



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings July 13, 2015 2015 Vol. 2, No. 26

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](#).

"It isn't the great big pleasures that count the most; it's making a great deal out of the little ones".

-Jean Webster: Daddy-Long-Legs

State Information:

Governor Signs Human Services Appropriations – ECI funds maintained at FY 2015 Levels Child Care Assistance Remains at up to 145% federal poverty level

Human Services Appropriation – (ECI – Div. V, Sec. 16, Par. 5)

[Senate File 505](#): an Act relating to appropriations for health and human services and veterans and including other related provisions and appropriations, and including effective date and retroactive and other applicability date provisions. – [Read Gov. Branstad's veto message here](#).

The upper limit for child care assistance (CCA) will remain at 145% federal poverty level (fpl). SF 505 had increased the upper limit to 150% fpl.

Governor's Veto message regarding CCA:

"I am unable to approve of the item designated as Division XVI in its entirety. This item further enlarges the taxpayer-funded child care assistance program. We must support working families. More Iowans are working than ever before and our families are seeing their incomes rise. Enlarging government programs that only further perpetuate the cliff effect felt by these families when their incomes rise and benefits are lost is not the right policy for Iowa. Additionally, with the federal and state updates already in motion, this enlargement is not recommended by the Department of Human Services at this time."

Federal Information:

Where's Baby? Look Before You Lock.

Pledge to Prevent Child Heatstroke in Cars

Heatstroke is the number one killer of children, outside of car crashes. That's why the Administration for Children and Families has joined with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to

attempt to reduce these deaths by reminding parents and caregivers about the dangers of heatstroke and leaving children in hot cars.

Heatstroke is the leading cause of non-crash-related fatalities for children 14 and younger.

- From 1998-2013, 606 children died due to heatstroke, representing 61% of total non-crash fatalities in this age group. Of the 606 deaths:
 - 52% were forgotten in the vehicle
 - 29% gained access by themselves and became trapped
 - 18% were left intentionally
 - 1% were unknown cases
- In 2014, 29 children died of heatstroke in the U.S.
- Average annual number of child heatstroke fatalities since 1998: 38
- Children are at a higher risk than adults of dying from heatstroke in a hot vehicle especially when they are too young to communicate.
- Children overheat up to five times faster than adults.

Preventing Heatstroke Resources

- Learn how to [prevent child heatstroke in cars](#).
- View the [Look Before You Lock Tip Sheet](#) (Ver la [hoja de consejos en Español](#)).
- Read our Family Room Blog post, [Children Left in Cars: Preventing Accidental Heatstroke](#).
- Watch a [video message from ACF](#) reminding Head Start facilities and Child Care providers to take the necessary steps to prevent child deaths related to heat exposure inside vehicles.



- See the [Look Before You Lock Letter](#) co-signed by Secretaries Burwell and Foxx.
- Sign the voluntary [Pledge Form](#) that providers and parents can use to keep children safe.
- Get involved and [promote this safety campaign](#).



The White House Rural Council was established to address challenges in Rural America, build on the Administration's rural economic strategy, and improve the implementation of that strategy. Earlier this year, the Council launched *Rural Impact*, a new effort to address the challenge of rural child poverty by bringing together federal agencies and public and private resources. *Rural Impact* focuses primarily on a multi-generational approach to how public and private resources are invested in rural families and communities.

Improving access to high quality early learning opportunities to young children in Rural America is a key strategy to increasing opportunity for young children and families. ACF's early childhood team has been deeply engaged in the early childhood work of the Council, in partnership with other Federal agencies. Read more about the White House Rural Council and *Rural Impact* [here](#).

Other Information:

Frank Porter Graham has shared a request for input on a [project](#) called Bridging the Word Gap

Research suggests that by the time they reach 4 years of age, children in high-income American families may hear as many as 30 million more words than children from lower income families. This discrepancy in experience with words has been referred to as the word gap. We are interested in identifying priorities for research on how to improve language exposure and word learning among lower income children. We would like your input on the most important areas for future research related to addressing the word gap.

To provide input go [here](#).

Parents Should Talk to Their Kids about Race (Submitted by Malisa Rader, ISU Extension)

"Adults often avoid talking about race with children, but young people notice similarities and differences among people. Parents shouldn't be afraid to discuss the subject of race with their children -- even young ones."

To read more: [Parents Should Talk to Their Kids about Race](#)

Iowa AEYC Early Care and Education Fall Summit: September 18-19, 2015:

Our Journey to One Goal: The Successful Child



Iowa Association for the
Education of Young Children

We invite you to join hundreds of other Iowa early childhood care and education professionals at this year's Early Care & Education Institute: *Our Journey to One Goal – the Successful Child*. Registrants can choose to attend one, two or three days. PLEASE NOTICE this year: we are offering a special rate for Saturday-only, for teaching staff unable to attend during the week. We are also offering a new online individual registration option and a group registration form (paper copy).

We are pleased to welcome to welcome Dr. Susan Neumann from New York University, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, as our Friday keynote speaker. She is working on interventions to

change the odds for children who are at risk, especially in the area of early literacy. Lisa Murphy, the *Ooey Gooey Lady*, a perennial favorite, joins us for a keynote address and another workshop on Saturday. Dr. Juliann Woods, a national leader in areas relating to early intervention, is returning this year. The Institute will feature over 70 other workshops, four opportunities to register for a pre-conference event in addition to the two Institute days, dozens of exhibitors, professional membership Association annual meetings, and six hours per day of approved training credit.

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children would like to thank our nine co-sponsoring organizations for this event, Iowa Head Start Association, Iowa Department of Education, Early Childhood Iowa, Iowa Subdivision of the Division of Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children, Child Care Resource & Referral of Iowa, Iowa State University Extension & Outreach – Human Sciences, Iowa Early Childhood Community College Alliance, Iowa Family Child Care Association, and First Children’s Finance. Members and/or staff of these organizations may register at a reduced member rate.

To register, visit this website, <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/iowa-aeyc-institutes.cfm>. You will find a complete registration book as well as the online form and paper forms. Be sure to check the website regularly for updates on the Institute! Thank you for forwarding this on to your members, your staff and other colleagues who might be interested.

Preventing Childhood Injury Conference

Registration is now open for the 2015 Preventing Childhood Injury Conference!

September 29, 2015



Blank Children’s Hospital

UnityPoint Health

Registration: Pre-registration is required; limited seating. Only online registrations will be accepted. For more information or to register: [Click here](#) .

Intended Audience: Injury prevention advocates, public health professionals, nurses, public safety officials (fire, law enforcement, EMS), school professionals and others interested in injury prevention.

Purpose: To educate health professionals and injury prevention advocates on injury prevention strategies and interventions for lasting success. This program will provide participants with tools that they can take back to their local community and use to promote the health and safety of children.

Objective: To explore the ever-changing world of technology and its impact on childhood injury.

Tentative Topics:

- Pediatric Concussion
- Bullying Research and Prevention
- Prescription Drug Abuse in Youth and Adolescents
- Days, Weeks, Months? How to make sense of safety initiatives all year long.

Cost: \$30 - Early Bird Registration until July 31.
\$50 - Registration from August 1 - September 18.
CEUs: EMS CEUs will be provided at no cost.

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

September 11 (Council Bluffs)

November 6 (Des Moines)

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

September 15 (AM)

December 8 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

All day

(June will be regional meetings)

September 16

(December will be regional meetings)

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30 AM

October 2

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

August 4 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)