



## Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings March 9, 2015 2015 Vol. 2, No. 10

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 Musings are available [here](#).

*“Six essential qualities that are the key to success: Sincerity, personal integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom, charity.”*

*-William Menninger*

### State Information:

#### ECI Day-on-the Hill Highlights

The 2015 Early Childhood Day on the Hill event was held on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> with 160 participant advocates in attendance.

The keynote presentation was given by Dr. Andrea McGuire. Dr. McGuire focused on brain development and the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Joanne Lane, ECI Board Chair presented the 2015 Child-at-Heart Award to:

**Emilia Marroquin**, Community Outreach Assistant, Head Start, Storm Lake, Iowa and **Julee Albers**, Early Childhood Faculty Member, Northeast Iowa Community College

#### Ms. Lane presents the Award to Ms. Marroquin:

Ms. Albers was unable to attend.

Regional and individual meetings with legislators occurred in the afternoon. Those who were able meet with their legislators reported cordial and positive conversations.

Thank you to the ECI Public Engagement Component Group for taking the lead in planning and implementing the event.

A special thank you to the Grace Preschool (Des Moines) for preparing the healthy snacks!



***If you attended the 2015 ECI Day on the Hill, please take a few minutes to complete this post-event survey to assist with future planning [here](#).***

### **MIECHV (Home Visitation) Update**

Hello,

IDPH made a commitment to keep you informed. Unfortunately we don't have many of the answers that we are all seeking. Earlier this week IDPH submitted to HRSA financial information that illustrates the difficult position that Iowa is currently experiencing. We have not had a definitive response from HRSA on a reconsideration of our competitive proposal. The snow storm on the east coast did not help speed things along with the federal government being shut down yesterday.

IDPH was required to release a notice of intent to award in response to our competitive request for proposals (RFPs) for home visiting services. The NOIA awarded only the new formula funds since we did not receive a competitive MIECHV award. As stated on Tuesday, IDPH intends to fund existing home visiting contractors so families do not experience any disruption in services. We will take what unobligated funds we currently have in addition to funds garnered by Plan A or Plan B.

We have two different plans that we are simultaneously pursuing. Plan A is a re-consideration by HRSA of a full or partial competitive award. Plan B is terminating or reducing non-home visiting contracts are re-directing those funds toward home visiting contracts. IDPH has asked our non-home visiting contractors to provide us with additional information so we can more fully formulate Plan B. We have also asked each home visiting contractor to provide us with information on how much, if any, funding may be left unobligated at the end of this contract period. We will be working with this information over the weekend to be able to determine our next steps.

IDPH is fully aware that our home visiting contracts are slated to expire on March 30, 2015. We are working as fast as humanly possible to either extend existing contracts or to issue new home visiting contracts. We value your partnership and your continued commitment to vulnerable children and families in Iowa. We will continue to keep you informed and up to date.

Janet Horras

State Home Visitation Program Director

### **Prevent Child Abuse Iowa Conference**

**Date: April 13-15**The Child Abuse Prevention and Family Support Conference provides a diverse line-up of national-level speakers, in-depth workshops and networking opportunities designed to advance the skills of Iowa's family support and early childhood professionals. It is organized by Prevent Child Abuse Iowa in collaboration with the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program under the Iowa Department of Public Health.

**Location:** Des Moines Marriott Downtown, 700 Grand Ave., Des Moines

For more information or to register: [\*\*PCA Conference\*\*](#)

## **Doing the Right Thing for Children: Eight Qualities of Leadership** **Iowa AEYC's Spring Leadership Institute**

May 16, 2015

Altoona, Iowa

Maurice Sykes, special guest and keynoter.

We (Iowa AEYC) invite you and your colleagues to join us for the annual Spring Leadership Institute, bringing together early childhood leaders across the state for appropriate professional development.

**Registration is now open!** Please share the **attached form and information** about the day with your colleagues and distribution lists. [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org)

### **Iowa Legislature Completes "First Funnel"**

#### **From Every Child Counts:**

"The first funnel is over! This means that in order for a bill to stay alive, Senate Files and Senate Study Bills must be out of Senate Committees, and House Files and House Study Bills must be out of House Committees. Bills in the Appropriations, Ways & Means and the Government Oversight Committee are exempt. The beginning of the week was completely crazy and then it started to settle down a little bit! There were well over a hundred subcommittees held during the week. Below is a list of bills that are still alive and we will continue to advocate for and monitor throughout the session. I may have missed a couple - hope to have a more updated list in the next update." Sheila Hansen, ECC Director

#### **Quality Early Learning and Development**

**HF 156** - An Act relating to certain costs under the statewide preschool program for four-year-old children and including effective date and retroactive applicability provisions. **Update** - passed House on 2/17. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

**SF 295 (formerly SF 161)** - This bill provides for additional weighting of eleven hundredths for students who are enrolled in the statewide preschool program for four-year-old children if they are identified as limited English proficient. **Update** - Referred to Appropriations.

**SF 246** - This bill relates to the statewide preschool program for four-year-old children by establishing a preschool program expansion incentive and authorizing state aid for the incentive. The bill also addresses costs allowed under the program. Referred to Appropriations.

**SF 245 (formerly SF 77)** - This bill relates to limited English proficient education by modifying the supplementary weighting for limited English proficient students.

**SF 379** - Makes the DHS solely responsible for licensing childcare programs run through schools. Requires the childcare programs to register with DHS unless otherwise exempt. Makes background checks every five years. **Update**- Passed Committee

#### **NEW:**

**SF 368** - makes changes to moneys appropriated to the department of education for deposit in the school ready children grants account of the early childhood Iowa fund. Referred to Appropriations.

## **Family Economic Success**

**SSB 1136** - This bill relates to child care provider reimbursement rates and QRS under the state child care assistance program. **Update** -Passed Committee with [amendment](#).

**SSB 1208** - An Act establishing a study relating to the health and well-being of children in this state. **Update** - Passed Committee with significant [amendment](#).

**SF 375** - Gives employees in the process of child adopting a child the same protections as pregnancy rights for employees, including leave time and protection from being fired for absences related to the pregnancy. **Update** - passed committee

## **Federal Information:**

### **From the Federal Administration for Children and Families:**

Childhood diseases like measles can cause children pain and discomfort. They can lead to doctor visits, hospitalization, and even death. Immunizations are the best way to protect young children from 14 serious diseases, including measles. As you are likely aware, there have been recent measles outbreaks in the U.S. The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is reaching out to our partners in child care and Head Start to help prevent further cases by underscoring the importance of immunization.

Measles can be dangerous—especially for babies and young children. Measles spreads very easily, so it is important to protect against infection. To prevent measles, eligible children should be vaccinated with the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. The measles vaccine has been used for years, and it is safe and effective.

ACF's Office of Head Start and Office of Child Care consider it critical that children in programs are vaccinated according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) immunization recommendations. Head Start programs are required to help children in their care become current with their vaccinations.

The CDC has provided guidance for early childhood programs that can be accessed at: <http://www.cdc.gov/measles/downloads/child-care-centers.pdf>. This document includes guidance for child care programs to follow State and local immunization requirements and also discusses what to do if a case of measles occurs in your program.

One of the most important contributions Early Head Start, Head Start, and child care programs can make is to reach out to parents. CDC has also provided sample materials and articles to share with parents in newsletters, web pages, or other publications.

- [Immunization Protects Us All\[1 page\]\(http://www.cdc.gov/measles/downloads/matte-immunization-protects.pdf\)](http://www.cdc.gov/measles/downloads/matte-immunization-protects.pdf) (279 words)
- [Five Important Reasons to Vaccinate Your Child \[2 pages\]\(http://www.cdc.gov/measles/downloads/matte-reasons-vaccinate.pdf\)](http://www.cdc.gov/measles/downloads/matte-reasons-vaccinate.pdf) (609 words)
- Easy-to-read vaccination schedules in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

**Other Information:**

**From the McCormick Institute:**

How might brain science and public policy connect to build executive function skills in young children? Read the [new brief](#) from the Institute for Child Success. (Many articles are at this website.)

**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>

**2015 ECI Meeting Calendar:**

**ECI State Board**

10:00 – 1:00  
 April 3  
 June 5  
 September 4 November 6

**ECI State Dept. Directors**

8:30 – 9:30  
 May 1  
 October 2

**ECI Stakeholders Alliance**

3 – 4 Hour meetings  
 March 5 (AM) Held in conjunction with the ECI Day on the Hill  
 May 12 (PM)  
 September 8 (AM)  
 December 8 (PM)

**ECI Steering Committee**

Time Varies  
 March 17 (9:00 – 4:00 PM)  
 April 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)  
 June 4 (9:00 AM – Noon)  
 August 4 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)  
 October 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)  
 November 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

**ECI Area Directors**

All day  
 April 8  
 (June will be regional meetings)  
 September 16  
 (December will be regional meetings)

**Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill**

March 5, 2015