



Early Childhood Iowa  
 Monday Musings  
 August 3, 2015  
 2015 Vol. 2, No. 28

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](#).

*“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader” – John Quincy Adams*

**State Information:**

**Iowa Family Support Data (July1, 2014 –June 30, 2015)**

12,543 children (ages 0 -5) living in 9,670 families were served with family support/parent education services in SFY 2015 state-wide. There were a total of 79,613 completed home visits and 18,658 parent education meetings. The family household size ranges from 1 -6+ with 33% in 3 person households. (Iowa Department of Public Health)

Here are a few other highlights:

<b>Primary Care Giver Demographics</b>	
<b>Race</b>	
Native American/Alaska Native	1%
African American or Black	9%
Asian	6%
White	83%
Multiracial	1%
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
Hispanic/Latino	16%
Not Hispanic/Latino	84%
<b>Marital Status</b>	
Married	43%
Partnered	23%
Single	29%
Divorced	2%
Widowed	0%
Separated	3%

## Family Support Data (Cont'd)

<b>Primary Care Giver Education</b>	
Less than HS	26%
HS Diploma	29%
GED	4%
Trade or Vocational Training	3%
Some College	18%
2-year college degree	7%
4-year college degree	10%
Master's degree or higher	3%
<b>Family Income (Based on Federal Poverty Level)</b>	
100% or lower	62%
101-150%	17%
151-200%	8%
201-299%	7%
300% or higher	6%
<b>Eligibility</b>	
Percent of families enrolled July 1, 2014 and later that meet one or more of the eligibility criteria (income at or below 200% FPL, one or more parents with high school diploma or less, and/or one or more children (0-5) that have an IFSP or IEP).	87%
<b>Enrollment</b>	
Percent of families enrolled prenatally.	34%
Percent of families whose primary language is other than English.	19%
Percent of first time moms at enrollment.	43%
Average age of mom at enrollment	27 y.o.
<b>Children Screened for Developmental Delays</b>	
Percent of children that are age eligible and screened for developmental delays.	54%
Percent of children (screened) that were referred to Early Intervention services.	25%
<b>Participant Family Outcomes</b>	
Participating families that improve or maintain healthy functioning, problem solving and communication.	84%
Participating families that increase or maintain social supports.	66%
Participating families that are connected to additional concrete supports.	73%
Participating families that increase knowledge about child development and parenting.	60%
Participating families that improve nurturing and attachment between parent(s) and child(ren).	49%

## Federal Information:

### Federal HHS, ED, and Too Small to Fail Releases: Talk, Read, Sing Together Every day! Toolkit

During the first few years of life, children’s brains develop at a rapid pace, influenced by the experiences they have at home, in their early care and education settings, and in their communities. Their experiences include the quantity and quality of words they are exposed to through talking, reading, and singing. Research has found that providing infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with rich early language experiences can have important benefits on their brain development and school readiness.



On July 22, the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Education (ED), in partnership with Too Small to Fail, released “Talk, Read, Sing Together, Every Day!” a suite of resources that can help enrich children’s early language experiences beginning from birth. This toolkit is the result of a commitment made at the 2014 White House convening focused on bridging the *“word gap.”*

The suite of resources includes tip sheets for families, preschool teachers, and infant/toddler teachers and caregivers, as well as a fact sheet that highlights the evidence behind the benefits of being bilingual and embracing children’s home languages. All tip sheets are available in English and Spanish, and can be downloaded for free at [toosmall.org](http://toosmall.org).

HHS, ED and Too Small to Fail hope you find these resources helpful and share them with your networks!

#### For Families:

Talking is Teaching Family Guide (PDF available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#))

Talking is Teaching Storybook (PDF available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) )

Tips for Infants & Toddlers ([PDF](#))

#### For Providers:

Talking is Teaching Community Provider Guide ([PDF](#))

Books Build Connections Toolkit. Learn what every pediatrician can do to promote early literacy and learning. ([AAP.org](http://AAP.org))

Tips for Health Care Professionals ([PDF](#))

## Other Information:

### Iowa Voter Survey Sends Message to Presidential Candidates: Speak Out on Child Policy

The [Child and Family Policy Center](#) (CFPC) and [Every Child Matters](#) (ECM) just released poll results showing how Iowa voters rank issues by importance for the next presidential candidate to address - and how they view children and their needs. As CFPC and ECM engage in efforts to elevate children's issues as candidates crisscross Iowa, we are thrilled that the poll results clearly demonstrate that voters favor presidential candidates who place a high emphasis on children and young children's issues. For more information see: [Iowa Voter Survey Sends Message to Presidential Candidates: Speak Out on Child Policy](#)

### Children and the Next Election Webinar



Please Join Us!

The Child and Family Policy Center and Every Child Matters are hosting a free webinar on children and the 2016 elections on **Thursday, August 6 at 10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

The webinar, designed for Iowa child advocates and any other interested advocates, will give an overview of current and future electoral education activities in Iowa, including:

- Findings from an Iowa voter survey on children's issues conducted in July
- Description of six key child policy issues presidential candidates need to address
- Discussion of how advocates can increase attention to child policy leading up the February 2016 Iowa caucuses
- Launch of a statewide petition drive calling on all presidential candidates to develop comprehensive child policy agendas

[Please register here](#) - and urge your friends and partners to register as well.

### **Job Opportunity:**

#### **Iowa AEYC is seeking an experienced early childhood professional for the ECI Professional Development Coordinator position.**

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children, a non-profit membership association and the administrative home for T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® and Child Care WAGE\$® in Iowa, is seeking an early childhood professional to fill the position of Early Childhood Iowa Professional Development Coordinator. This person will also work some hours each week for our WAGE\$ program as a Counseling Specialist. The successful candidate will be providing leadership and support to cross-sector statewide efforts to create and maintain early childhood professional development systems. This position will work in a close-knit, team setting in northwest Des Moines. The WAGE\$ position will include responsibilities to recruit, counsel, and support the higher education and compensation of child care and early education professionals across the state. The successful candidate will have at least a BA/BS in early childhood education or a closely related field and at least two years' experience in a child care or preschool setting working directly with children. Masters' degree highly preferred. Outgoing personality with good organization and time management, public speaking, math comprehension, and computer skills a must. Occasional evening/Saturday hours and in-state travel required. Competitive salary and benefit package provided. Position available immediately.

For more information, go to <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/job-opportunities.cfm>."

### **Iowa AEYC Early Care and Education Fall Summit: September 18-19, 2015: *Our Journey to One Goal: The Successful Child***



Iowa Association for the  
Education of Young Children

We invite you to join hundreds of other Iowa early childhood care and education professionals at this year's Early Care & Education Institute: *Our Journey to One Goal – the Successful Child*. Registrants can choose to attend one, two or three days. PLEASE NOTICE this year: we are offering a special rate for Saturday-only, for teaching staff unable to attend during the week. We are also offering a new online individual registration option and a group registration form (paper copy).

#### **Feature for August 3, 2015**

*The 2015 Fall Institute is going to feature two amazing keynote speakers: Susan Neuman and Lisa Murphy! [Susan B. Neuman](#) is Professor and Chair of the Teaching and Learning Department at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University. She recently published the book *Giving Our Children A Fighting Chance*, and is an expert in early literacy, particularly for children who are considered at-risk. Susan is speaking on "Supporting Early Literacy for Each & Every Child". [Lisa Murphy](#) is the founder and CEO of Ooey Goey, Inc., which offers training and presentations on the most up-to-date strategies in the field. She is known for her ability to link hands-on activities to educational standards, her outspoken advocacy, and her commitment to creating child-centered, play-based early childhood environments. Lisa's is speaking on "Many Kinds of Smart! Understanding the Theory of Multiple Intelligences". Check out our [Facebook page](#) this week for resources and information from both Susan Neuman and Lisa Murphy!*

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children would like to thank our nine co-sponsoring organizations for this event, Iowa Head Start Association, Iowa Department of Education, Early Childhood Iowa, Iowa Subdivision of the Division of Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children, Child Care Resource & Referral of Iowa, Iowa State University Extension & Outreach – Human Sciences, Iowa Early Childhood Community College Alliance, Iowa Family Child Care Association, and First Children’s Finance. Members and/or staff of these organizations may register at a reduced member rate.

To register, visit this website, <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/iowa-aeYC-institutes.cfm>. You will find a complete registration book as well as the online form and paper forms. Be sure to check the website regularly for updates on the Institute! Thank you for forwarding this on to your members, your staff and other colleagues who might be interested.

### **Preventing Childhood Injury Conference**

***Registration is now open for the 2015 Preventing Childhood Injury Conference!***

***September 29, 2015***



# **Blank Children’s Hospital**

## **UnityPoint Health**

**Registration:** Pre-registration is required; limited seating. Only online registrations will be accepted. For more information or to register: [Click here](#) .

**Intended Audience:** Injury prevention advocates, public health professionals, nurses, public safety officials (fire, law enforcement, EMS), school professionals and others interested in injury prevention.

**Purpose:** To educate health professionals and injury prevention advocates on injury prevention strategies and interventions for lasting success. This program will provide participants with tools that they can take back to their local community and use to promote the health and safety of children.

**Objective:** To explore the ever-changing world of technology and its impact on childhood injury.

#### **Tentative Topics:**

- Pediatric Concussion
- Bullying Research and Prevention
- Prescription Drug Abuse in Youth and Adolescents
- Days, Weeks, Months? How to make sense of safety initiatives all year long.

**Cost:** \$30 - Early Bird Registration until July 31.

\$50 - Registration from August 1 - September 18.

**CEUs:** EMS CEUs will be provided at no cost.



You're invited to Cheers! for Children....  
A benefit for Prevent Child Abuse Iowa

Cheers! for Children will bring together more than 200 supporters to help prevent child abuse in communities across Iowa.

After a fun event last year, we look forward to seeing you this year as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary with a throwback 70's theme!

Organized by honorary co-chairs Lincoln Dix and Anne Pham (two Forty under 40 honorees), festivities will include live music by the Plastic Apartment, glow bars, appetizers, cash bar, and silent auction.

RSVP NOW and find more details on our website.

Your participation will allow us to provide the support, education and resources needed to make families stronger. Together we can build great childhoods for Iowa's children and a brighter future for our community overall.

Thank you for celebrating with us on October 23 at the Des Moines Social Club!

Cheers,

Andria Battaglia  
Development Director, Prevent Child Abuse Iowa



Join us for the third annual Cheers! for Children celebration on Friday, Oct. 23, at the Kum & Go Theater in Des Moines.

**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

September 11 (Council Bluffs)

November 6 (Des Moines)

**ECI Stakeholders Alliance**

3 – 4 Hour meetings

September 15 (AM)

December 8 (PM)

**ECI Area Directors**

All day

(June will be regional meetings)

September 16

(December will be regional meetings)

**ECI State Dept. Directors**

8:30 – 10:30 AM

October 2

**ECI Steering Committee**

Time Varies

August 4 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)