



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings April 6, 2015 2015 Vol. 2, No. 14

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](#).

“The most effective kind of education is that a child should play amongst lovely things.” - Plato

State Information:

Governor to Sign *Week of the Young Child* Proclamation

Join the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children for the signing of the 2015 Week of the Young Child Proclamation.

This Thursday, April 9 at 2:20PM in the Governor's Formal Office (room 109 in the Capitol)

The Week of the Young Child celebration is April 12 -18, 2015.

For some ideas how to celebrate the week visit [NAEYC Week of the Young Child](#).

Early Childhood Iowa State Board Adopts New Population Indicators

At the April 3, 2015 ECI State Board meeting, Ashley Otte, Co-chair of the ECI Results Accountability Component Group, presented the Component Group's recommendation for revising the state-wide ECI indicators. Following the presentation in addition to the current state-wide indicators the Board adopted the following new indicators:

- Dental Services
 - Percentage of Medicaid-enrolled children ages 0 -5 who receive a dental service
 - Percentage of Iowa children entering kindergarten who have no obvious dental problems (based on a valid screening)
- Early Literacy
 - Percent of kindergartners meeting the Fall benchmark for the early literacy universal screening measure requirements of Iowa Code section 279.68
- Educational Attainment of Mothers
 - Number of Woman ages 15 – 50 with a birth in the past 12 months by educational attainment (less than high school, high school graduation, some college, bachelor's degree or higher)

It's Child Abuse Prevention Month! (Message from Prevent Child Abuse Iowa)

It's officially Child Abuse Prevention Month, and we're so excited that we decided to send our monthly update two weeks early.

Please join us in showing your support for strengthening families and promoting the well-being of children this month.

To start, we're asking our biggest fans to change their social media profile pictures to the pinwheel and share messages about why you believe in child abuse prevention. [Click here to find images and messages you can use.](#)

Then stay tuned for an update each Monday on one action you can take to prevent child abuse.

Follow along on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages as we highlight the ways you can play your part in preventing child abuse. And learn about the good deeds people are doing to create the strong communities children need to thrive at [#pinwheelsforprevention](#).

Thank you for standing with us this month as we celebrate the community's commitment to building the great childhood all children deserve.

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

Parents as Teachers: Foundational and Model Implementation Training in Iowa

There is a new training opportunity for the Foundational and Model Implementation trainings April 27 - May 1 2015 in Indianola, Iowa.

Don't wait, space is limited and registration closes at midnight on April 13th.

For more information, please go to our website at www.parentsasteachers.org and click on the portal log-in link in the upper right corner. You'll find all open trainings under the "education" column. To register click on "class schedules". (You must be logged in to register for trainings)

Address of training:

Wells Fargo Financial Center
515 N Jefferson Way 2nd Floor Conference Room
Indianola IA 50125

Hotel Suggestion:

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g38017-Indianola_Iowa-Hotels.html

Pricing:

Foundational and Model Training	\$1000
Foundational Training	\$900
Model Implementation	\$300

Agendas

[Foundational Training Agenda \(3-Day\)](#)

[Model Implementation Agenda \(2-Day\)](#)

[Cancellation Policy \(Rev 1-14\)](#)

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Federal Information:

Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation

By Linda K. Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Early Childhood Development

The [Institute of Medicine](#) (IOM) and the National Research Council (NCR) released [Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation](#) today, one of the most important studies of the workforce in our nation’s history.

This study grew out of a workshop sponsored in 2011 by the Office of Child Care with the IOM and the National Research Council. The [workshop](#) was to describe the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) workforce and outline its parameters. Speakers explored issues in defining and describing the workforce, the marketplace of ECCE, the effects of the workforce on children, the contextual factors that shape the workforce, and opportunities for strengthening ECCE as a profession. As a result of that workshop, ACF decided that a full study with recommendations was needed. In conjunction with public and private partners and the staff at the Institute of Medicine, this consensus study was the next step.

This study and its recommendations are not only timely but also necessary. They support the national discussion about child care and the President’s Early Learning Plan. Today, there is a recognition that access to high-quality, early childhood care and education is essential to giving all children a strong beginning. It is also understood that the workforce provides the key to this. As we know, the relationship of the adult to the child and the ability of the adult to understand and support the comprehensive nature of a child’s development can change the trajectory of a child’s life.

This study acknowledges the neuroscience – children are already learning at birth. The science makes clear the complexity of working with children. Health, development and learning in the early years is

rapid and cumulative – and is the foundation for all learning. The report also stresses the need to professionalize the workforce and develop a cohesive plan which puts all segments of the workforce (from family child care providers to Pre K teachers) on the pathway to higher education. It stresses the need for a unified foundation based on sound child development and early learning principles.

Fifteen years ago, a committee was set up under the auspices of the [Institute of Medicine](#) to study the broad knowledge base that we have about development in the early years of life—both the research on brain development and the behavioral and social sciences. [From Neurons to Neighborhoods: the Science of Early Childhood Development](#) came out in late 2000 as a report to use to bring science to the public policy arena and to those who work with children. Just as we continue to use that study, [Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation](#) will guide our public and private conversations and investments in the decade ahead.

We will be carefully reviewing and considering the recommendations in this report. I look forward to working with our public and private partners in the future as we learn from this study and begin to work to build a better system of support for our early learning teachers.

CCDF Reauthorization Frequently Asked Questions

The Office of Child Care (OCC) has posted responses to a selection of frequently asked questions (FAQs) related to the Reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). The FAQs can be found on [this page](#) of the OCC Web site.

Since the law was reauthorized in November, many questions have been submitted, including through the OCC CCDF Reauthorization e-mail address, through OCC Regional Offices, and during meetings and webinars. We know that the FAQs that we have posted do not address all the questions that have been raised, but they cover a wide range of topics; we believe that they will help CCDF grantees as they continue the work of implementing the new law.

Welcome the New (Federal) Office of Head Start Director

The Office of Head Start will soon be under new leadership.

On April 2, 2015 HHS Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell announced that Dr. Blanca Enriquez will lead this important program at the Administration for Children and Families.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Head Start. Dr. Enriquez will be leading one of our nation's most essential early care and education programs and one in which she has been deeply involved with for almost 28 of those years. I am confident she will prove to be an inspirational leader for children and families.

For more information - [click here](#).

Other Information:

Webinar: The Performance Imperative: Living Up to the Promise of the Social Sector

Hear how nonprofits, foundations, and public agencies can use the *Performance Imperative* as their North Star to guide them on a journey of continuous improvement to achieve better, more sustainable outcomes for communities, children, adults and families.

Date: Thu, April 16, 2015

Time: 3:00 PM EDT

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

For more information or to register: [Social Solutions](#)

19-Minute Webinar on Children in Poverty Data

Tuesday, April 14, 2015 1pm EDT /Noon CDT /11am MDT /10am PDT

A recent [NPR article](#) asked if the often-used data on the number of children receiving free and reduced-priced lunch is *really* the best measure of their economic circumstances.

Join Erin Barbaro, Assistant Director and Senior Geographic Information Systems Specialist at the Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems, as she talks about the complexity of children in poverty data and what measures are available on Community Commons.

Register for the [webinar](#).

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>

See next page for ECI Calendar

2015 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

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

May 12 (PM)

September 8 (AM)

December 8 (PM)

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

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)