



Early Childhood Iowa
Monday Musings
March 7, 2016
Vol. 3, 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

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

“People who start the day with a smile are the ones who look for what they can bring to their day, not for what the day can bring them.”
-Carrell Zaehn

State Information:

Early Childhood Iowa Senate File 2299

Senate File 2299 was approved Senate Appropriations committee and placed on the appropriations calendar.

This bill relates to the early childhood Iowa initiative. The early childhood Iowa (ECI) initiative was created to empower individuals, communities, and the state to work together to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of early care, education, health, and human services systems provided to families with children from zero through age five. The ECI state board, ECI area boards, and other state and local government agencies provide support, leadership, and facilitation of the growth of individual, community, and state responsibility in addressing the desired results for improving the quality of life in this state for young children and their families.

To read more about the bill go to: [SF2299](#)

Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) Continues to Grow and Help Iowa Families By Kelly Pelzel, PhD, Center for Disabilities and Development and Beth Troutman, PhD, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics Department of Psychiatry

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) has grown a lot in Iowa over the past 8 years. Since 2007, 225 Iowa therapists have been trained in PCIT.

It is now at 52 places across 39 counties!

This is great news for caregivers of children ages 2-7 with behavior problems like hitting, not listening, and not minding. Children with these problems often have Disruptive Behavior Disorder, ODD, and/or ADHD.

Over 40 years of research has shown PCIT works to treat these problems. New research shows that many children with behavior problems and developmental disabilities like autism and ID also benefit.

To read more see the attached PDF file in today's *ECI Monday Musings* email.

To find a PCIT therapist near you:

Go to medicine.uiowa.edu/Psychiatry/psych_pcinteraction.aspx

Federal Information:

Current Wages, Despite Educational Attainment, Undermine Quality Care Goals

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

One of the top goals of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 is to increase the number and percentage of low income children in high quality care. What we know is that high quality care is related to the strength of the workforce, which means the education and training, the experience, and pay to attract and retain teachers and caregivers who can offer high quality care.

What we also know is that quality care costs more to provide (i.e., it costs more to attract and retain higher educated staff and to maintain low child:staff ratios, which studies show lead to higher quality/more effective interactions between children and adults). The challenge to expanding access to high quality care in every community is that parents already struggle to afford the cost of care. They simply can't pay more. And, yet, most children in early learning settings today, are in settings financed through parent fees. To promote high quality care across settings, with a well-educated and trained workforce, it is essential that we find an alternative way to finance our early learning system – the current system doesn't work. We need to close the gap between what parents can afford to pay and what it costs to ensure high quality teachers.

The [National Survey of Early Care and Education](#), a study funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, presents the first nationally representative portrait of ECE teachers and caregivers working in center and home-based settings, including a review based on their educational attainment, years of experience, and wages earned.

Earned Income Tax Credit Can Help Rural Families

Thanks to the hard work of Rural Americans, along with record investments in infrastructure under the Recovery Act and the 2014 Farm Bill, over the last seven years America was able to pull itself out of one of the deepest economic recessions since the Great Depression. While we've seen wages rise and unemployment fall in rural areas over the last several years, workers in rural America still receive less hours and earn less pay than those in urban areas. Fortunately, for those who need help making ends meet, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) can help.

To learn more: [EITC](#)

Other Information:

Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Conference

The [2016 Child Abuse Prevention Conference](#) will take place April 25-27 in downtown Des Moines. Hotel rooms at a discounted rate are now available to reserve with the Des Moines Marriott Downtown. To learn more or to Register, **use the link above**.

Calling all Superheroes!

Grab a sidekick and your cape and join Prevent Child Abuse Iowa's third annual [Superheroes Pedaling for Prevention](#) bike rides! There will be a Family Ride and a Community Ride. Both rides will take place Saturday, May 14. For more information or to register go to the link above.

Iowa AEYC Spring Leadership Institute Registration is Open

IA AEYC is pleased to present the [registration booklet](#) (link) for the 2016 Iowa AEYC Spring Leadership Institute. This year's event will be held Saturday, May 7, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Holiday Inn & Suite Northwest, 4800 Merle Hay Rd, Des Moines, IA 50322. The attached registration booklet contains a detailed agenda for the day focused on the subject of **STEM**. We will be joined by Dr. Douglas Clements, University of Denver, who will present a keynote address on the subject, "Why Math? The Importance of Mathematics in Early Childhood Education Programs."

In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of break-out sessions on such topics as:

- Strategies for Teaching Mathematics for Children Ages 3-5
- Farm to Early Childhood Education: Using Healthy Locally Grown Foods and Fitness to Impact Children's Futures
- Math and Science in the Iowa Early Learning Standards and Iowa Core, Birth through Grade 3
- Ramps and Pathways
- Project Approach and Outdoor Education: Infusing STEM into Curriculum
- STEM in Infant-Toddler Care Settings

Registration fees are \$75 for AEYC members; \$95 for non-members. We hope you can join us for this important event.

Early Childhood Economic Summit in Davenport

Featuring

Rob Grunewald *Economist Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

Please Join Scott County Kids for This Free Event

Thursday April 14th, 2016 5:30pm-7:30pm

McKinley Elementary School Auditorium

1716 Kenwood Ave. Davenport, IA 52803

No RSVP required

See attached flyer for Details.

Webinar: Front and Center: How Courageous, Adaptive Executive and Board Leadership Makes All the Difference

Several years ago, Matt Huckabay realized that his organization was spending a tremendous amount of resources but not successfully preventing violence. People would leave one violent relationship and enter another, continuing the cycle of violence.

The thought of children growing up to become the next perpetrators and victims propelled Matt in a new direction: How could he make sure the organization was fulfilling its mission to stop the transmission of intergenerational violence?

How did they change their board's role from advisory to strong? What led to a clarified organizational mission? Where did they recruit and how did they retain the talent and external partners necessary to achieve their mission?

Today, Matt is confident that the organization is on the right track. [Join Matt, board chair Dr. John Moalli, and myself, Tuesday, March 22nd from 3:00-4:00 PM EST for a free webinar to find out why.](#)

The answers to these questions and more will teach you how the Center for Violence-Free Relationships, a \$1.5 million non-profit, applies the first pillar of the Performance Imperative; and how your organization can too. [Register now!](#)

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From Child Trends: Children in the child welfare system, by state

Over 3 million children were subjects of an investigation or assessment for abuse or neglect, between October 2012 and September 2013. What happens to these children once maltreatment has been confirmed can vary dramatically by state. Child Trends recently released fact sheets detailing states' child maltreatment, foster care, and adoption statistics.

[Read More Here](#)

From Child Trends: Tools for studying early care and education

A new series of briefs explains how researchers can use national data sets to illuminate the experiences of Hispanic families in early care and education. The series, from the National Center on Hispanic Children & Families, is accompanied by [interactive data tools](#) on families' search for, decision-making about, and use of early care.

[Read More Here](#)

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>



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2016 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

April 1

June 3

September 9

November 4

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

May 10 (PM)

September 13 (AM)

December 13 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

April 6 All day

(June will be regional meetings)

September 13 (afternoon)

December 7 All day

ECI State Dept. Directors

8:30 – 10:30

May 6

October 7

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

April 7 (9:00 AM – Noon)

June 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)

August 4 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 6 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 3 (9:00 AM – Noon)