67 applications being awarded funding out of the 89 total received. Final award amounts are contingent on the finalization of the state appropriation. FY16 grants are awarded with a renewal option of up to five years provided grantees meet program requirements. The next competitive grant process for Shared Visions Preschool Programs will be for FY21.

A document titled *FY16 Shared Visions Preschool Program - Awarded Grantees* has been posted on the [Shared Visions Preschool Program webpage](#) in the **Awarded Locations and Application** section.

Save the Date - Webinar: Iowa's Child Care Assistance — May 6, 2015 – 10:00 AM –Noon

Do you have want to learn more about Iowa's Child Care Assistance Program? Do you want to know more about eligibility criteria, parental co-pays, payment rates, forms families and child care providers receive, etc.? Do you want to see how the KinderTrack data system helps families and child care providers manage information for the Child Care Assistance Program?

If you answered yes to some or all of these questions, this DHS webinar is for you. The scope of the webinar will be both **DEEP** and **WIDE** because every person's knowledge of the Child Care Assistance Program varies. The webinar is fast paced and will cover a lot of information. There is also "pre-work" associated with this webinar. As soon as you register, you will receive a link to access the information and handouts for the webinar. Attendees are expected to review this information prior to the webinar.

Webinar registration information will be sent out as soon as it is available.

Federal Information:

Let's Move Faith and Communities

As trusted community leaders, faith-based and neighborhood organizations are key partners in solving the problems that lead to childhood obesity and addressing related issues of hunger.

Let's Move Faith and Communities seeks to equip community-based health leaders with best practices and resources that can be adapted to fit the needs and goals of their community. The web-based programs and trainings free to community health leaders. A certificate of completion will be provided to participants who take the entire webinar training (this does not apply to phone access only).

[View Upcoming Webinars](#)

Other Information:

Aligning and Investing in Infant and Toddler Programs

The fact that the United States is undergoing major racial and ethnic change is well documented. By 2043, demographers estimate that there will be no majority race or ethnicity for the first time in U.S. history. The leading edge of this transformation is America's youngest citizens. Already, children of color comprise a majority of children under age 2. This is also the first school year in which the majority of children attending public schools are children of color.

To read more: [Center for American Progress](#)

Zero to Three: The Magic of Everyday Moments (Videos)

How do you help parents and students of child development understand how they can best help young children thrive? Seeing is believing!



Each video shows in a clear and compelling way how parents can nurture key skills and attributes children need to be eager, competent learners and to form strong, healthy connections with others as they grow—all through everyday interactions and routines!

To View Series 1 and 2: [The Magic of Everyday Moments](#)

Early Education Narrows the Achievement Gap with Younger Starts and Longer Stays

New research from UNC's Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute (FPG) reveals high-quality early education is especially advantageous for children when they start younger and continue longer. Not only does more high-quality early education significantly boost the language skills of children from low-income families, children whose first language is not English benefit even more. Read more [here](#).

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

June 5

September 4 November 6

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30 AM

May 1

October 2

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

May 12 (PM)

September 8 (AM)

December 8 (PM)

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

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)