



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings August 14, 2017 Vol. 4, No. 23

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](#).

“There are no shortcuts to any place worth going”

- Beverly Sills

State Information

DHS Launches Twitter Account @IowaDHS

“We're pleased to announce that the Iowa Department of Human Services has created a Twitter account and will be Tweeting updates, photos and program information.

“We hope you'll follow us - @IowaDHS

More information on DHS and its programs is found at <http://dhs.iowa.gov/> “

Federal Information:

Car Safety Checklist for Parents and Providers in the Summer (Federal Office of Child Care)

Heatstroke is one of the leading causes of death among children, as they are more vulnerable to heatstroke than adults. As we have seen by statistics gathered over the past 20 years, even great parents can forget a child in the backseat of a car. Although parents and caregivers need to be vigilant about leaving children alone in cars—for any number of reasons, for any amount of time, and at any time of the year—they need to be extra vigilant in the summer months. Bystanders can also help protect other children if they see a child alone in a car.

You can review an important checklist of things to do to prevent a child from suffering heatstroke after being left alone in a hot car at [this website](#). Keep your children, as well as other children under your care, safe this summer!

SCBC Infant/Toddler Specialist Network Hot Topic Webinars

The **Child Care State Capacity Building Center (SCBC) Infant/Toddler Specialist Network** will host a series of 1-hour *Hot Topic Webinars* on the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning on July 19 and running through December 20, 2017. Each webinar will be held from 1:30–2:30 p.m. Eastern Time (ET).

Descriptions of the scheduled topics are as follows.

- **Resources To Support Health and Wellness Policies for Infant/Toddler Care**
This webinar will outline health and safety policies for centers and family child care providers that promote best practices for the care of infants and toddlers. Best practices, resources, and checklists will be shared.
Date and time: Wednesday, August 16, 2017, 1:30–2:30 p.m. ET
Register: <https://ccssn.adobeconnect.com/healthwellnesspolicies/event/registration.html>
- **Infant/Toddler Community of Practice: Sharing Initiatives From the Field**
This webinar will provide an opportunity for six States to share exciting infant/toddler initiatives that support quality, access, and supply-building. Learn the benefits of participating in a community of practice and connect with State peers.
Date and time: Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 1:30–2:30 p.m. ET
Register: <https://ccssn.adobeconnect.com/communityofpractice/event/registration.html>
- **State Strategies for Infant/Toddler Supply-Building**
This webinar will support States and Territories in identifying multiple strategies for building a supply of quality infant and toddler care, specifically in high-need areas.
Date and time: Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 1:30–2:30 p.m. ET
Register: <https://ccssn.adobeconnect.com/statestrategies/event/registration.html>
- **Infant/Toddler Mental Health: An Interdisciplinary Approach**
This webinar will provide a national overview of States' infant early childhood mental health (I-ECMH) systems-building efforts. The essential building blocks of an I-ECMH system will be presented, along with State examples, promising practices, trends, and innovations.
Date and time: Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 1:30–2:30 p.m. ET
Register: <https://ccssn.adobeconnect.com/mentalhealth/event/registration.html>
- **Six Essential Practices for Quality Infant/Toddler Care**
This webinar will explore six essential practices for high-quality infant/toddler care. Learn the basics of continuity of care, primary care, small groups, individualized care, inclusion, and cultural responsiveness. Resources for additional information will also be shared.
Date and time: Wednesday, December 20, 2017, 1:30–2:30 p.m. ET
Register: <https://ccssn.adobeconnect.com/sixessentialpractices/event/registration.html>

Talk, Read, and Sing Together Every Day!

Research has found that providing children from birth to five with consistent, language-rich experiences—such as talking, reading, and singing—can have important benefits on their brain development and future school success. However, many families lack access to the types of resources that can help them make the most of these language building experiences. This creates a gap in the quantity and quality of words that children learn, which directly impacts their opportunities to succeed in school and later in life. These tip sheets, available in English and Spanish, have been designed specifically for families, caregivers, and early educators. They can help enrich a child's early language experiences by providing research-based tips for talking, reading, and singing with young children every day beginning from birth. Sample topics include *It's Never Too Early to Help Your Child Learn – Talk,*

Read, and Sing Together Every Day, Tips for Using Language at Home and in the Community, and The Benefits of Being Bilingual. <https://www.ed.gov/early-learning/talk-read-sing>

Other Information:

Position Paper on Challenging Behavior

CEELO this week shared a position statement from the Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children addressing the significance of healthy social-emotional competence and providing guidance to practitioners, teachers, and families in preventing and effectively responding to challenging behaviors.

To Read the Paper: https://media.wix.com/ugd/e37417_34cb112472564b63b1d099556fcc23ec.pdf

Parent Engagement Practices Improve Outcomes for Preschool Children

This [research brief](#) made available by the *Robert Wood Johnson Foundation* is one of a series of briefs on research, practice and policy relating to social and emotional learning. This brief focuses on parent engagement models that have been found to improve school readiness outcomes.

Providing parents with support and guidance in the use of home learning materials and warm, responsive parenting skills, while also providing opportunities for parents to get involved at school, using conferences and/or home visits to support parent-teacher communication and collaboration are keys elements, the report states. Evidence also suggests effective parent engagement must be intensive and strategic, considerably longer and more involved than the kinds of parent engagement practices that are widespread in preschools now.

Which States are Leading on Early Childhood Leaders?

What do California, Illinois, and Pennsylvania have in common? Sure, they all have large populations and cities with dedicated baseball fans. But according to the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership's recently released [L.E.A.D. Early Childhood Clearinghouse](#), they are also leading the nation in policies to support early education leaders. The Clearinghouse gives a snapshot of the current landscape for center directors, school principals, and family child care providers. This comprehensive resource provides data on state leader policies, compensation, higher education program offerings, and more.



Child Care Grant and Proposal Writing Workshops

A First Children's Finance Child Care Business Management Workshop

Child care center directors, owners, and board members! Join us for a hands-on day with First Children's Finance, learning new ways to reach out and touch your partners, stakeholders and funders through excellent grant applications and funding proposals.

This 6-hour workshop is designed for all levels, from beginners to those who would like to take a fresh look. Come with ideas of what your child care program needs and let *First Children's Finance's* experienced staff assist you in developing your ideas and proposal. Plan to leave this seminar equipped with ideas, tools and a great start to succeed in your next funding opportunity.

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About this Training

Credit Hours

Provides 6 hours of Iowa DHS training credit and NAC renewal hours.

Target Audience

Directors, owners or board members of child care centers or preschools.

Training Level

Level 1 (Beginner), Level 2 (Skilled) and Level 3 (Mastery)

Content Area

5- Strategies to manage an effective program operation.

Registration

\$45 per person (lunch included). You will receive an email confirmation within one week of registering that will include payment information.

Additional funding support is provided by Northwest Area Foundation and Iowa Department of Human Services.



What Past Attendees have to say:

Child Care Grant & Proposal Writing provided me with clarity, courage and the ability to communicate with a powerful message. I am very excited to pursue my new skills to better Baxter Early Learning Center! -Tiffany Finch

Seeking resources for child development services is overwhelming, but this program outlined it so well it seems doable! -Allison Pattee

I came to this course hoping to walk away with one nugget of information. I walked away with six hours worth of nuggets. -Tammy Rasmussen, Halley's Academy

New Dates and Locations

Des Moines Metro- [Register here](#)

September 21, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Prairie Meadows Events and Conference Center

Altoona, IA

This session is being held as a Pre-Institute Workshop in conjunction with the Iowa Early Care and Education Fall Institute. Early bird registration rates are available until August!

MORE INFORMATION/REGISTER

Or Contact:

Angie Rae Duncan, Senior Business Development Specialist

Angie@FirstChildrensFinance.org or (515) 229-5064

**New Information - Iowa Early Care & Education 2017 Institute - Registration now open
And you may book your hotel room on –line**

Iowa AEYC is pleased to announce registration is now open for the Iowa Early Care & Education Fall Institute, **Power to the Profession**.

A few updates have been made to the Fall Institute page on the Iowa AEYC website you may want to draw your attention to. One main addition is the *Friday and Saturday workshop lists*. The workshops are separated out by day and listed alphabetically.

The *link to book a hotel room under our block at the Prairie Meadows Hotel has also been added*.

Discounted registration rates are available for members and for those who register before the end of August. You may go to the website, <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/iowa-aeyc-institutes.cfm>

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

September 8

November 3

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

October 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

September 12 (AM)

December 12 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

(June will be regional meetings)

September 12 (afternoon)

December 6 All day