



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings February 6, 2017 Vol. 4, 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](#).

“Every day do something that will inch you closer to a better tomorrow.”

-Doug Firebaugh

State Information

Early Childhood Iowa Releases Annual Report

The Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) FY '16 Annual Report was released last week. The report provides information about the work of ECI in FY '16, including stories demonstrating collaborative efforts to support young children and their families. In addition to the report, there are numerous additional documents providing information about movement with result indicators and area boards' performance measures, historical documents, the FY'16 Family Support Annual Report and the State Child Care Advisory Committee Annual Report.

To view the annual report and additional information go to: [ECI FY'16 Annual Report](#)

Teaching Pyramid Observation System for Infant-Toddler (TPITOS): Reliability Training Workshop

March 20 -30, 2017 – West Des Moines, Iowa

Learning Objectives

1. Learn about the TPITOS, a measure for examining the level of support provided by classroom teachers for infant/toddler social-emotional learning;
2. View and score video examples of teacher behaviors that support the social-emotional development of infants and toddlers and become familiar with our easy-to-use datasheet;
3. Have opportunity to meet certification standards for carrying out and scoring TPITOS assessments.
4. Learn about how the TPITOS can be used to measure teacher support of social-emotional development of infants and toddlers and inform professional development and coaching.

For More Information or to Register: [TPITOS Reliability Training](#)

Iowa Department of Education Releases 2016 Condition of Education Report

The annual Condition of Education report has been released. The Section on Early Childhood begins on page 15 of the report.

It may be found at: [2016 Condition of Education Report](#)

A few early childhood highlights include (2015-2016 academic year):

- 328 Of 336 (97.6) districts offered pre-school; 322 districts provided Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs (SWVPP) for 4 year olds
- 29,001 students (3 -5 years old) were enrolled in a district preschool; 23,141 were SWVPP funded students
- 20.9% (20.7% SWVPP) students were identified as a minority student
- 25.5% (23.2% SWVPP) students qualified for Free/Reduced Lunches
- 97.2% of the districts used the FAST Kindergarten Assessment: 64.8% of the kindergartners were identified as proficient using the FAST Composite
- 66.6% of the kindergartners were reported to have attended preschool prior to entering kindergarten

Iowa Department of Public Health Releases 2016 I-Smile Report

The Annual I-Smile Report has been released. It may be accessed at: [Inside I-Smile](#)

Some highlights of the report include:

- More than three times as many children received gap-filling preventive care from a dental hygienist or nurse in a public health setting than in 2005, the year prior to the start of the I-Smile™ program (33,403 in 2016; 7,863 in 2005).
- 77 percent more Medicaid-enrolled children 0-12 years old (54,873) saw a dentist than in 2005.
- 4,572 more children received care from dentists than did a year ago, a 3.8 percent increase.
- In SFY2016, 132 more dentists billed Medicaid for care provided to enrolled children than in SFY2005 (1,150 in 2016 and 1,018 in 2005)
- Although more Medicaid-enrolled children ages 0-2 years received care from a dentist and/or within a public health setting in 2016 than in 2005, far too many received no care
- In SFY2016, four out of five children ages 0-2 years did not see a dentist. This is far less than the rate for children ages 3-12 years, of which just two of five did not see a dentist

Federal Information:

Federal Agencies Release Joint Policy Statement to Support the Alignment of Health and Early Learning Systems

The purpose of this Policy Statement is to support States and communities in their efforts to better coordinate, align, and enhance health and early learning systems to promote the healthy development, early learning, and well-being of all children from birth to Kindergarten entry in the United States. This statement is intended for State and local policy-makers and administrators of systems, agencies, and programs responsible for children's health, social-emotional development, and early learning to understand their role and take steps to improve the integration of services for young children. The first

years of life build the foundation for life-long health and wellness, educational achievement and economic security. A child's health directly affects her or his ability to learn, grow, and thrive. Similarly, high-quality early learning opportunities for children have long-term positive impacts on their health, even into adulthood. Access to quality healthcare, nutrition, safe environments, and stable, nurturing, and stimulating relationships with parents and caregivers are each critical to building a strong early childhood foundation. Too often our health care and early learning systems operate in silos, missing key opportunities to maximize both the health and early learning outcomes of children. Coordination and alignment between health systems and early learning systems have the potential to help ensure that each child's needs are identified, referrals to needed services are made and completed, services are not duplicated, and the messages that families hear are clear, aligned, and consistently reinforced to ensure that children and their families thrive.

To read the Policy Statement: [Alignment of Health and Early Learning Systems](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education Joint Interdepartmental Review of All Early Learning Programs for Children Less Than 6 Years of Age

Congress required the Secretaries of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Education (ED), in consultation with all federal agencies, to identify "all early learning and care programs for children less than six years of age," provide specific recommendations for eliminating overlap and fragmentation among federal early learning and care programs, and make recommendations for streamlining all such programs. The Secretaries appreciate the opportunity to present an overview and analysis of the primary federal early learning programs and to offer recommendations on how to address the needs of children and families. This report also discusses the Administration's efforts to maximize our current and future investments to increase the quality of and access to early learning for children from birth to kindergarten and how HHS and ED (the Departments) are fostering coordination and collaboration at the federal, state, and local levels to ensure a more effective, efficient, and high-quality system of early learning. To Read More: [Federal Review of Early Learning Programs](#)

Other Information:

Save-the-Date: Early Childhood Day-on-the Hill on February 28

Advocacy partners and other non-state early childhood system leaders are offering an alternative to the traditional Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill. As an organizational fair with the theme **Early Childhood State Fair** at the Iowa Capitol, advocacy groups, professional associations, and anyone with a passion for young children are invited to reach out to your members and contacts and invite them to join their elected officials the morning of February 28, prior to the Early Childhood Iowa Alliance quarterly meeting that afternoon. No specific program is being offered. Bring your stories and set up an appointment to visit with your local elected officials.

For more information - lauren@iowaaeyc.org

Defining Types of Care in the National Survey of Early Care and Education

The National Survey of Early Care and Education includes rich data about usage and availability of ECE. The NSECE design allows researchers some flexibility in defining types of care for different analyses.

This webinar describes the basic data elements available in each NSECE data file for type of care definition, what definitions have been used so far, and how comparisons can be made across NSECE data files. Home-based and center-based ECE types of care will be reviewed from the perspectives of providers and households. The presentation may also be useful to researchers building type of care definitions for work with other data sets. Attend the 90-minute webinar, "Defining Types of Care in the National Survey of Early Care and Education" on January 26th at 12:30pm EDT/11:30am CDT. To register for the webinar, please click [here](#).

31ST Annual Des Moines Civil & Human Rights Symposium

"Poverty Affects Us All!"

March 15, 2017

It's that time again! On March 15, 2017 we will have our 31st Annual Des Moines Civil & Human Rights Symposium. The theme for this year's symposium, "Poverty Affects All of Us", represents and highlights the symposium goal, which is a wake-up call to all attendees on how poverty affects everyone here in Central Iowa and how we can affect change across Iowa to improve conditions for all. We have a number of great speakers to highlight issues and offer solutions on poverty.

We look forward to seeing you at Des Moines University in the Student Education Center. The symposium starts at 8am. Admission is free and that includes breakfast and lunch. Please register in advance so that we can have adequate food for everyone.

Registration is now

live: <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/HumanRights/Pages/2017Symposium.aspx?Tab=Registration>

For additional information about the

Symposium: <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/HumanRights/Pages/2017Symposium.aspx?Tab=Home>

Black History Month 2017 (IPTV)

The month of February honors the important role African-Americans play in the story of our country. Across the United States, schools and communities organize to learn more about black history and culture. How is Black History Month recognized in your community? To learn more: [IPTV Black History Month](#)

For lesson plans, additional resources, and more teacher support, download our free iBook from the iTunes store [All About the Holidays](#).

The Johnson County Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee Announces Spring Conference

The Johnson County Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee is excited to announce our spring conference, *Accomplices in Eliminating Racial Bias*. This multidisciplinary conference is at the **Sheraton Hotel** in downtown Iowa City, **March 24, 2017 from 8:00am-4:30pm**. Registration will open at 7:00 am with continental breakfast provided. Our keynote speaker is former Iowa educator and renowned anti-racism activist, **Jane Elliott**.

Jane Elliott will explore the problems of racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia, islamophobia and ethnocentrism and the responsibility shared by all of us for illuminating them in and eliminating them from our environment and ourselves. Afternoon sessions will include guest panel presentations and breakout sessions addressing the disproportionate minority contact in preschool and K-12 education, the juvenile justice system, and social work practices.

Attached is our conference flyer for further information. Please keep checking our website on updates about our amazing panel and afternoon breakout sessions for anyone interested in how we can work together as a community and as professionals to create a better future for our community. www.reducingdmcjc.com and our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/reducingdmc/>

Tickets:

Tickets are \$25 for early bird registration and \$35 after March 12, 2017.

Be sure not to miss our early bird discount and register today using the link below!

<https://dmcspringconference.eventbrite.com>

This conference is sponsored by the Johnson County Social Services, Casey Family Programs, the University of Iowa College of Education, the University of Iowa School of Social Work, and the City of Iowa City, Iowa City Community School District, University of Iowa Public Policy Center.

Parking is free for conference attendees!

For more information on the tasks of the Johnson County Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee visit our website <https://reducingdmcjc.com/>

For more information, please contact LaTasha DeLoach, LMSW Event Coordinator, 319.688.5708 or ldeloach@co.johnson.ia.us

New flu-prevention course for child care providers

The American Academy of Pediatrics has a new online influenza-prevention course for early education and child care providers. The free online course educates staff who work in Head Start and other early education and child care programs about influenza policies and strategies that help keep children healthy. The AAP also has other online training modules for child-care providers. [Click here](#) for more, including a registration link.

The Father Effect

“A father is a son’s first hero and a daughter’s first love.” - Parenting Matters

In July 2016, The Academy of Sciences released its report, partially supported by the Department of Education, Parenting Matters: Supporting Parents of Children 0-8. The report reviews research on parenting practices and programs which have been successful in supporting parents, as well as suggests areas where greater work in parenting intervention is needed. One of the areas for improvement highlighted was the inclusion of fathers in parenting intervention programs, and perhaps more importantly, “starting with the expectation that they will participate.”

The Academies of Science convened interested parties in a follow-up to this report to talk specifically about supporting fathers in November 2016. Representatives from stakeholders such as Health and Human Services, Virginia Department of Health, Campaign for Black Male Achievement, Harvard Medical School, and the Department of Education, gathered to discuss ways to better include and support fathers in parenting. The importance of engaging fathers in school was also discussed at the NCFL Family Summit in October, as well as in initiatives from the National PTA.

Why this emphasis on fathers? Research supports that when nurturing fathers are involved in their children’s lives, children develop:

- better linguistic and cognitive skills and capacities,
- increased academic readiness,
- more emotional security, and

better social connections with peers as they get older (source: The Father Effect, The National Academies of Sciences) The initiatives and interest of these different stakeholder organizations and agencies, in various ways, encourages programs, schools, and organizations which support parents to make the effort to reach out to fathers, to invite them to bring their skills and interests to the organizations, to enhance their parenting skills, and to assist them in seeing the importance of fathers in the development of their children.

For more information, see the [study on the National Academies of Science website](#).

Free Online Instruction Provides Overview of the Development of Dual-Language Learners (FPG):

Through [these videos and reflection assignments](#), early childhood professionals will begin to identify ways to support DLLs in their own care settings. This free module provides an overview of the cognitive, social-emotional, and language development of dual language learners (DLLs) as well as examples of how early childhood professionals can support children.

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>

2017 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

April 7

June 2

September 8

November 3

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

February 28 (PM)

May 9 (PM)

September 12 (AM)

December 12 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

April 19 All day

(June will be regional meetings)

September 12 (afternoon)

December 6 All day

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

March 2 (9:00 – 4:00 PM)

April 6 (9:00 AM – Noon)

June 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)

August 3 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)