

GRANTEE Update

February 23, 2009

The Update is a bi-weekly Web newsletter published by the Iowa Department of Public Health's Bureau of Family Health. It is posted the second and fourth week of every month, and provides useful job resource information for departmental health care professionals, information on training opportunities, intradepartmental reports and meetings, and additional information pertinent to health care professionals.

1-2 Public Health Makes Strides to Modernize

2 Early Childhood Iowa Systems Framework

3 Iowa Training Project for CCNCs Spring 2009

3 February is National Children's Dental Month

4 Calendar of Events

5 Staff Directory

6-8 Additional Information

Public Health Makes Strides to Modernize

by Don McCormick, Public Health Information Officer, IDPH

More than four years ago, public health officials across the state began a colossal task. Their goal was to describe, for the first time ever in Iowa, the basic services that all Iowans can reasonably expect from local and state public health and the capacity necessary to provide those services. The result was

the Iowa Public Health Standards and a plan for how the Standards would become a part of Iowa's public health system. In November 2008, that plan was approved by the 30-member Redesigning Public Health in Iowa Work Group. This decision paves the way for legislation now in draft form called the Public Health Modernization Act (PHMA).

"Since its beginnings over 125 years ago, organized public health in our state has worked hard to promote and protect the health of Iowans," said Iowa Department of Public Health Director Tom Newton. "Unfortunately, the current system is fragmented and full of inequities, leaving the residents of some communities without certain public health services that Iowans in other areas have come to expect. Together with the PHMA, the Iowa Public Health Standards provide the foundation for ensuring that all Iowans, no matter where they live, have a basic level of public health services."

Addressing 11 system component areas, the Iowa Public Health Standards could not have emerged without the commitment of nearly 200 public health officials from every corner of Iowa. The Redesigning Public Health in



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Public Health Makes Strides to Modernize *continued*

Iowa project was recently honored with the Jim Parker Memorial Award by the National Association of County and City Health Officials and the National Association of State and Territorial Health Organizations. The award recognizes and encourages initiatives to establish and improve collaboration between state and local health departments.

Iowa's efforts are similar to those being pursued by public health entities in more than 20 states. Their goal is voluntary accreditation of public health agencies. According to the Public Health Accreditation Board, the organization leading the charge for a national accreditation process, public health leaders identified a range of benefits to accreditation. Among them, "high performance and quality improvement" would result in better health outcomes. Also ranking high were "recognition and validation of the public health department's work" and "improved access to resources." Those resources might include funding to address gaps in infrastructure identified in the accreditation process, opportunities to pilot new programs and processes, and streamlined application processes for grants and programs.

Ruth Schemmel, Palmer Community Health director in West Union, echoed many of those sentiments in regard to the PHMA. "Public health has long been unrecognized as an important community partner and provider in local communities," Schemmel said. "The PHMA will open the door to educating county residents and community partners about the [local public health agency's] role within communities. [It] will allow for funding to be appropriated in support of standardized public health requirements, creating a baseline of consistency across the State of Iowa. The public health epidemiological capacity will be improved on all levels of routine and emergency response including environmental health practitioners, laboratories, health care workers, nurses and other involved entities."

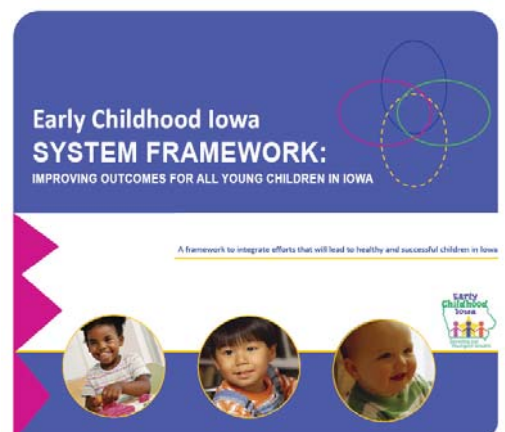
For more information about the PHMA, the Modernization initiative and the Iowa Public Health Standards, visit www.idph.state.ia.us/rphi.

What does this initiative have to do with Bureau of Family Health grantee agencies? This question will be answered in upcoming editions of The Update. Keep your eyes open!

Early Childhood Iowa Systems Framework

Early Childhood Iowa Systems Framework: Improving Outcomes for All Young Children in Iowa is now available. This plan serves as a framework of the early care, health and education system building upon existing and emerging efforts of public and private partners.

To view the framework, go to www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/docs/EClframework2-17-09.pdf.



Program Management

Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants Spring 2009

Information regarding the Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants Training Series 2009 is available on pages 6-7 of **The Update**. The Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants (ITPCCNC) consists of seven weeks of structured distance learning followed by four days of on-site training April 21-24, 2009.

The training has evolved, and changes have been made to meet the needs of the Early Childhood Care and Education system. Significant changes have been made to better prepare local CCNCs for their important role in promoting the health of our youngest Iowans and to reduce the travel costs related to the training during the current economic times. These changes can be viewed on page 8 of **The Update**.

February is National Children's Dental Month

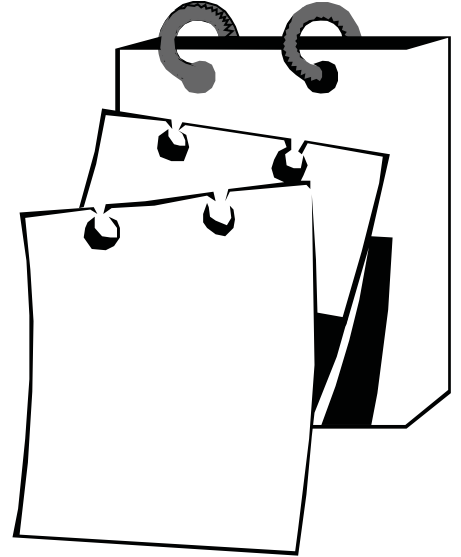
IDPH I-Smile program helps children receive needed dental services

February is National Children's Dental Health Month, and this year celebrates its 60th anniversary. Healthy teeth enable children to speak properly, eat healthy food, and build self-esteem and confidence. Although tooth decay is preventable, not enough children get early preventive care. The American Dental Association recommends that children have a dental exam by their first birthday; however, more than half of Iowa's general dentists do not see children younger than age 3. In addition, more than half of all Medicaid-enrolled children in Iowa received no dental care in 2007.

The I-Smile program is working to prevent disease, help families get dental care, and create awareness of the importance of children's oral health. "We've seen a phenomenal increase in important preventive dental services among children since I-Smile began," said IDPH Oral Health Bureau chief, Dr. Bob Russell. "More than 41,350 children received dental care coordination last year."

During National Children's Dental Health Month, dozens of I-Smile activities are planned across the state. In Linn County, for example, as many as 700 children are expected to take part in the "Give Kids a Smile Event" in which seven volunteer dentists, along with dental hygienists, assistants and students will provide free oral screenings, fluoride varnish applications, and more, along with fun activities and prizes. In Lee County, 15 dentists have agreed to see about 140 children. Woodbury County expects as many as 170 children to be examined by volunteer dentists.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



March 2 - April 24, 2009

7 weeks of structured distance learning
followed by 4 days of on-site training April 21-24
For more information, contact Analisa Pearson at
(515) 281-7519 or 1-800-383-3826 or by e-mail at
apearson@idph.state.ia.us.

*April 7-8, 2009

2009 Public Health Conference
Scheman Conference Center, Ames
For more information, contact Andrew Connet at (515) 281-7184 or aconnet@idph.state.ia.us.

*Required meeting

GRANTEE Update

Phone Directory

Bureau of Family Health: 1-800-383-3826

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Healthy Families Line: 1-800-369-2229

FAX: 515-242-6013

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Area code is 515

Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants Training Series 2009

Spring 2009



March 2, 2009 – April 24, 2009

Sponsors: Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI) through the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Iowa Department of Human Services.

Spring 2009: The Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants (ITPCCNC) consists of 7 weeks of structured distance learning followed by 4 days of onsite training April 21-24.

Faculty and Planning Team: Candace Chihak, RN; Sally Clausen, ARNP, BSN; Karen Doughan, RN, BS; Ric Hirst, BS; Analisa Pearson, RN, BSN; Marsha Platt, RN, BSN; Cathy Renz, RN MEd; and Kim Schroeder, RN; BSN.

Target Audience: Iowa registered nurses (RN) working with early childhood care and education providers through the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Agencies; public health and Community Empowerment Areas in cooperation with the MCH Agencies; Head Start or Early Head Start; and local school districts.

Background of Child Care Nurse Consultants and Statement of Purpose: Child care nurse consultants (CCNC) are RNs who provide on-site consultation, training, and technical assistance to early childhood care and education providers. The ITPCCNC is the required initial didactic training program for CCNCs to expand their knowledge and skills to work with early childhood care and education providers.

Educational Objectives: Each course module contains learning objectives specific to the module topic. Overall course objectives are below.

Registered Nurses will be able to:

- Identify the components for best practices in health and safety in early childhood care and education environments and programs
- Assess the quality of health and safety policy and practices in early childhood care and education
- Consult with early childhood care and education providers to improve health and safety in their businesses
- Identify community partners and resources to assist in improving the quality in early childhood care and education
- Identify the role of public health principles and practices in child care

Training Topics:

Introduction to Early Childhood Care and Education in Iowa
Building Curriculum Development & Training Skills
Building Consultations Skills
Child Development
Quality in Child Care
Nutrition and Physical Activity in Early Childhood Care and Education
Injury Prevention in Early Childhood Care and Education
Environmental Health in Early Childhood Care and Education
Infectious Disease in Early Childhood Care and Education
(continued on next page)

Training Topics (continued)

Mental Health in Early Childhood Care and Education
Care for Children who are Mildly Ill and Temporarily Disabled
Caring for Children with Special Needs
Oral Health in Early Childhood Care and Education
Health and Safety of Early Childhood Care and Education Staff

NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS:

1. Electronic Communication: The course relies heavily on electronic communication using email and retrieval of documents from the Internet. The participant's employer shall assure each participant has an individual computer with business-related email address where the course coordinator may send correspondence. Participants will need to be able to access Google Docs™ and Google Groups™ to successfully participate in and complete the course.

2. Course Reading and Written Assignment Expectations: Participants receive most of the course materials through electronic communication. Participants will study various topics weekly, with written assignments, and required activities including online discussions, and conference calls throughout. Participants are expected to participate in all activities and complete all designated assignments thoroughly and on time to successfully complete the course.

3. The onsite portion of the training: April 21-24, will be held at the Community Room of the Jordan Creek Towne Center, 101 Jordan Creek Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa. Tel: 515-224-5000.

www.jordancreektowncenter.com



Nursing CEUs: The Iowa Department of Human Services is an Iowa Board of Nursing approved provider, Number 94. CEUs are being applied for, and # CEUs will be awarded to individuals successfully completing the course, partial credit will not be awarded.

- Application Process:** The enrollment process contains several steps:
1. Interested applicants must complete an online survey to determine eligibility. Visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dz7hEbdjtdI_2b4myL_2f9vwxw_3d_3d
 2. **Applications will be accepted from February 2-25, 2009.** Applicants are notified by email regarding acceptance. Approved applicants receive an enrollment agreement to complete and return to Healthy Child Care Iowa. Both the applicant and the applicants' employer must sign the enrollment agreement and return to the HCCI state office *prior* to training. For questions regarding application completion or enrollment, call Analisa Pearson, Tel: 800-383-3826.

Registration Fee: The registration fee is \$200 and is due no later than March 6, 2009. Checks made out to the Iowa Department of Public Health may be mailed to the attention of Healthy Child Care Iowa. IDPH has a limited number of scholarships available, contact Analisa Pearson for more details if the cost of the training is prohibitive.

Refund Policy: No refund of the registration fee will be given after the course has begun.

Cancellation Policy: Participants will be informed if the course is cancelled for any reason, including low enrollment.

Course Coordinator Contact Information:

Please contact the course coordinator, Analisa Pearson, RN, BSN, with your questions. Iowa Department of Public Health, 321 East 12th Street, Lucas Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075. Tel: 515-281-7519 or 800-383-3826. Fax: 515-242-6013 Email: apearson@idph.state.ia.us



Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants

Spring 2009

This year, three members of the Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants (ITPCCNC) training team have participated in the National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants (NTI) in North Carolina. The training has evolved, and significant changes have been made to meet the needs of the Early Childhood Care and Education system. Significant changes have been made to better prepare local CCNCs for their important role in promoting the health of our youngest Iowans and to reduce the travel costs related to the training during the current economic times.

How is the training different?

Modules have been updated, topics added, and the training format has changed. The course will begin March 2, with a conference call, followed by 7 weeks of structured distance learning. New topics will be introduced each week, with required assignments and activities for the week. The course will culminate with a four day onsite training that will synthesize the information presented throughout the course in a practicum format.

What other changes have been made to the training?

To build a stronger connection between the role of the CCNC and the roles and goals of the MCH Agency, the Iowa Training Project will involve the CCNC's supervisor in some aspects of the Training Project. For example, assignments will be submitted to the supervisor and the course instructor, the supervisor will participate in a joint onsite visit with a child care provider to observe the work of the CCNC, and feedback will be provided to the supervisor from child care providers regarding the CCNC's consultation skills.

How much time will a nurse need for the assignments?

The ITPCCNC will be conducted with the intensity and expectations of a university course, not a seminar or conference. Nurse applicants will need to dedicate a minimum of 10 working hours each week to the curriculum during the distance learning sessions.

What are the dates for the Spring Course?

Registration: February 2-25, 2009

Spring 2009 Course:

- Course begins March 2, 2009
 - ★ Mandatory conference call for nurse applicants: March 2, 2009 from 10am - 12n
- Final exam and coursework completion: April 24, 2009

Who should apply?

Qualified applicants are Iowa registered nurses working in early childhood care and education programs through local public health, Maternal and Child Health, Head Start or Early Head Start, Schools, or Community Empowerment Areas. The full course brochure is available on our website at <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/>

How can a nurse register for the training?

Apply to participate in the Spring 2009 Course beginning February 2nd through the Iowa Training Project for Child Care Nurse Consultants' Online Application at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dz7hEbdjtdI_2b4myL_2f9vwxw_3d_3d.