

# 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.

## **Early Childhood System Development**

Iowa was awarded a National Governor's Association Early Childhood Advisory Council project grant in 2008. This grant has allowed Early Childhood Iowa and partners the opportunity to provide technical assistance and process support to local Community Empowerment Areas (CEA) in order to advance early childhood systems development and integration. This technical assistance was provided through five regional meetings across the state (Ames, Atlantic, Charles City, Iowa City, and Storm Lake).

Each Community Empowerment Area (CEA) brought a team of individuals to their regional meeting to include: three current board members and two or three non-board members, diverse representation and perspectives (e.g., race/ethnicity, special needs, public and private), leaders from a variety of fields impacted by early childhood (e.g. Title V or local health agencies, school districts, community action agencies, early care and education providers etc.) and involvement of stakeholders in your system who might be currently under-involved. Inviting broad community representation allowed each CEA the opportunity to engage partners, new and veteran, while thinking about developing an integrated, comprehensive early care, health, and education system. It also provided an opportunity to learn from other local CEA on what they are doing for system development activities.

Prior to the regional meeting, CEA received a tool for community system assessment, which helped teams identify their current levels of system integration. During the regional meeting, each CEA was asked to complete an action plan and develop goals and activities in order to improve and/or continue system development. From the action plan, each group came up with three priorities they wanted to focus on.

From here, ECI and Community Empowerment will continue to explore ideas and come up with strategies to improve and increase communication between the state and local levels.

# Update August 2008 – September 2008

## Links to Empowerment Web sites:

### State Empowerment site:

[www.empowerment.state.ia.us](http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us)

Local Empowerment web sites are also available on the state web site. Go to the Local Areas tab and click on Map.

### Adair County

[www.adairempowerment.org](http://www.adairempowerment.org)

### Benton County

[www.bcempowerment.com](http://www.bcempowerment.com)

### Black Hawk

[www.cedarvalleypromise.org](http://www.cedarvalleypromise.org)

### Buchanan Delaware Fayette

[www.bdfempowerment.org](http://www.bdfempowerment.org)

### Cass Mills Montgomery

[www.boost4families.org](http://www.boost4families.org)

### Cedar

[www.empowercedarco.org](http://www.empowercedarco.org)

### Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Worth

[www.empowermentforthechildren.org](http://www.empowermentforthechildren.org)

### Dallas

[www.co.dallas.ia.us/Comm\\_Services/Empowerment.asp](http://www.co.dallas.ia.us/Comm_Services/Empowerment.asp)

### Des Moines/Louisa

[www.caringcommunityempowerment.org](http://www.caringcommunityempowerment.org)

### Dubuque

[www.empowerdubuque.org](http://www.empowerdubuque.org)

### Floyd, Chickasaw, Mitchell

[www.fmcempowerment.com](http://www.fmcempowerment.com)

### HAWC (Howard, Allamakee, Winneshiek, Clayton)

[www.HAWC-Iowa.com](http://www.HAWC-Iowa.com)

### Hardin

[www.empowerhardin.com/](http://www.empowerhardin.com/)

### Henry

[www.healthylhenrycounty.org](http://www.healthylhenrycounty.org)

### Humboldt, Hamilton, Wright

[www.buildingfamilies.net](http://www.buildingfamilies.net)

### Jasper

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

### Johnson

<http://www.jcempowerment.org>

### Linn

[www.linncountycommunityempowerment.org](http://www.linncountycommunityempowerment.org)

### Madison

[www.madisoncountyhelp.org](http://www.madisoncountyhelp.org)

### Marshall

[www.youthandviolence.org](http://www.youthandviolence.org)

### Muscatine

[www.muscatineempowerment.org](http://www.muscatineempowerment.org)

### PAK (Palo Alto, Kossuth)

[www.pakempowerment.com](http://www.pakempowerment.com)

### Pocahontas, Calhoun and Webster

[www.linking-families.com](http://www.linking-families.com)

### Polk

[www.hspa.org](http://www.hspa.org)

### Scott

[www.scottcountyempowerment.org](http://www.scottcountyempowerment.org)

### Story

[www.storycountyfamily.org](http://www.storycountyfamily.org)

### Warren

[www.warrenempowerment.org](http://www.warrenempowerment.org)

### Washington

[www.empowerwashington.org](http://www.empowerwashington.org)

### Woodbury

[www.siouxlandship.org](http://www.siouxlandship.org)

## Early Care, Health and Education System Building Activities

### Early Care, Health and Education System Building Activities

- NGA systems grant meeting – August 1, August 19, August 27
- Fiscal Accountability Workgroup meeting – August 29
- ECI Governance Retreat Planning – Aug 1
- ECI Co-chairs – August 7
- Teleconference with Scott County Empowerment coordinator – Aug 7
- Planning meeting with DHR – Aug 7
- Child Care Nurse Consultant conversation – August 11
- Consultation with Madison County family support provider – August 13 & 19
- State Child Care Advisory Council – August 14
- Consultation with Pottawattamie County family support provider – August 15
- ECI Governance retreat – August 15
- First Years First meeting – August 19
- Family support consultation with Audubon, Carroll, Guthrie, Greene – Aug 20
- Family, Friend, Neighbor Care workgroup meeting – August 21
- Coordination meeting with CPPC, DHS – August 21
- Empowerment Coordinator's Training Series Module 4 (make-up session) – Aug 25
- HOPES-HFI annual fiscal planning meeting – August 26
- Early Childhood Local Systems Development regional meetings – Sept 3, 4, 5, 8, & 9
- ECI – Public Engagement workgroup – Sept 3
- First Children's Finance meeting – Sept 4
- Professional Development planning meeting with DE – Sept 10 & 26
- Iowa Empowerment Board meeting, Mason City – Sept 12
- First Lady's Summit on Poverty – Sept 16
- Empowerment Contacts/Coordinators quarterly TA meeting – Sept 17
- Iowa Early ACCESS Council – Sept 19
- Child Care Nurse Consultant planning – Sept 22
- ECI Congress Planning – Sept 23
- ECI, Quality, Services & Programs workgroup – Sept 23
- ECI Stakeholders meeting – Sept 23
- First Years First Committee meeting – Sept 24
- PBS Conference – Sept 30-Oct 1

### Site Visits/Technical Assistance Activities

- Wayne County board budget committee meeting – July 9 & August 11
- Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Worth annual report prep – August 6
- Poweshiek County board meeting – August 7
- Madison Empowerment Board, Family Support Consultation – August 12
- TA with new Empowerment Coordinators (Lee Van Buren, Scott, Muscatine, Benton) in Iowa City – August 15
- Ida County board meeting – August 18
- Hamilton, Humboldt, Wright, Palo Alto, Kossuth In-service training for empowerment coordinators and family support providers – August 18
- Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Worth board meeting – August 19
- Adair County board meeting – August 27
- Madison County board meeting – Sept 9
- Poweshiek Board Meeting – Sept 11
- Cerro Gordo, Hancock & Worth Iowa Empowerment Board reception & site visit – Sept 11
- Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Worth board meeting – Sept 16
- Madison County board meeting – Sept 16

## Upcoming Events Calendar at a Glance

### 2008 Iowa AEYC Conference Are You Ready?

**Ready for children – our future**  
October 10-11, 2008  
Polk County Convention Complex  
Des Moines

### Empowerment Coordinators/Contacts Meeting

December 10, 2008  
Rising Sun Church of Christ  
Pleasant Hill

### Early Childhood Iowa Congress

February 10-11, 2009  
Airport Holiday Inn  
Des Moines

### Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill

February 12, 2009  
State Capitol Building  
Des Moines

### Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders

February 10, 2009  
Airport Holiday Inn  
Des Moines

[www.earlychildhoodiowa.org](http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org)

- Pottawattamie, Harrison, Monona, Shelby Results-based Accountability training, Council Bluffs – Sept 19
- Taylor County Board Development & RBA training – Sept 25

### Linkages/Outreach Activities

- S3 meeting – August 11
- Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development planning meeting – Sept 4
- Iowa Child & Youth Injury Prevention Conference – Keeping Kids Safe Conference, Blank Children's Hospital, provided workshop – Sept 16



## SAVE THESE DATES!

This year, the Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) Congress and the Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill will be a combined event in February 2009; therefore, an ECI Congress will not take place in November 2008. Registration materials and event details will be available soon.

The Day on the Hill will be one of the most visible opportunities for advocates to make their case for investing in Iowa's young children.

### Advocacy Resources:

The Iowa Legislature General Assembly - [www.legis.state.ia.us](http://www.legis.state.ia.us)

Advocacy Toolkit - [www.empowerment.state.ia.us/tool\\_kit.asp](http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us/tool_kit.asp)

NAEYC - [www.naeyc.org/policy](http://www.naeyc.org/policy)

Every Child Counts - [www.everychildcountsiowa.org](http://www.everychildcountsiowa.org)

It's About our Kids - <http://www.itsaboutourkids.org/>

*Mark your calendar now for both events:*

### Early Childhood Iowa Congress

February 10-11, 2009

Airport Holiday Inn

### Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill

February 12, 2009

State Capitol

## Early Childhood Iowa System Building Update:



## Early Childhood Iowa Issue Briefs

Over the past couple of years, the Quality Services and Programs component group of Early Childhood Iowa, in partnership with other programs, has developed a series of issue briefs in regards to an array of early childhood topics. These issue briefs are developed to educate and inform policy makers about important issues and opportunities in relation to early childhood in Iowa. The following is the complete list of issue briefs to date. These briefs in their entirety can be found on the Early Childhood Iowa Web site at <http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/issuebriefs.html>.

- [Healthy Mental Development](#)
- [Health & Safety in Child Care](#)
- [Dental Home](#)
- [Family Support](#)
- [Effective Family Support Programs](#)
- [Professional Development](#)
- [Maternal Depression](#)
- [Nutrition & Physical Activity](#)
- [Medical Home](#)
- [Quality Child Care](#)
- [Iowa's Fiscal Assessment](#)

## Getting School Ready in Iowa Brochure Available in Spanish

The *Getting School Ready in Iowa* document, which was developed by the Early Childhood Iowa – Quality Services and Programs component group is now available in Spanish. This is a guide for families and early care, health, and education providers caring for children who will be attending kindergarten in Iowa.

The *Getting School Ready in Iowa* guide can be ordered in both English and Spanish through the Healthy Families Line at ISU Extension. To order the document call 1-800-369-2229.

The guide can be also be accessed on the ECI Web site at:

[http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/whats\\_new/index.html](http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/whats_new/index.html) or on the ECI Parent Web site at: <http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/Parents/>.

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## Meet New State Team Member Jean Johnson



Jean Carlson-Johnson has been employed with the Iowa Department of Economic Development – Community Development since 1997. As Program Manager, she oversaw the Revitalization Assistance for Community Improvement Grant (RACI) until 2004. Since then her responsibilities have included working with Iowa Green Streets Program, workforce development initiatives and represents the Iowa Department of Economic Development on the Community Empowerment State Team.

Jean received her undergraduate degree at Northwest Missouri State University in Family and Consumer Sciences. She is married to Paul, and together they have three children – 10, 7 and 5 years old.





## Iowa Empowerment Board News

### IEB Conducts Site Visit in Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Worth Community Empowerment Area

On Thursday evening September 11, the Iowa Empowerment Board (IEB) made the trek to Mason City for their third site visit of 2008. The evening began at the Music Man Square with a lovely meal and the opportunity to visit with locally funded early care, health and education providers, community members, local board members, and legislators. A short program followed with an introduction by local board chairperson, Jeff Creger, and Senator Amanda Ragan. Presentations were provided by a few of the locally funded collaborations within the Empowerment area. Plaques were awarded to child care providers that have earned a rating in Iowa's Voluntary Quality Rating System.



Senator Ragan welcomes the IEB to Mason City

On Friday morning, the Iowa Empowerment Board had the opportunity to tour two early childhood centers in the Mason City Community School District - Madison and Washington Early Learning Centers. These programs are a result of a long and fruitful partnership between Mason City Community School District and Head Start. In the true spirit of collaboration, Head Start classrooms are integrated and include children in both early childhood special and general education. Just down the hall was the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four Year Old Children. In all classrooms the children were busy and engaged with each other. It was obvious that skilled teachers and staff intentionally promote learning in this rich, quality learning environment. The IEB appreciated the openness of these two facilities in allowing the tours.



Enjoying 'playdough' Tacos!

Following the morning site visit, the Iowa Empowerment Board held their regularly scheduled September board meeting. Agenda items included an update from the Fiscal Accountability Workgroup; the preliminary work of the Family, Friend & Neighbor Care committee; and the regional early care, health & education system-building meetings that were held across the state funded in part by a grant from the National Governor's Association. The IEB also began the work of updating their strategic plan.

The next meeting of the Iowa Empowerment Board will be November 21, 2008 at the Botanical Center in Des Moines.

***How can you be a part of this group?***

## Nominations Sought For Iowa Empowerment Board

Job responsibilities of an IEB member can be found on the Empowerment web site, [http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us/Common/pdf/ieb\\_responsibilities.pdf](http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us/Common/pdf/ieb_responsibilities.pdf)

For additional information contact the Office of Empowerment



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 Chester J. Culver 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://openup.iowa.gov/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.

# Strengthening Skills in Family Development and Parenting Education

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Extension

Kim Greder, Associate Professor,  
Human Development and Family  
Studies, ISU Extension  
[kgreder@iastate.edu](mailto:kgreder@iastate.edu)

**Strengthening Skills in Family Development and Parenting Education**, an indepth training for family support workers, will be offered through Iowa State University Extension to Families in two locations this winter/spring 2009. The training focuses on core competencies identified for family development workers and parenting educators. The training combines the Family Development Certification Training (FDCT) and Partnering with Parents (PWP) Academy into one professional development offering. Individuals have the opportunity to register for the full training (includes FDCT and PWP), or for one component of the training (FDCT or PWP). Contact Jeanne Warning ([jwarning@iastate.edu](mailto:jwarning@iastate.edu)) 515-294-6622, Assistant Director, ISU Extension to Families, for program and registration information. Registration will open in October, 2008.

Additionally, Partnering with Parents will be offered completely online January-June 2008. Contact Kimberly Greder, Associate Professor and Family Life Extension State Specialist, for more information. [kgreder@iastate.edu](mailto:kgreder@iastate.edu), 515-294-5906

**Financial support:** A limited number of scholarships are available from Iowa Empowerment to reimburse, upon successful completion of the training, the registration fee for professionals who serve Iowa families with children 0-5 years of age. For more information visit [www.iowafadss.org](http://www.iowafadss.org)

## **Registration fees:**

The combined training (includes both FDCT and PWP): \$1000 (\$200 savings)  
Family Development Certification Training: \$600  
Partnering with Parents Academy: \$600

Course credit, CEUs, social worker hours, teacher renewal credits: Undergraduate and graduate credit is available through Iowa State University. CEUs have been applied for and are pending.

The dates, locations, and contact information for each site are listed below.

## **FT DODGE**

Location: Webster County Extension Office, 217 South 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste C12, Ft. Dodge, IA

Dates: January 13, 14, 28; February 11, 12, 25; March 11, 12, 25, 26; April 8, 9, 22

Local Site Coordinator: Cheryl Clark, Family Life Extension Field Specialist,  
[cclark@iastate.edu](mailto:cclark@iastate.edu)

## **COUNCIL BLUFFS**

Location: West Pottawattamie County Extension Office, 3501 Harry Langdon Blvd., Council Bluffs, IA

Dates: January 20, 21; February 4, 18, 19; March 4, 18, 19; April 1, 2, 15, 16; May 6

Local Site Coordinator: Mary Hughes, Family Life Extension Field Specialist,  
[mhughes@iastate.edu](mailto:mhughes@iastate.edu)

**Iowa**  
**AEYC/T.E.A.C.H.**  
**Early Childhood®**  
**IOWA**

Barb Merrill, Executive Director,  
Iowa AEYC/T.E.A.C.H. Project  
Manager  
5525 Meredith Drive Suite F, Des  
Moines, Iowa 50310  
(800) 469-2392  
(515) 331-8000  
[info@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:info@iowaaeyc.org)



*As an Empowerment partner, you can make a difference by helping the early childhood professionals in your area become aware of all the resources available to them. If you would like a member of the Iowa AEYC or T.E.A.C.H. staff to visit with your group or speak at a conference, call Barb Merrill at (515) 331-8000 (Ext. 11)*

**Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children**  
**T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA**

***Join Iowa AEYC – “OUR” Professional Association***

Early childhood care and education professionals often wonder...why join a professional association - what's in it for me? Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children is a state-wide, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with focus on the quality of education and developmental services for those age birth through age eight. As an affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Iowa AEYC draws on NAEYC's leadership, resources, and knowledge to better serve our members and the state. Membership is open to all individuals who share a desire to serve and act on behalf of the needs and rights of all young children.

Through the leadership and efforts of over 1500 members through Iowa, Iowa AEYC...

- Works to improve early education services for young children
- Supports excellence in early childhood education programs
- Promotes professionalism in our members
- Serves as a voice for young children, their families, and those who care about them in Iowa
- Promotes public policies that call for a greater investment in the early years.

Professionals in our field join for many reasons. Usually, they first join AEYC because someone invited them to do so...a director/supervisor, a funding partner, a college instructor, a friend who is a member. They join as a resume builder when looking for a more professional position. They join to help invest in THEIR field, as a way to help elevate the field, to spend time working on projects with like-minded professionals. They join for the benefits, ***Young Children*** or ***Teaching Young Children*** publications, involvement in their local chapters, discounts to conferences and events. They join to meet the requirements of a system...earn points on the QRS, renew their CDAs! Go to our website [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org) for more information.

Empowerment areas can help by providing support for membership in the form of encouragement and/or funding supports for new memberships. Call us for a supply of brochures, someone from our staff or board to speak at a conference or meeting, or more information about paying the membership fees for providers in your area who attain certain goals.

***Leadership in Iowa AEYC***

An association only succeeds because of its leaders. Iowa AEYC is proud to have a strong, active governing board that meets at least four times per year. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers!

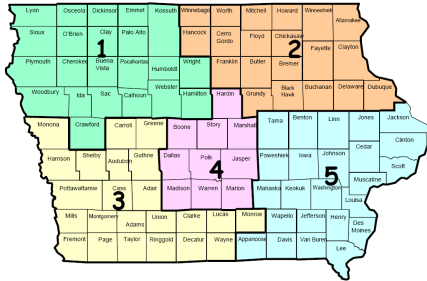
# Iowa AEYC Governing Board

## Iowa AEYC 2008-09 Governing Board

<i>President</i>	<i>Dr. Melanie Felton</i>	<i>Minden</i>
<i>Past President</i>	<i>Donna Kennebeck</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>
<i>Vice President/Accreditation Chair</i>	<i>Doreen (Dee) Stolze</i>	<i>Ankeny</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Art Dinkin</i>	<i>West Des Moines</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Leann Andre</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>
<i>Public Relations/Membership</i>	<i>Mary Jo Madvig</i>	<i>WestDes Moines</i>
<i>Midwest AEYC Rep.</i>	<i>Jane Drapeaux</i>	<i>Cedar Rapids</i>
<i>Resources/Month of the Young Child</i>	<i>Alicia Lewis</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>
<i>T.E.A.C.H. Advisory Chair</i>	<i>Tom Rendon</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>
<i>Public Policy</i>	<i>Angela Mapes</i>	<i>LeClaire</i>
<i>Black Hawk Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Angie Noll</i>	<i>Cedar Falls</i>
<i>Cedar Rapids Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Myrna Loehrlein</i>	<i>Cedar Rapids</i>
<i>Des Moines Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Jennifer Reynolds</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>
<i>Dubuque Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Patricia Emerson</i>	<i>Dubuque</i>
<i>Fort Dodge Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Lena Eyrich</i>	<i>Fort Dodge</i>
<i>Green Valley Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Jon Beede</i>	<i>Creston</i>
<i>ISU Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Alyssa Anderson</i>	<i>Ames</i>
<i>North Iowa Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Dianne Casto</i>	<i>Mason City</i>
<i>NW Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Heidi Wunschel</i>	<i>Storm Lake</i>
<i>Quad Cities Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Deb Gustafson</i>	<i>Davenport</i>
<i>Rolling Prairie Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Jerri Leighton</i>	<i>Oskaloosa</i>
<i>Siouxland Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Erika McWell</i>	<i>Sioux City</i>
<i>SE Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Amy Liles</i>	<i>Winfield</i>
<i>SW Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Elaine Mayberry</i>	<i>Council Bluffs</i>
<i>UNI Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Dr. Charles May</i>	<i>Cedar Falls</i>
<i>UNI Chapter Rep.</i>	<i>Dr. Rebecca Edmaiston</i>	<i>Cedar Falls</i>



# Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral



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

## Announcing the Professional Development Advising Program

*Submitted by Dawn Collins, Iowa CCR&R Professional Development Program Manager, DHS*

As you know, education is critical to having a quality early care and education workforce in Iowa. To help early care and education practitioners in obtaining a Child Development Associate (CDA) and higher education degrees, Iowa is establishing a Professional Development Advising Program. This program was funded through professional development funding from the Office of Empowerment and developed through a collaborative partnership between Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children (Iowa AEYC), Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Network, and the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS). Other organizations and agencies that are partners in this program include:

- Area Education Agencies
- Community College Early Childhood Alliance
- Iowa Community Empowerment
- Head Start Collaboration Office
- Iowa Head Start Association
- Iowa Department of Education
- Iowa State University Extension
- Regents Center
- United Way of Central Iowa
- University of Northern Iowa

Stacie Steveson, CDA Coordinator/T.E.A.C.H. Counseling Specialist at Iowa AEYC will coordinate on-going technical assistance, communications, and updates about the CDA credential, manage the Iowa CDA advisor referral system (which includes limited funding to reimburse advisors for eligible expenses), and support practitioners as they apply for T.E.A.C.H. assistance with obtaining their CDA or higher education degrees.

Each of the five CCR&R regions will have a new Regional Professional Development Coordinator to serve as an advisor for this program. We anticipate these positions being filled by December 1, 2008. Also, other local CCR&R staff will provide support to practitioners in child care, Head Start, and Pre-Kindergarten programs to develop and meet their individual professional development goals with an emphasis on advice and encouragement in getting a CDA credential and completing a degree in an early childhood-related field. Some of the benefits for practitioners include:

- Help in determining which community-based training hours meet training requirements toward the CDA credential
- Referrals to community colleges when interested in for-credit CDA courses
- Referrals to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood@ IOWA when using college credit coursework to meet CDA training requirements
- Referrals to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood@ to help pay for CDA application filing fees
- Help with compiling a resource file and completing the application
- Access to CDA advisors in your area, including Spanish-speaking advisors

For more information about this exciting and much needed program, please contact your CCR&R Regional Director, Stacie Steveson at Iowa AEYC, or Dawn Collins at DHS.

# Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI)



Sally Clausen, ARNP, BSN  
Healthy Child Care Iowa  
Iowa Department of Public  
Health  
[sclausen@idph.state.ia.us](mailto:sclausen@idph.state.ia.us)

## Importance of Environmental Health and Child Development

Although the use of pesticides in and around U.S. homes and on agricultural crops is common, we are just beginning to understand the potentially adverse health effects of such exposures. There is widespread concern about how exposure to pesticides might affect children, who are likely to be the most vulnerable to these effects. On September 9, Dr. Elizabeth A. Guillette, Research Scientist in Anthropology at the University of Florida, presented an audio conference titled, “The Hidden Aspects of Pesticide.” Presentation materials and a link to the audio conference are available at [www.ehinitiative.org/Projects/tele\\_con.htm](http://www.ehinitiative.org/Projects/tele_con.htm).

## Changes to Healthy Child Care Iowa website

Healthy Child Care Iowa has 2 new features to aid child care businesses in securing the safety of children. We have a [Child Safety](#) link on the HCCI homepage. And, we have added an infant related products category to the recall list.

## CPSC

The U.S. government is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from consumer products, foods, and medicines. 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/7/alerts.html>.

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

To view recalled product information, first select a product category from the following list.

- [Beds, Cribs, and Bedding](#) Read the special alert on infant bassinets  
[Infants Strangled to Death in Simplicity Bassinets: CPSC Urges ...](#)
- [Child Clothing, Shoes, and Accessories](#)
- [Equipment](#)
- [Food, Drug, Medicine hazards and recalls](#)
- [Furniture Related to Child Care and Early Education](#)  
[Infant related products](#) **NEW Category.**
- [Toys and Play Related Items](#) **Healthy Child Care Iowa** maintains a list of products that have a warning or have been recalled in the last six months.

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The Healthcare Coverage for Kids Coalition (HCKC) in collaboration with the Iowa *Covering Kids & Families* initiative (CKF) aim to increase enrollment and retention for eligible, uninsured children in public health care coverage programs such as Medicaid and Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (*hawk-i*). This year these two groups, along with over 40 volunteers, partnered to hold a third annual Back-to-School Health Fair at McKinley Elementary on August 6, 2008. Children were provided with free school physicals, nutrition information, dental screenings, lead tests, immunizations, school supplies and *hawk-i* and Medicaid information. A total of 884 kids received school supplies (including one *hawk-i* application per bag), 370 received physicals, 44 received lead tests, 25 kids were immunized and 130 were provided with dental screenings.

This event would not have been possible without donations from the following businesses within the community: Van Meter Industries, Target, Walmart, Delta Dental of Iowa, HyVee, Kohl's, Crystal Clear, Mercy Medical Center, Costco, Iowa Health Systems, South Central Regional Coalition, Visiting Nurse Services, Iowa Department of Public Health and Subway.

Iowa events did not only include those in Des Moines; many *hawk-i* outreach coordinators participated in the *Back-to-School* campaign in their local communities, from creating bulletin boards to distributing *hawk-i* applications at school registrations, children across the state were being prepared to go back to school healthy and ready to learn.

In addition to the health fair, *hawk-i* materials and information were provided to families and other interested partners each day at the Iowa State Fair, which is one of the largest events in Iowa, consisting of millions of attendees each year. Partnering with the Iowa Department of Public Health, CKF staff gave away over 500 brochures and various other materials, all promoting the *hawk-i* program.

