



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings October 12, 2015 2015 Vol. 2, No. 37

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's great to work with somebody who wants to do things differently.”

-Keith Bellows

State Information:

Medicaid Member Education and Enrollment Events

Iowa Medicaid will host a mix of in-person meetings and webinars branded as “tele-townhall meetings” in the top 17 populated cities in Iowa. These meetings will provide the public with an opportunity to receive information about the transition, ask questions directly to DHS staff, and receive *in-person enrollment assistance*.

The tele-townhalls will feature a short presentation for those with Internet access and also will be available via conference call. Iowa Medicaid will work with local venues such as public libraries to offer the in-person meetings and tele-townhalls free to the public, in order for a larger audience to view the presentation. These presentations will be designed to provide the public with the ability to participate in the process and address any questions the members have. Iowa Medicaid will track the questions that are asked, and use these meetings to prepare for further communications materials and planned responses.

To view the schedule: [Medicaid Member Education and Enrollment Events](#)

Federal Information:

HomVEE 2015 Evidence Review and Other New Resources

The Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness (HomVEE) review has just released several new resources, including results of the 2015 evidence review. Please visit the HomVee website for more detail (<http://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/WhatsNew.aspx>) or click on the links below.

This year HomVEE reviewed several new program models such as: [HealthConnect One's® Community-Based Doula Program](#), [Healthy Beginnings](#), [Promoting First Relationships®](#), and [Nurses for Newborns](#). It also updated a review of: [Health Access Nurturing Development Services](#) (HANDS) Program. Both

HANDS and Healthy Beginnings meet the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) criteria for an evidence-based program model. Sponsored by HHS, HomVEE is a thorough and transparent review of the research literature on home visiting.

A new three-page [summary brief](#) describes the HomVEE review process, review results, and the 19 program models determined to meet the Department of Health and Human Services' criteria for an "evidence-based early childhood home visiting service delivery model." The brief is based on the information presented in this new [Executive Summary](#) which provides more detailed information on all 44 home visiting models.

About HomVEE

Sponsored by HHS, [HomVEE](#) is a thorough and transparent review of the research literature on home visiting. The HomVEE team assesses the evidence of effectiveness for home visiting program models that target families with pregnant women and children from birth to kindergarten entry (up through age 5).

Visit the HomVEE [website](#) to find:

- A comprehensive overview of review procedures, standards, and results.
- Descriptions and reviews of program models, including evidence of each model's effectiveness, details on the studies, and a summary of findings by outcome domain.
- Outcome domain reports, which list the review results by type of outcome and include evidence of effectiveness for outcomes in the domain, a summary of findings for the domain by program model, and details on specific outcomes and measures.
- Implementation profiles with information such as prerequisites for implementing a model, training requirements, estimated costs, implementation experiences, and contact information for program model staff.
- A search tool that can be used to find specific studies.

Visit the HomVEE [website](#) for more information.

Working Together: Successful Strategies to Build Strong Collaborations across Early Childhood Programs

Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015

3–4:30 p.m. EDT

[Register Online Now!](#)

Please join senior leadership of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Linda Smith, Rachel Schumacher, and Blanca Enriquez, for a special webcast on October 15, 2015, 3–4:30 p.m. EDT. **Working Together: Successful Strategies Build Strong Collaborations across Early Childhood Programs** will highlight lessons learned and promising practices from the Tribal Early Learning Initiative.

Topics for this webinar include:

- Exploring strategies to support increased early childhood program collaboration with the aim of developing seamless services for children and families and increasing program quality
- Discussing the importance of effective cross-program partnerships as a foundation for early childhood system development
- Sharing examples of successful collaboration within the Tribal Early Learning Initiative (TELI), an ACF-sponsored effort to support partnerships across Head Start and Early Head Start, child care, and home visiting programs in tribal communities

Who Should Participate?

This webinar will benefit an array of audiences, including: Head Start and Early Head Start family services and health staff, directors, and managers; home visiting state, territory, and tribal administrators; child care state, territory, and tribal administrators; T/TA staff; professional development providers and consultants; Head Start State Collaboration Offices; and other state and local community stakeholders interested in supporting strong early childhood systems.

How to Register

Select this link to register for the webinar: <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1076701>

Other Information:

Thanks for Complaining

From the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Development.

While this blog is about an early learning center, the thoughts could apply to many program and system building situations.

“Years ago I found myself frustrated by the griping I was hearing from teaching staff. Complaints like ‘We have no input into who gets hired,’ ‘Parents just don’t care,’ and many others were a common part of their repertoire. These comments seemed harsh and hearing staff complain took its toll on me. My initial reaction was to be defensive—to stop the complaints as quickly as possible. In some cases I was successful, but more often than not the complaints just kept coming. And then one day I had an epiphany.”

In our most [recent blog post](#), Jill Bella, Director of Quality Supports, offers four reasons complaints provide valuable information about a program.

Free Resources for Highlighting the Importance of the First 2000 Days of a Child’s Life

If you’re interested in engaging your staff, families, constituents, or community about the importance of the first 2000 days of a child’s life and why early learning is a priority, consider accessing the resources of North Carolina’s First 2,000 Days Toolkit.

To access these free resources, go to

<http://www.first2000days.org/first-2000-days-toolkit/#.VhKtXyuK92B>

You’ll need to provide your name, email, zip code, and organization (a funder requirement) but will then be able to download all the materials.

Planned Language Approach

From the Iowa Head Start Collaboration Office:

At the registration link below is a flier about all the training opportunities that are available for different parts of the Planned Language Approach. They are scheduled as part of the **Iowa Culture and Language Conference**. Of course the conference also includes many other workshops and keynotes of interest.

This is a convenient way to get new staff oriented to PLA or give existing staff a refresher on PLA basics.

[Please consider registering today.](#)

Paper Tigers Pre-View

You are invited to attend a screening of a new documentary developed by James Redford. The documentary examines the impact of trauma on children, and how one school changed its system to respond appropriately. The screening will be held at the Fleur Cinema in Des Moines on Tuesday, October 20th at 1:00 p.m. and again at 6:00 p.m. It is completely free to attend. (See next page for more information.)

The trailer can be found here: <http://www.papertigersmovie.com/>

To register for the 1 p.m. screening and learn more: [Paper-Tiger Preview](#)

The Merits of Early Investment

A new report from the [National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families](#) shows positive results for Latino children in Miami-Dade County, Florida, who attended public school pre-K or subsidized center-based child care. Children in these programs entered kindergarten scoring above national averages in pre-academic and social behavioral skills. These students performed well through third grade (when the study ended), measured by their GPA and score on a standardized reading comprehension test.

The Center is led by Child Trends and Abt Associates, with university partners.

[READ MORE](#)

Develop a Culture of Continuous Learning

On **Tuesday, October 20th, at 3:00 p.m. ET**, join PerformWell to review what it means to have a culture of continuous learning at your organization, and what research has shown to facilitate or impede creation of this culture. Presenters will highlight free resources to help. Child Trends is a partner in PerformWell.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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
November 6 (Des Moines)

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings
December 8 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

December 9

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30 AM
October 2

ECI Steering Committee

October 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)
November 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

2016 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00
January 8
April 1
June 3
September 9
November 4

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings
February 23 (TBD)
May 10 (PM)
September 13 (AM)
December 13 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

April 6 All day
(June will be regional meetings)
September 13 (afternoon)
December 7 All day

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30
May 6
October 7

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies
January 7 (9:00 AM – Noon)
March 3 (9:00 – 4:00 PM)
April 7 (9:00 AM – Noon)
June 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)
August 4 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)
October 6 (9:00 AM – Noon)
November 3 (9:00 AM – Noon)

Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill

February 23, 2016