



## Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings October 3, 2016 Vol. 3, No. 33

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](mailto:jeffrey.anderson@iowa.gov)

Back Issues of Monday Musing are available [here](#).

*"Children do not change, only policies do.*

*-Rae Pica*

### State Information:

#### Iowa State University Extension and Outreach receives national and regional recognition: Human Sciences Staff, Faculty Receive NEAFCS Awards

Several human sciences staff and faculty members with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach received awards from the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. The awards were presented during the NEAFCS annual session Sept. 12-15 in Big Sky, Mont.

"These national and regional awards recognize our staff and faculty's exemplary efforts and their commitment to meeting the needs of individuals, families and communities," said Debra Sellers, director of [Human Sciences Extension and Outreach](#) and an associate dean of ISU College of Human Sciences.

Cindy Baumgartner received the Distinguished Service Award, the highest award presented by NEAFCS. The award recognizes NEAFCS members for leadership, outstanding program efforts, and personal and professional development. Baumgartner is a human sciences specialist in nutrition and wellness serving Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson and Linn counties.

Seven teams of Human Sciences Extension and Outreach staff and faculty received NEAFCS awards.

- Kim Brantner, Sandra McKinnon, Cynthia Thompson, Joy Rouse and Malisa Rader received the Environmental Education Award for their project "[Growing Up WILD: Reaching Out to Child Care Professionals and Families](#)." They were the first place national winner and first place central region winner. The award recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding educational programs conducted for families and/or communities on various environmental issues concerning water quality, air quality, recycling and natural resource conservation.
- Lori Hayungs and Malisa Rader received the Internet Technology Communications Award, recognizing excellence in web-based programs or webpages. Their project "[Online Early Childhood](#)

Education Meets 'Face to Face' Criteria for Child Care Providers” was the first place national winner and first place central region winner.

- Jill Weber, Gail Forristall, Julie Mayhew and Susan Potwin were first place central region winners of the Mary W. Wells Memorial Diversity Award for their project “Buy Eat Live Healthy Nutrition Education for All.” The award is presented in support of the Cooperative Extension System emphasis on diversity and pluralism, and is named to honor the contributions to diversity for the association and profession by Mary W. Wells, NEAFCS past president.
- “Community Partnerships for Quality Child Care,” which deals with ISU Extension and Outreach’s Environment Rating Scale trainings in partnership with Child Care Resource and Referral, was second place central region winner for the Community Partnership Award. Team members are Lesia Oesterreich, Cynthia Thompson, Kim Brantner, Joy Rouse, Lori Hayungs, Sandra McKinnon, Cheryl Clark, Malisa Rader, Kristi Cooper, Janet Smith, Melissa Wagner and Lori Schonhorst. The Community Partnership Award recognizes NEAFCS members for their efforts in building community partnerships to meet the educational needs and concerns of families.
- “Food Safety Education for All” was second place central region winner of the Food Safety Award, recognizing outstanding educational programs conducted for families, school nutrition workers, food industry employees or managers, church workers preparing meals, home care providers, and other groups/individuals preparing and/or serving food. Team members are Patty Steiner, Jill Weber, Vera Stokes and Cindy Baumgartner.
- The “Words on Wellness” newsletter was third place central region winner of the Newsletter Communication Award. The award recognizes outstanding written communication through three different issues of an educational newsletter for either a special educational effort or regular extension program. Team members are Cindy Baumgartner, Patty Steiner, Vera Stokes, Jill Weber, Nancy Clark, Barbara Fuller, Katherine Knobbe, Mary Krisco, Renee Sweers, Holly VanHeel, Rachel Wall, Sarah Francis, Jody Gatewood and Ruth Litchfield.
- “Human Sciences Specialists Train Childcare Providers Using Team Approach” was third place central region winner of the Early Childhood Child Care Training Award, recognizing outstanding childcare professional training that addresses the needs of young children birth to eight years of age. The project addresses nutrition and wellness child care provider classes, and team members are Jill Weber, Cindy Baumgartner, Patty Steiner, Vera Stokes, Holly VanHeel, Barb Fuller, Renee Sweers, Katherine Knobbe, Nancy Clark, Mary Krisco, and Rachel Wall.

The **National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences** educates and recognizes extension professionals who improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities. NEAFCS provides education in areas including food preparation, food safety and nutrition; financial management; healthy lifestyles; home and work environment and safety; and relationship and parenting skills.

### **Learn more about the changes 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 went into place 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

### **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](#)

### **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](#)

**Moving Toward More Effective Monitoring Strategies:  
Joint Policy Statement on Coordinated Efficiencies in Monitoring and Oversight  
of Early Care and Education Programs Released**

On September 30, 2016, the final [CCDF regulations](#) were published in the Federal Register. Among the many important health, safety, and child development requirements contained in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014, are provisions related to the frequency of inspections and competency and workload of inspectors. On September 29, 2016, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Agriculture (USDA) issued a [joint policy statement on Coordinated Efficiencies in Monitoring and Oversight of Early Care and Education programs](#).

The HHS and USDA [joint monitoring policy statement](#) aims to:

- Encourage states to align monitoring policies and procedures across funding streams where appropriate rather than monitoring exclusively by funding stream;
- Recommend efficiencies that could be achieved through coordination, collaboration, cross-training, differential monitoring, data sharing, and greater use of technology;
- Shift the current focus of monitoring from one of “compliance only” to “continuous quality improvement”;
- Increase access to CACFP to promote nutritious meals and snacks for children in early care and education settings;
- Recommend adoption of a core set of health and safety standards ([Caring for Our Children Basics: Health and Safety Foundations for Early Care and Education](#)) that apply across programs to support the alignment of monitoring policies and procedures;
- Share examples of best practices and resources to support states in creating a culture of safe, healthy and developmentally appropriate early childhood settings; and
- Ensure that results of monitoring visits are used to target technical assistance and other supports to promote changes in behavior and improve overall quality of service.

The joint policy statement includes 10 recommendations derived from feedback HHS and USDA heard through listening sessions with stakeholders across the country. The reauthorization of CCDBG, the new Head Start Performance Standards and final CCDF regulations offer an opportunity to review current monitoring systems to better align standards and promote greater efficiencies in a more effective, uniform, and cost-effective approach to monitoring.

The final CCDF regulations offer guidance to implement the new law. The [joint policy statement](#) is offered to support both the law and the regulations. To assist states in rethinking monitoring approaches, HHS has developed [a new web page](#) with tools and resources to spur discussion, ideas, and innovation to promote more effective monitoring strategies that better support monitors, providers, and the children who will benefit.

## Other Information:

### Protective Factors Framework Training

Prevent Child Abuse Iowa is excited to announce the Protective Factors Framework Training. The training produced by the National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds' (Alliance) offers a comprehensive suite of training materials that supports implementation of the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors Framework in multiple settings. The curriculum content includes materials on partnering with parents and concrete examples of everyday actions that research has shown to be effective in strengthening families.

#### The Core Content of the Curriculum

- Seven courses, each designed to be about two hours in length
- An introduction to the Framework (also useful as a stand-alone orientation)
- A course on each of the five protective factors in the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors Framework
- A wrap-up course that moves participants from knowledge to action
- Real-life parent stories that document the power of building protective factors
- Videos sharing everyday actions that state systems and private organizations have taken to implement the Framework
- A list of key sources, references and websites to support the content of each course

This two day training is offered free of charge and open to direct service workers, administration, CPPC members, Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Council Members and community volunteers interested in strengthening families. Please register at the link with your preferred training site. A flyer is attached for promotion among your networks. (Sessions will be limited to 30 participants, other sessions may be opened if this number is exceeded.)

October 13-14  
Sioux City Public Library  
9:15 am – 4 pm

<https://ctfalliance.wufoo.com/forms/strengthening-families-pff-training-sioux-city/>

December 1-2  
Waterloo Public Library  
9:15 am – 4 pm

<https://ctfalliance.wufoo.com/forms/strengthening-families-pff-training-waterloo/>

December 7-8  
Indianola YMCA  
9 am – 4 pm

<https://ctfalliance.wufoo.com/forms/zfb01ka0876i7y/>

## Kids' Share 2016

First Focus released *Kids' Share 2016: Report on Federal Expenditures on Children Through 2015 and Future Projections*, its tenth annual analysis of federal spending and tax investments in children and families. The report projects that absent any policy change, the budget for children will continue to decline.

## New Report: The First 1,000 Days: Nourishing America's Future

*The First 1,000 Days: Nourishing America's Future*, a new report from 1,000 Days, examines the nutritional health of America's mothers, infants and toddlers and highlights a set of "wins" to ensure that every child in the U.S. can have a healthy first 1,000 days.

## Building Communications Capacity: How to improve outreach to Latinos

U.S. Latinos are a large, diverse, and fast-growing population. For service providers, effectively reaching and communicating with them is essential. [The Child Trends Hispanic Institute](#), in collaboration with [the Crimsonbridge Foundation](#), has assembled a new guidebook to help service providers and educators find the most effective ways to reach their audience. Join us for a related webinar on **Tuesday, Oct 18th**, from **2 - 3 p.m. ET**. Learn how to create an evidence-based, strategic communication plan with a clear series of steps: getting to know your audience, setting objectives, messaging, outreach strategy, tactical execution, and data collection. [Register here](#).

Read more here: [Reaching and Engaging with Hispanics](#)

**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

November 4

**ECI Stakeholders Alliance**

3 – 4 Hour meetings

December 13 (PM)

**ECI Area Directors**

December 7 All day

**ECI State Dept. Directors**

8:30 – 10:30

October 7

**ECI Steering Committee**

Time Varies

November 3 (9:00 AM – Noon)