

Iowa Community Empowerment Newsletter

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Disclaimer:
Many articles in this newsletter are submitted by various entities. The views and opinions contained within may or may not be those of Iowa Community Empowerment.

Maternal Depression and the Affect on Young Children

Submitted by Janet Gartin, Department of Human Rights and Gretchen Hageman, Department of Public Health, State Empowerment TA Team & Quality Services & Programs ECI Workgroup members

“Scientific reports on early childhood development suggest that social and emotional development is a strong predictor of school performance and a child’s overall ability to thrive. Experts agree that children who are emotionally well-adjusted have a significantly greater chance of achieving success in school compared to those who have emotional difficulties. The benefits of good infant mental health extend beyond school. The data shows that the development of healthy mental developmental skills in the early years make it possible for adults later in life to form intimate relationships, effectively care for their own children, and hold a job. Cost-benefit analyses confirm that nurturing young children’s social, emotional, and behavioral skills through quality early educational programming produces an economic return to society.”

“Long before they enter the workforce or begin school, young children begin to acquire social and emotional skills. They rely on parents or other primary caregivers to provide a safe environment, create positive, new experiences, and guide their emotions. Decades of research on maternal mental health show that maternal depression can impact a mother’s ability to meet these needs. The condition may pose serious mental health problems for mothers and jeopardize their ability to provide safe, responsive, and nurturing care to their children. The incidence of maternal depression is high, placing many young children at risk for developing mental health and behavioral problems. Yet the majority of maternal depression cases go undetected and if left untreated, may reach the attention of professionals only after something serious goes wrong.” (Zero to Three- Improving Maternal and Infant Mental Health: Focus on Maternal Depression, July 2005).

Postpartum Depression Risk Factors

Research studies have shown that women with specific demographic or social characteristics (known as risk factors) are more likely to become depressed. Studies of women with postpartum depression indicate that the largest risk factors include past history of psychiatric illness, depression during a pregnancy, a poor marital relationship, few supportive relationships, the presence of stressful life events, African American ethnicity and low social status. (O’Hara & Swain, 1996; Segre, Losch & O’Hara, 2006). Postpartum depression affects a substantial number of women during pregnancy and after childbirth. The most current research has estimated that approximately 18.4% of pregnant women and as many as 19.2% of new mothers have clinically significant symptoms. (Segre & O’Hara, 2006)

The Negative Effects of Postpartum Depression on Parenting

- Depressed mothers perceived infants as more difficult to care for and more bothersome (Whiffen and Gotlib, 1989)
- Depressed mothers showed more irritation in face-to-face interactions with infants than non-depressed mothers. (Cohn, Campbell, Matias, & Hopkins, 1990)
- Depressed mothers displayed less sensitivity to their infants needs than non-depressed mothers. (Murray, Firori-Cowley, Hooper & Cooper, 1996)



- Depressed mothers were less likely to engage in positive maternal depression practices (e.g. covering electrical outlets and using infant car seat) (McLennan & Kotelchuck, 2000)
- The study found that boys who were exposed to postpartum depression as infants, particularly those from impoverished circumstances, were rated by teachers as being more active and distractible (Sinclair & Murray, 1998)

A second study, by Hay and colleagues followed a group of children exposed to postpartum depression for eleven years. The children whose mothers suffered from postpartum depression had lower IQ scores than children who had not been exposed to this disorder with boys being more severely affected than girls. Additionally, children exposed to post partum depression as infants had more difficulties with mathematical reasoning and were more likely to have special educational needs. Similar to the results reported by Murray and colleagues, boys were much more negatively affected than girls. Moreover, this study also revealed that children's violent behavior was predicted by being exposed to postpartum depression for three months or longer.

Iowa's Response

To help assure earlier identification of maternal depression, Community Empowerment and the Departments of Public Health, Human Services, Human Rights, Education and Prevent Child Abuse Iowa are sponsoring *Maternal Depression Screening Train the Trainer* for program staff in early childhood programs and services. The *Train the Trainer* workshop has developed a cadre of trainers to provide community-based training and protocols for integrating the EDPS Maternal Depression Screening.

The trainers completed their first workshop on June 23rd. The second workshop will be September 29th and the final workshop will be in March 2007. After the March training the trainers will conduct training for early care, health, and education providers at the local level. For more information on the local trainers visit the Early Childhood Iowa Web site.

http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/Maternal_Depression_Training/index.html

The information in this article was taken from the Zero to Three- Improving Maternal and Infant Mental Health: Focus on Maternal Depression policy brief and the maternal depression screening train the trainers workshop provided by, The Iowa Depression and Clinical Research Center at the University of Iowa, Lisa S. Segre, Ph.D and Michael W. O'Hara, Ph.D



Update June 2006– July 2006

Links to Empowerment Web sites:

State: www.empowerment.state.ia.us

Benton County

www.bcempowerment.com

Black Hawk

www.cedarvalleypromise.org

Buchanan Delaware Fayette

www.bdfempowerment.org

Cedar

www.empowercedarco.org

Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Worth

www.cghwempowerment.com

Dubuque

www.empowerdubuque.org

Floyd, Chickasaw, Mitchell

www.fmcempowerment.com

HAWC (Howard, Allamakee, Winneshiek, Clayton)

www.HAWC-Iowa.com

Hardin

<http://www.empowerhardin.com/>

Henry

www.healthyhenrycounty.org

Humboldt, Hamilton, Wright

www.buildingfamilies.net

Jasper

<http://www.jaspercountypowerment.org/>

Johnson

<http://www.jcempowerment.org>

Linn

www.linncountycommunityempowerment.org

Marshall

www.youthandviolence.org

Pocahontas, Calhoun and Webster

www.linking-families.com

Polk www.hspa.org

Scott:

www.scottcountypowerment.org

Story

<http://www.storycountyfamily.org>

Washington

www.empowerwashington.org

Woodbury www.siouxlandship.org

Early Care, Health and Education System Building Activities

- ED & EC Bill Signing - June 1
- PCA Iowa Grant Review - June 7 & 8
- HOPES Update meetings - June 8
- ECCS grant planning - June 1
- Business Advisory Council planning - June 1, June 6
- PITC Module 5 training - June 2
- NAEYC Professional Development Conference, TX - June 3-7
- Maternal Depression Screening planning - June 6
- Empowerment Update with DED - June 7
- ECI/ECCS alignment meeting - June 8
- Empowerment Update with DHR - June 9
- Ready to Learn - June 12
- Empowerment update with DHS - June 12
- ECI Stakeholders - June 13
- Empowerment update with IDPH - June 13
- Meeting with IAEYC - June 14
- Empowerment update with DE - June 21
- Maternal Depression Screening training - June 23
- Results Accountability workgroup - July 5
- ECI Co-chairs Meeting - July 6
- Empowerment Professional Development workgroup - July 7
- ECI - Resources & Funding workgroup - July 6
- '08 Early Childhood Offer meeting - July 10, July 18
- Barriers to Pre-natal Care project update - July 10
- Council on Human Services presentation - July 12
- Empowerment Orientation with IWD - July 12
- Empowerment Coordinator Certification planning - July 13
- Iowa Empowerment Board meeting - July 14
- ECCS Grant Application Follow-up - July 17
- Fiscal Accountability Training - July 18
- What's New in Iowa's EC System, panel presentation - July 19
- State Child Care Advisory Council steering committee - June 23 & July 20
- 2006 Early Care, Health & Education Congress planning - June 9, July 21
- Early Care, Health & Education Congress leadership team - June 6 & 19
- QRS Oversight Committee - July 31
- ECI - Governance component workgroup - June 15, July 20
- ECCS Web cast on Quality Rating Systems in US - June 15
- ECI - Quality, Services & Programs workgroup meeting - July 12
- Creative Curriculum Training - July 26-28

Site Visits/Technical Assistance Activities

- Linn - June 7
- Jones & Iowa & Benton - June 16
- Audubon, Carroll, Guthrie, Greene - July 12
- Warren & Adair - July 12
- Story - July 13, July 20
- Adair - July 13
- Emmet County - June 21
- Buena Vista, Crawford, Sac - July 26
- Decatur - June 16, June 22, July 6, July 19, July 20
- Hardin County - June 20, July 18
- Marion - July 3

Upcoming Events 2006 Calendar at a Glance

Early Childhood Iowa Core Stakeholders

September 12, 2006
Heartland AEA, Johnston

Iowa Empowerment Board

September 22, 2006
Holiday Inn & Days Inn
Cedar Falls

Empowerment Coordinators/Contacts Meetings

September 13, 2006
Heartland AEA, Johnston

Healthy Families America Training

October 9-13, 2006
Grace Lutheran Church
Des Moines

mary.odell@iowa.org

Partnering with Parents

June – November, 2006
Full 11-module series
On-line

www.extension.iastate.edu/pwp

August 2-3, 2006

ISU Campus, Ames

www.extension.iastate.edu/pwp

Drug Affected Children: How Do We Care For Them?

September 27, 2006
Carroll, IA

sue-gehring@uiowa.edu

The Road to Recovery

October 10-11, 2006
Scheman Center, Ames

www.iowapsych.com

Early Care Health & Education Congress

November 14 & 15, 2006
Scheman Center, Ames

www.empowerment.state.ia.us

Linkages/Outreach Activities

- IFDA Retreat - June 1 & 2
- IA Collaboration for Youth Development retreat planning - June 8
- Youth Advisory Board Retreat - June 12
- IA Collaboration for Youth Development strategic planning retreat - June 15
- Covering Kids & Families Coalition Building, KC - June 15-16
- FaDSS On-site Visit - June 16-23
- Covering Kids & Families Conference, PA - June 19-22
- Iowa Afterschool Steering Committee meeting - June 20
- Communities of Promise Application Review - June 20
- Iowa Youth Survey Press Conference - June 26
- Iowa Mentoring Partnership - State of Promise presentation - July 6
- Promise Jobs Coordinators - July 6
- Corp for National & Community Service/ICVS retreat - July 10
- ICVS Strategic Planning Retreat - July 11
- Regional VISTA training, MN - July 30-31
- Governor's Summit on Afterschool - June 27
- Covering Kids & Families NOW taskforce & coalition meeting - June 28
- Parent Partners (CPPC Project) - June 28
- Youth Development State Agency Workgroup - July 11
- Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development Steering Committee - June 28
- FaDSS Team - July 17
- Youth Development Grant Alignment meeting - June 19

ECHE System Building Updates

In spring of 2006, Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) developed a new Web site promoting early childhood resources to parents, families and caregivers. The purpose of the Web site is to serve as a hub for the many online resources available to parents with young children.



In July, the Public Engagement component group of ECI launched a campaign to promote ECI's newly developed Web site in public libraries across the state. ECI has partnered with the State of Iowa Library and ISU Extension to distribute parent Web site mousepads and bookmarks to all 580-community public libraries in the state of Iowa. These materials include Web site information along with an overview of the information that can be accessed on the site. The local libraries have been asked to place the mousepads at their public-access computers and to make the bookmarks available to all library visitors.

ECI would like to extend a big thank you to Empowerment board member Mary Cameron and the State Library of Iowa for helping facilitate this project. Library participation will play a key role in getting this important information out to parents and we're very excited about this developing partnership. Keep your eyes peeled in the coming weeks and months for ECI's mousepads at your local library!



www.parents.earlychildhoodiowa.org



www.empowerment.state.ua.us

Iowa Empowerment Board News July Meeting Update

The majority of the July 14th meeting of the Iowa Empowerment Board (IEB) focused on next steps of the 2006 legislative session.

The meeting included the announcement of the newly elected vice-chair, Judy McCoy Davis and the approval of revised guidance for local boards concerning the low-income preschool tuition support (Tool CC(A) & Tool CC(B)) and family support/parent education (Tool FF).

The Board continued their discussion from the May meeting concerning methodology for distributing the \$3.4 million that was allocated to improve the quality of early care, health and education programs across our state. They defined the process that will enable local boards to apply for the funds. Based on an approved quality plan, each area will be eligible for a base amount of funding with the remainder of the available funds being determined using the school ready formula.

The plan put together by the Empowerment professional development workgroup was submitted to the board with their recommendations for the allocation of the funds to be spent on professional development activities statewide. The board asked that more information be collected from local areas and an update be given at the September meeting.

At each of their meetings in FY'07, the IEB will be increasing their knowledge of initiatives that affect quality in the field of early care, health & education. The first presentation was by Sharon Mays from ISU Extension concerning Iowa's Voluntary Quality Rating System. She provided a solid overview, as well as updates of the system.

The next meeting of the Iowa Empowerment Board will be Friday, September 22, 2006 in Cedar Falls.

IEB Member Judy McCoy Davis Receives the *Governor's Volunteer Award*



The Governor's Volunteer Award program was established in 1982 by the Governor's Office for Volunteerism to honor and recognize the commitment, service and time that hundreds of volunteers contribute each year to Iowa's state agencies and partnering organizations.

"Volunteering is a core value of our close-knit communities and a key to keeping Iowa strong and secure," said Governor Vilsack. "Our spirit of volunteerism and civic involvement has long been central to the progress of our state, and ensures that Iowa continues to be a great place to live, work and raise a family."

During four regional ceremonies held in June 2006, certificates of appreciation were presented to more than 700 volunteers in recognition of their dedication to serve others throughout the state of Iowa.

One of those recipients was Judy McCoy Davis, Iowa Empowerment Board member. For her leadership during the National Governor's Association last summer, she was nominated by the Governor's office to receive this award.

Quoting the awards booklet, "Judy served as chairperson for the Friday night sponsor recognition event attended by all the Governors during the National Governors Association in July 2005. Her knowledge of local resources and her organizational skills helped her to create a very successful event for the nations Governors."

Congratulations, Judy!

Meet State Board Member: John Dotson



John Dotson was born and raised in Des Moines, Iowa, graduating from Hoover High School in 1975. Following graduation from high school he attended Drake University majoring in music education. John graduated from Drake in 1979 with a B.M.E. in Music Education. In 1981 he returned to Drake to work on his master's degree in Educational Administration and Supervision, receiving this degree in 1983. In 1985 John again returned to graduate school at Loyola University of Chicago to work on an Ed.D. in Education Administration. He completed 30 of the 36 hours of graduate course work towards the degree.

John has served as a teacher and/or administrator in the following Iowa schools since 1979: Atlantic, Preston, West Marshall at State Center, Allamakee at Waukon, Wall Lake/Lake View Auburn and Louisa-Muscatine.

John has two grown children: Kristal who just received her M.B.A. from Drake University and is an Accountant for UPS in Des Moines and Ryan, who is serving his country as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army currently stationed in South Korea.

John says, "Throughout my career I have devoted myself to serving the needs of children in the school districts that I have had the honor to work in. I enjoy serving on the Iowa Empowerment Board and am committed to ensuring that all children throughout Iowa will have access to an early childhood education program and begin their educational programs ready to learn."

Welcome to the Iowa Empowerment Board, John!

Nominations Sought For Iowa Empowerment Board



The Iowa Empowerment Board consists of sixteen citizen members, six state agency directors and six members of the general assembly. The state Empowerment Board currently is seeking candidates for citizen members. Citizen members are appointed by Governor Thomas Vilsack and confirmed by the Iowa Senate. Interested candidates must complete a gubernatorial appointment resume in addition to seeking a letter of recommendation from their local empowerment board. The gubernatorial appointment resume can be found at <http://www.iowai.net/iowa/governor/boards/>. Citizen member selections are reflective of the state's congressional districts to ensure representation from across the state. An equally important criterion is that appointments reflect the ethnic, cultural, social, and economic diversity of our state. We encourage candidates from diverse populations to apply.

You can also find the job responsibilities of an Iowa Empowerment Board member on our web site at the following link, http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us/Common/pdf/ieb_responsibilities.pdf

Please contact the Office of Empowerment if you need more information.

New Tool Available on Empowerment Website to Assist Local Empowerment Boards

www.empowerment.state.ia.us/common/pdf/fed_poverty_guidelines.pdf

The 2006 Health & Human Services (HHS) Poverty Guidelines

Source: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/06poverty.shtml>

Computations for the 2006 Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines

Persons in family or household	2006 poverty guidelines (100% of poverty)	130% of poverty	145% of poverty	150% of poverty	185% of poverty	200% of poverty
1	\$9,800	\$12,740	\$14,210	\$14,700	\$18,130	\$19,600
2	13,200	17,160	19,140	19,800	24,420	26,400
3	16,600	21,580	24,070	24,900	30,710	33,200
4	20,000	26,000	29,000	30,000	37,000	40,000
5	23,400	30,420	33,930	35,100	43,290	46,800
6	26,800	34,840	38,860	40,200	49,580	53,600
7	30,200	39,260	43,790	45,300	55,870	60,400
8	33,600	43,680	48,720	50,400	62,160	67,200
For each additional person add	3,400	4,420	4,930	5,100	6,290	6,800

- Note: The rounding rules for these calculations, as well as procedures for calculating monthly income, are determined by the federal, state, and local program offices that use the poverty guidelines for eligibility purposes.
- These figures are for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia
- This guide is updated each year in February.

SOURCE: *Federal Register*, Vol. 71, No. 15, January 24, 2006, pp. 3848-3849

The following programs use the HHS poverty guidelines or multiples of them:

100% - Head Start; Early Head Start

130% - Shared Visions; National School Lunch Program (Free - at or below 130%); Medicaid (133%)

145% - Child Care Subsidy

150% - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP); Weatherization

185% - WIC; Title V - Maternal & Child Health Services; National School Lunch Program (Reduced fees - between 130% - 185%)

200% - Empowerment Low-Income Preschool Tuition Assistance; hawk-i

Process for Hosting IEB in 2007 Simplified

**Letters of Interest Due
November 1**

Office of Community Empowerment Iowa Empowerment Board Request for Letters of Interest

At the May 19, 2006 meeting of the Iowa Empowerment Board (IEB), it was decided that two of the Board's six meetings in 2007 would once again be held in a local community empowerment area. These meetings will occur on the following Fridays, May 11, 2007 and September 7, 2007.

In an effort to simplify the process we are asking that local empowerment boards submit a *letter of interest* to host the IEB. One of the most significant changes you will notice from previous years is that there will no longer be a Thursday evening event. While the board appreciated the time to network with local program providers, this seemed to cause the local area the most stress in planning.

The letter of interest should include:

- One or two paragraphs explaining why you feel your site should be chosen including your preferred date selection - May 11, 2007 or September 7, 2007;
- Your intent to extend an invitation to the legislators in your area;
- And, be no more than **two pages** in length.

The following details will be worked out with the Office of Empowerment upon the acceptance of your CEA as one of the host sites:

- The location you've identified for the Iowa Empowerment Board meeting to be held on Friday from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The location must be able to accommodate 65 persons;
- Lodging accommodation options within close proximity of the meeting site, which accept the state rate;
- Information on site visits (at most 3) to local empowerment-supported programs to be conducted the morning of the meeting (8:30 - 10:30 AM);

The costs incurred for the Iowa Empowerment Board meeting will be the responsibility of the Office of Empowerment.

Letters will be selected and approved by the Empowerment State Technical Assistance Team, and identified members of the Iowa Empowerment Board. Priority will be given to those areas that have their Annual Report submitted on time and are fully designated. If possible, one urban and one rural empowerment area will be chosen, with one representing a single county area and one representing multiple counties.

Once selected, the top two proposals will work with the Office of Empowerment to finalize the exact schedule and details.

Please submit the letter of your board's interest to host the IEB to:

Debra Scrowther
debra.scrowther@iowa.gov
Questions: 515-281-4537

Submittal Deadline: November 1, 2006



**Deadline for nominations:
October 1**

Child At Heart Award

Who is that one person you think of when you think of early childhood in your area? That is the type of person we are looking for with the *Child at Heart* Award. The Association for Iowa's Children would like to honor that person with the 3rd Annual *Child at Heart* Award. We are looking to honor nominees that have used innovative approaches to support children and families and/or are passionate motivators in a leadership role for children's issues. Local Empowerment Areas are eligible to nominate one person from their respective area. The guidelines and timeline for the process, along with the application form, can be found on the Association for Iowa's Children web site, www.iowaschildren.org.

As part of the nomination you must include a narrative that contains the following:

- A description of how the nominee is a champion for children.
- What innovative approaches to support children and families have been implemented?
- A description of specific achievements and change accomplished through the nominee's efforts locally, regionally or statewide.
- Evidence of passion and motivation given to others to take leadership roles for children and families

For information about the Award or the nomination process, contact Cindy Duhrkopf, Awards Chair, at 712-792-1344 or cindyduhrkopf@newview.info. Local Empowerment Areas should mail their nomination by **October 1** to Cindy Duhrkopf, Partnerships 4 Families, PO Box 672, Carroll, IA 51401.

Financial Oversight Training

On July 18th Community Partnerships for Protecting Children, Prevent Child Abuse Iowa and Community Empowerment came together to host *Fraud in America: From Enron to You*. The presenters were Joni Tonnemacher, CPA and Linda Leave, CPA with McGowen, Hurst, Clark & Smith, P.C. in West Des Moines.

The first half of the workshop focused on the issue of fraud: what constitutes fraud, things to watch for and what can be done to prevent it. The importance of internal controls was stressed and samples of governance documents were shared.

In the second half, participants reviewed basic accounting principles and why understanding them is an important part of being fiscally responsible when serving on a board or council. Ms. Leave walked through the reading of financial statements and the completion of the IRS Form 990.

There were a total of 64 individuals between the morning and afternoon workshops which included members of local boards, councils, and partnerships, fiscal agents, program coordinators and directors of not for profits.

Some of the things participants shared about the day:

- I felt the workshop was worthwhile and I'm glad I attended. The presenters were very knowledgeable.
- I really benefited from the section on fraud. The sample policies were very helpful especially the Code of Conduct.
- This type of administrative training is important and not currently available.

We want to extend our thanks to Joni and Linda for their time and expertise!



Linda Leave, CPA



Joni Tonnemacher, CPA



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA Scholarship Program

Submitted by Barb Merrill,
Apprenticeship/TEACH Program
Coordinator



Do you need MONEY?
Planning to go to college and need help paying for tuition?
Do you want to improve your skills in early childhood education?

If you can answer **YES** to all of the following questions, you **may be eligible** to receive a college scholarship from **T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA**

- ✓ Do you work in a registered or licensed child care facility?
- ✓ Do you work at least 30 hours per week?
- ✓ Have you worked in your current child care program for more than three months?
- ✓ Are you committed to remaining in the early childhood field?
- ✓ Are you enrolled in the Early Childhood Associate degree program at your local community college OR would you like to be?
- ✓ Are you willing to make a commitment to continue working at your present place of employment for at least one year?

New contact information for T.E.A.C.H. staff as of July 1:

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA, P.O. Box 3326, Des Moines, IA 50316, Fax: (515) 263-2704
Barb Merrill Project Manager, 515-261-4232, teachiowa@childcareservices.org
Isbelia Arzola Counseling Specialist, 515-261-4233, isbeliaa@childcareservices.org
Pat Dautremont Project Assistant, 515-261-2214, patriciad@childcareservices.org



Submitted by Donna Kennebeck,
President, Iowa Association for the
Education of Young Children

We are here as a resource to you! Contact us at rbancroft@mindspring.com to customize your technical assistance needs or visit www.iaeyc.org to learn more.

IAEYC will soon be launching a new project:

The Quality Improvement Meetings for Administrators Project

Watch for more information coming soon.

Dispelling the Myths about Accreditation

Accreditation is

- **Not** in competition with QRS, QPPS, or the ELS
- **Not** about a certificate on the wall
- **Not** about jumping on the band wagon
- **Not** about money
- **Not** on an unattainable time table



Yeah, right! You say. Well let's take a minute to put it into perspective.

The Quality Rating System is a way for consumers to get a bit of a handle on the programs available for early care and education. Many of the pieces align with the Accreditation standards. One of the standards is the environment. If you are scoring well on the environmental rating scales, you are well on your way to accomplishing the NAEYC standard.

The Quality Preschool Program Standards utilize approximately 45% of NAEYC Accreditation Standards. Again, you are well on your way to accomplishing Accreditation.

The Early Learning Standards are the outcomes educators want to see in children, accreditation is the pathway to get there.

Accreditation is

- **What** is best for kids
- **Improving** the health, care, safety, educational and emotional well being of children
- **Moving** forward to do what is best for families and communities
- **A process** - a thoughtful, building process
The world will not come to an end if you lapse your re-accreditation to do the process right!

Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral



Submitted by Rhonda Lassen,
Director, CCR&R Region 1

Child Care Resource and Referral Statewide Action Plans

Did you know the Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral system has ten action plans which align with the core Child Care Resource and Referral services for parents, providers, and the community? Each action plan contains a performance measure which addresses one or more of the following areas: Governor’s 90/90 Leadership Agenda, Recommendations of the Governor’s Early Care and Education Task Force, Recommendations of Iowa Learns Council, or Strategy of ECI Stakeholders. State Early Childhood Health and Education results are linked to plans resulting in a report on inputs, outputs, quality and outcomes from each plan.

Seven of the ten plans are statewide and the remaining three are regionally determined. The following are the statewide action plans with performance measures:

Action Plan	Performance Measure
Parent	Twenty percent (20%) of all parents requesting child care referrals will be surveyed to determine if parents were able to locate the care they were seeking based on information they received from their Child Care Resource and Referral agency. In addition, the survey will also ask parents what type of care they selected (licensed child care center, registered child development home, non-registered child care home).
Provider	The percent of individual child care providers, compared to the total number of providers who register in the following series training: ChildNet, Welcome to Child Care, or Welcome to School Age Child Care who complete entire series.
Home Consultant-Provider	Within four child care home consultant visits, 80% of providers will show a compliance rate of 85% or better, based on the DHS Checklist for Child Development Home Registration Guidelines.
Nurse Consultant-Provider	The Child Care Nurse Consultant shall follow the performance and reporting measures as previously developed by the Iowa Department of Public Health under the Healthy Child Care Iowa initiative.
Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers (PITC)-Provider	The percent of child care providers, compared to the total number of providers who receive training from the Contractor, who complete four modules of the Program for Infant and Toddler Caregivers (PITC). The Contractor will collect this information to establish a baseline for subsequent contract years.
Quality Rating System-Provider	DRAFT: Within 5 years (FY2011) 10% of the child care programs in Iowa participate in the voluntary Iowa Quality Rating System.
Community	Provide a list of community agencies that the Child Care Resource and Referral agency is collaborating with on projects related to the provision of quality child care. This list must be supported by either a memo of agreement, letter of support, or minutes of meetings that document these community collaborations. Supporting documentation must be available for review upon request of the Department.

For a list of regional plans, year end reports, or specific questions, please contact your Child Care Resource and Referral Regional Director (CCR&R map located at http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/dhs2005/dhs_homepage/reports_pubs/results_based/childcare.html)

Partnering with National Women's Law Center for Federal Advocacy Training

Progressive Leadership and Advocacy Network (PLAN) National Women's Law Center

Submitted by Emily Moriarity, Professional Development Consultant, Child Care Resource & Referral of Central Iowa

In May, I had the opportunity to join 21 other women from across the nation to participate in the Progressive Leadership and Advocacy Network (PLAN) Spring Retreat through the National Women's Law Center. We applied and were selected based on our advocacy interest and involvement related to women and children.

The Spring Retreat provided opportunities to enhance our personal leadership strategies and learn to build on our strengths. We had specific advocacy skill building including working with the media, structuring campaigns, and understanding the bigger picture from established leaders in the field. Networking was also a focus of the spring retreat as there were many opportunities to share with peers and leading experts about current policy issues that each of the advocates are addressing.

After the initial training retreat, all the classes of PLAN participants will come together for a two-day Washington Summit. The Summit offers opportunities for additional leadership development sessions with federal policymakers and Congressional staff. Throughout the year, the National Women's Law Center supports participants with interactive e-mail listserv, conference calls, and ongoing technical assistance from the Center's legal and policy experts.

If you would like more information about PLAN or information concerning advocacy at the federal level, please feel free to contact me at emoriarity@orchardplace.org or 515-246-3559.

*~Here is a test to find whether your mission on earth is finished: If you are alive, it isn't.
Richard Bach*

News From:



Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI)

Sally Clausen, ARNP, BSN
Healthy Child Care Iowa
Iowa Department of Public Health
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*Interested
RNs
Needed for
Upcoming
Training -
Deadline
August 15!*

Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants

The Iowa Department of Public Health is taking applications for the fall **Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants**. Applicants are asked to complete an on-line survey at the Iowa Department of Public Health website Healthy Child Care Iowa webpage:

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/surveys/ccnc_survey/default.asp

Interested registered nurses may [apply](#) to attend the Fall 2006 Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants. Qualified applicants are Iowa registered nurses working with early childhood education and child care through public health, Maternal and Child Health, Head Start or Early Head Start, or Community Empowerment Areas. Approved applicants will be contacted by August 15 and invited to complete enrollment via online registration.

Acceptance into the training program is based upon the following criteria:

1. the percent of FTE the RN will be assigned to work as a child care nurse consultant
2. the number of counties the RN will be working with or assignment of the RN to a single urban county
3. is the applicant's employer a Maternal and Child Health (MCH) agency (as designated by the Iowa Department of Public Health) or is the employer willing to enter into a written agreement (that addresses the work of the RN as a child care nurse consultant) with an MCH agency
4. is there stable funding for the child care nurse consultant indicating long-range commitment
5. does the RN's employer plan for the RN to complete the full scope of activities of a child care nurse consultant

★ If you have questions about the training program, contact Sally Clausen, ARNP, BSN and Kim Tichy, CHES, BS
Phone: (800) 383-3826
Fax: (515) 242-6013

CPSC Update



U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

There are new hazards and recalls posted on the CPSC and the Food and Drug Administration websites. Products that pertain to early childhood and child care are reviewed on the Healthy Child Care Iowa webpage of the Iowa Department of Public Health website: www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/recalls.asp Please note the Iowa Department of Public Health has a new look to their website with larger print to making reading easier.

You can find information on recalled products on the Consumer Product Safety Commission web site: <http://www.cpsc.gov> or on the Food and Drug Administration website: <http://www.fda.gov/opacom/7alerts.html>.

Healthy Child Care Iowa maintains a list of products that have a warning or have been recalled in the last six months.

The U.S Food and Drug Administration issued 20 recall/hazard warnings during June 2006. Most of these warnings *did not* apply to Iowa early childhood or child care. To review a full listing all of the FDA hazards/recalls go to:

<http://www.fda.gov/opacom/7alerts.html>



Iowa's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program For Families

Submitted by Erin Tokheim Kongshaug, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention, Child Health Specialty Clinics

Iowa's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program is working to ensure that families have access to the hearing services their children need. If you are asked how a family can find audiology services for their child, please refer to Iowa COMPASS (1-800-779-2001). Iowa COMPASS can tell the family where hearing screenings, rescreens, and diagnostic evaluations are available. They will also connect the family to Early ACCESS if the family wishes. Early ACCESS can then explain all options to the family and help them find and access audiology services.

Research shows better outcomes for children who enter early intervention by 6 months of age. It is crucial that parents follow-up within the time frame suggested by their physician or audiologist, so any hearing loss can be diagnosed as early as possible. Please encourage families to follow-up if their infant has been referred for additional screening or diagnostic evaluations.

For Hospitals

The Iowa EHDI program also has assistance available for hospitals and other hearing screening facilities. Staff audiologists can provide free technical assistance regarding newborn hearing screening programs. The audiologists can improve the quality of newborn hearing screening programs by helping to reduce refer (did not pass) and missed screening rates. They can also assist hospitals with hearing screening equipment questions and problems. The audiologists are available by telephone, e-mail and on-site visits.

In addition, the Iowa EHDI program has a limited number of loaner OAE hearing screening units available. These units are available free of charge to hospitals whose screening equipment is being repaired. The equipment is shipped via overnight mail so screening is disrupted as little as possible.

Contact Information

For more information about the EHDI program, please contact:

Erin Kongshaug
(515) 281-4653

erin-kongshaug@uiowa.edu

Tammy O'Hollearn
(515) 242-5639

tohollea@idph.state.ia.us

For more information about audiology technical assistance or loaner screening equipment, please contact:

Lenore Holte
(319) 356-1168

Lenore-holte@uiowa.edu



Submitted by Jenny Untiedt
IDPH
Covering Kids & Families

2006 CKF Back-to-School Campaign

On August 9, 2006, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will kick off the seventh annual Covering Kids & Families Back-to-School Campaign in cities across the country. The campaign encourages parents to include enrolling their eligible, uninsured children in Medicaid or SCHIP as a key component of getting their children ready for the new school year.

The campaign works with statewide and local CKF coalitions and uses paid and public service advertising, earned media, and corporate, organizational and media partnerships to get the word out to working families that they may be eligible for public health care coverage programs.

This year Des Moines was chosen as one of eight cities to be a target market for CKF Back-to-School events. Following is a schedule of Des Moines' Back-to-School events for 2006:

- **August 9: Press Conference 10:00 a.m. (House of Mercy)**
Speakers will include Nancy Sebring (Des Moines School Superintendent), Joe Gonzalez (Local Police officer), Tash Kaiser-Brown (Former Olympic Athlete), and others. Neighboring children's facilities will bring students to receive free Back-to-School supplies.
- **August 9: Health Fair 3:00-7:00 p.m. (McKinley School)**
Children will be offered free school physical exams, blood lead testing, immunizations, and health insurance information. All children will be given free Back-to-School supplies.
- **August 10-20: Iowa State Fair Booth (Iowa State Fairgrounds)**
There will be continuous *hawk-i* outreach at the Iowa Department of Public Health booth. *hawk-i* cups, magnets, and applications will be dispersed throughout the entire fair.
- **August 17: Shalom Zone Health Fair 3:00 -7:00 p.m. (Gatchel United Methodist Church)**
Free school physical exams, immunizations, dental exams, vision exams, and health insurance information will be provided. Children also will receive new backpacks with school supplies.

For more information about the National CKF Back-to-School events visit <http://coveringkidsandfamilies.org/>.

Iowa's Early Childhood Vision: Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.