



Early Childhood Iowa
Monday Musings
May 18, 2015
2015 Vol. 2, No. 20

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](#).

"We set out to make certain that poverty's children would not be forevermore poverty's captives. We called our program Project Head Start."

Lyndon Johnson (1965)



State Information:

ECI Webinar: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Young Children

Date: June 3, 2015

Time: 10:00 AM (Central Time)

Presenter: Leah Kinnaird

This webinar will explore the impact of domestic violence exposure on children from zero to three – from brain development to behavior. Early childhood is when children are most at risk for long term impacts related to domestic violence. In addition, we will discuss what initiatives the Department of Human Services is currently working on to improve our practice with children and families experiencing domestic violence. Time for questions and other inquiries will be included.

There is not a registration for this webinar.

To join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/449244510>

Or join by phone:

+1 (415) 762-9988 or +1 (646) 568-7788 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 449 244 510

IA Dept. of Public Health Seeks Public Input for the FFY16 Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant

The Iowa Department of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health and Child Health Specialty Clinics would like your input concerning the priorities, needs, and proposed program activities for the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant application for FFY16. The priorities and proposed program activities are available on the IDPH website through June 17th for public input. The website address is: http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hpcdp/title_v.asp

Please review the priorities and proposed public health strategies and activities for Iowa. Priorities are based on the Iowa's Needs Assessment (<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/titleVneedsassessment/>). The survey is asking for feedback on four types of documents:

- The Title V Needs Assessment Summary
- The proposed Five Year Action Plan
- The previous 18 National Performance Measures
- The previous eight State Performance Measures

Please provide your feedback in the online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016titlevpublicinput>

Even if you do not have any comments regarding the proposed activities, please take a moment to complete the survey stating that you had no comments. This is a way we can track and evaluate the effectiveness of web-based distribution.

Federal Information:

Healthy and Ready to Learn: *The Importance of Health Services in Head Start* By Marco Beltran, DrPH, Senior Head Start Program Specialist

When you think about a high-quality early childhood program, what does it look like? Does it look different for children from low-income families? Very few early childhood programs are designed to address the complex needs of their communities. Yet, Head Start, which serves pregnant women and children ages birth to 5 from low-income families, is designed to address the individual child, family, and community.

Almost 50 years later, the Office of Head Start has not diverged from its original purpose: "To promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of low-income children through health, education, nutrition, social, and other services." Building upon our history, we have developed a health vision for Head Start that says, "Head Start will ensure that all children are healthy and ready for school."

To read the full article: [Health and Ready to Learn](#)

Other Information:

National Women’s Law Center: *Building Pathways, Creating Roadblocks: State Child Care Assistance Policies for Parents in School*

Reliable child care can enable parents to pursue the educational credentials they need to gain secure employment and earn sufficient income to support their families. Most states recognize that helping parents advance their education also helps increase their chances of attaining self-sufficiency, and therefore provide child care assistance while parents attend school. However, the majority of states also place some constraints on this assistance, which can create obstacles for parents trying to participate in an education program or complete a degree. States should ensure their policies do not deter parents from attending school, but instead support parents’ efforts to improve their employment prospects, achieve financial security for their families, and ensure their children’s well-being.

To read the entire brief: [Building Pathways](#)

Speak Up for Kids

The Child Mind Institute is committed to finding effective treatments for childhood psychiatric and learning disorders, building the science of healthy brain development, and empowering children and their families with help, hope, and answers. Helpful resources provided by The Child Mind Institute include: “Speak up for Kids” [achieved webcasts](#) featuring leaders in the field of mental health, youth and their parents, and celebrities who have experienced mental illness who address barriers to getting care.

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

June 5

September 11

November 6

September 8 (AM)

December 8 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

All day

April 8

(June will be regional meetings)

September 16

(December will be regional meetings)

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

May 12 (PM)

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30 AM

October 2

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)