



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings September 5, 2016 Vol. 3, No. 32

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](#).

"Don't find a fault. Find a remedy." - Henry Ford

State Information:

Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders Alliance Meeting – September 13, 2016

The next ECI Stakeholders Alliance meeting will be on September 13, 2016 from 9:00 AM to Noon. The meeting will be held at the Fred Maytag II Scout Center, 6123 Scout Trail, Des Moines, Iowa. The agenda includes (see attachment for full agenda):

- Annual Election of ECI Steering Committee members
- Candidate's Positions on Children's Issues
- Gallery Walk to Learn more about the ECI Component Groups Work

Any person interested in early childhood issues is invited to attend.

To RSVP use this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/22YPHQ5>

Impact Story (4RKids ECI Area)

"The Power of Positive Discipline and Family Support"

Rachel, mother of two, suffered from being in a violent relationship. She left the relationship, depressed, frustrated, and out of work. She would take out her stress on her children, yelling at them and inappropriate disciplining. Her children acted out. The youngest did not use more than 10 words and would scream.

Home educator (Southwestern Community College Parents as Teachers Program) intervened and provided the family with support. She connected the family to insurance, speech services for the youngest, and counseling. She shared what Rachel needed to parent her children and utilized home visits to coach, role-model and used hands-on lessons. She provided Rachel with parent education to promote positive discipline, realistic expectations and healthy communication. Within a few months the family has transformed. Rachel learned to cope with the trauma of past abuse and increased her parenting skills. The children are now spending more quality time with Rachel and receiving positive healthy discipline, their behaviors improved. Rachel is enrolled in HiSet classes in hopes of building a better future for herself and children.

Learn more about the changes coming to Child Care

DHS has recorded videos about the child care changes that you can access through the DHS website. Many of the changes and new requirements must be in place by October 1, 2016.

There are separate videos for each type of child care business that must follow the new requirements.

- “ Non-Registered Child Care Homes with a Child Care Provider Agreement
- “ Child Development Homes
- “ Child Care Centers

Access the recorded videos: <https://dhs.iowa.gov/reauthorization-of-the-child-care-and-development-block-grant>

There is a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document available on the Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral website that may answer questions you have. You can also call 1-877-216-8481 if you have additional questions.

There will be a workshop at the AEYC Fall Institute regarding the changes on October 1. See the article on pages 4-5 to register for the Institute.

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) Seeks Input on Strategic Plan

IDPH is asking for your input in defining IDPH’s strategic priorities for the next 3-5 years. Based on your understanding of our customers’ needs and wants, please take a few minutes to respond to the following [IDPH Strategic Planning Survey](#) by September 15.

Don’t be too concerned with the definitions of “Contractor” or “Board/Council/Commission Member.” If you work closely with them or think you can provide valuable insight to the strategic planning process, please complete the survey.

Iowa Children and Youth in Disasters Summit - September 16, 2016

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Fred Maytag II Scout Center, 6123 Scout Trail, Des Moines, IA 50321

Iowa has approximately 727,000 children under age 18 in the state representing nearly one quarter of the population. This Summit will focus on the needs of these children in disasters and examine the resources available through federal, state, local, and non-government organizations. The intent of this Summit is to share information and support the efforts between stakeholders to ensure that the needs of children are considered and integrated into disaster-related efforts initiated at the state and local levels.

Summit topics include:

- Identifying the Threats To Children in Disasters
- Children in Disasters - Lauralee Kosoil, FEMA
- Understanding the Psychological Needs of Children in Disasters - Debra Schwiesow, NASP
- Little Sioux Boy Scout Camp, Lessons Learned - Panel Discussion/Q&A
- Afternoon Information Sharing - An Overview of Iowa Resources

Registration is required via the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Training Website. **[CLICK HERE](#)** to register or copy and paste the link below into your browser to assure your space at this very important Summit:

<http://homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/calddetails.aspx?eventid=559&courseid=274>

Check-in begins at 7:30. Lunch is provided. There is no cost for attendance.

For additional information contact:

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National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

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Legislative Service Agency Budget Unit Briefs

Periodically, the Iowa Legislative Service Agency, which provides non-partisan support to the State Legislature, issues budget briefs.

Recently LSA released a brief on the Early Childhood Iowa budget on one on family support services.

To the review the brief:

Early Childhood Iowa: **<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/FT/401813.pdf>**

Family Support Services: **<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/FT/780551.pdf>**

Child Care Resource and Referral Launches New Early Childhood PBIS Website

A new website has been developed for Early Childhood Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports for Family Child Care. There are many tools available for addressing challenging behaviors and a dropdown for accessing consulting services.

Visit the website at: **[EC-PBIS-FCC](#)**

DHS Releases RFP Announcement for the implementation of Children’s Mental Health and Well-Being Learning Labs

The Iowa Department of Human Services Agency seeks to study existing collaborative efforts in the state that have demonstrated an ability to address cross-systems barriers for youth with complex needs. Through this procurement the Department intends to enter into a contract agreement with up to three 3 for the purposes of conducting a year-long, multi-site learning process to better understand what is beneficial and how best to implement and operate across systems for Child well-being.

The formal procurement materials and contact information are available on the State of Iowa Bid Opportunities website at

http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov/index.php?pgname=viewrfp&rfp_id=12740

Federal Information:

Federal Office of Head Start Announces Revised Head Start Performance Standards

The Office of Head Start (OHS) announced in the Federal Register the first comprehensive revision of the **Head Start Program Performance Standards (HSPPS)** since their original release in 1975. The publication of this regulation marks an important milestone in the history of the Head Start program. The new standards build upon 50 years of leadership in comprehensive early childhood services and will further raise the quality of Head Start programs. The new HSPPS are streamlined, simplified, and reorganized to improve clarity and transparency to support high-quality program delivery and minimize administrative burden.

To learn more: [Revised Head Start Standards](#)

Other Information:

Iowa Kids and Working Families Candidate Forum

A candidate forum on children's issues is slated for:

Thursday September 8, 2016

6:00 -8:00 PM

MICHA House

1415 Avenue J

Council Bluffs, Iowa

For more information

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1048090045287263/>

or

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/x54i1zi34jx9j48/Candidate%20Forum%20Poster%20-%20Pott%20Co%208.29.pdf?dl=0>

Registration Open: Iowa AEYC Fall Early Care and Education Institute

It is time to register for the 2016 Iowa Early Care & Education Fall Institute! This year's Institute is planned for **September 30 - October 1**, with optional pre-conference events on September 29, at **The Events Conference Center** at Prairie Meadows, Altoona, Iowa. This year's theme, **Supporting Children in a Changing World: Engage, Collaborate, Empower** describes our work and efforts as we move to implement new requirements and initiatives, together! Over one hundred workshop options will be offered, and over 1000 people are expected to attend. Please find the registration materials attached, or go to <http://www.iowaaeec.org/iowa-aeec-institutes.cfm>

A few things to remember about this event:

- ✓ Members and staff of co-sponsoring organizations may attend at the reduced "member" rate
- ✓ All sessions approved for DHS training credit – up to 18 hours of training credit available.
- ✓ Most sessions approved for NAC renewal credit for program administrators.

- ✓ For an additional cost, participants may earn one graduate credit – great for teacher licensure renewal.
- ✓ Early bird registration rates are available until September 15 – register early!

Fall Institute Spotlight: Final Program Available Online, Last Chance for Early Bird Registration Discount

The final program book for this year's Early Care and Education Institute is now posted on our [website!](#) Be sure to download your copy and map out the sessions you plan to attend. This year, we will feature a mini-keynote session during each of the Friday workshop time slots. It is an exciting opportunity for you to hear from well-known early care and education experts! Saturday will not only feature our keynote speaker, Rae Pica, but you will have the opportunity to attend 3 other featured sessions. See the program for more details.

To register, visit <https://online.nwciowa.edu/iaeyc/register>.

Online Surveys: Can You Trust the Results? (Child Trends)

The results of online surveys are everywhere—especially leading up to the presidential election. But can they be trusted? Our latest post weighs the pros and cons of this inexpensive, but sometimes problematic, method, and what you should look for in an online survey before swearing by the results.

[Read More](#)

Involving LGBT Families in Early Care Settings

In early childhood programs, engagement with children's families helps children feel like they belong. Find tips for engaging a diversity of families in these new resources, with include a self-assessment, book suggestions, and more. Child Trends is a research partner to the U.S. HHS Office of Head Start's Center for Parent, Family, and Community Engagement. [Read More Here](#)

The Good News About Educational Inequality (NT Times)

When inequality is the topic, it can seem as if all the news is bad. Income inequality continues to rise. Economic segregation is growing. Racial gaps in education, employment and health endure. Our society is not particularly fair.

But here is some good news about educational inequality: The enormous gap in academic performance between high- and low-income children has begun to narrow. Children entering kindergarten today are more equally prepared than they were in the late 1990s.

We know this from information collected over the last two decades by the National Center for Education Statistics. In the fall of 1998 and again in 2010, the N.C.E.S. sent early childhood assessors to roughly 1,000 public and private kindergartens across the United States. They sat down one-on-one with 15 to 25 children in each school to measure their reading and math skills. They asked children to identify shapes and colors, to count, to identify letters and to sound out words. They also surveyed parents to learn about the children's experiences before entering kindergarten. [Read More Here.](#)

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>

2016 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

September 9

November 4

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

September 13 (AM)

December 13 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

September 13 (afternoon)

December 7 All day

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30

October 7

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

October 6 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 3 (9:00 AM – Noon)