



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings June 19, 2017 Vol. 4, 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](#).

"Leadership is an action, not a position."
-Donald McGannon

State Information

Last Chance! - IA Department of Public Health Seeks Input for Maternal and Child Health Priorities

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the University of Iowa Division of Child and Community Health (UI-DCCH) are collecting input on the proposed program activities for the Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant application for FFY18. **The priorities and proposed program activities are available on the IDPH website through June 23rd for public input.**

The website address is: <https://idph.iowa.gov/family-health>.

The survey is asking for feedback on two documents:

- National Performance Measure (NPM) Plans
- State Performance Measure (SPM) Plans

After reviewing the documents listed above, please provide your feedback on the online survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018publicinput>

Please complete the survey by June 23rd!

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:

Technology Privacy and Security Considerations

The federal Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently released a [brief](#) that discusses privacy and security considerations related to the use of technology in early childhood settings. The brief is entitled *The Use of Technology to Support Early Childhood Practice: Protecting Child, Parent, and Practitioner Privacy*. It provides best practices to guide early childhood programs in strengthening the safeguards to protect child, parent, and practitioner information as programs increasingly incorporate technology to improve practice. It draws on guidance developed by ED's [Privacy Technical Assistance Center](#).

State Data on Child Health Coverage in Small Towns and Rural Areas

A new report from the Georgetown Center for Children and Families and UNC on Medicaid's role in rural areas for kids and adults. <https://ccf.georgetown.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Rural-health-final.pdf> They also have a [new web site](#) that houses county-level data and additional resources.

Other Information:



New Dates - Child Care Grant and Proposal Writing Workshops

A First Children's Finance Child Care Business Management Workshop

Child care center directors, owners, and board members! Join us for a hands-on day with First Children's Finance, learning new ways to reach out and touch your partners, stakeholders and funders through excellent grant applications and funding proposals.

This 6-hour workshop is designed for all levels, from beginners to those who would like to take a fresh look. Come with ideas of what your child care program needs and let *First Children's Finance's* experienced staff assist you in developing your ideas and proposal. Plan to leave this seminar equipped with ideas, tools and a great start to succeed in your next funding opportunity.

Child care center directors, owners, and board members! Join us for a hands-on day with *First Children's Finance*, learning new ways to reach out and touch your partners, stakeholders and funders through excellent grant applications and funding proposals.

This 6-hour workshop is designed for all levels, from beginners to those who would like to take a fresh look. Come with ideas of what your child care program needs and let First Children's Finance's experienced staff assist you in developing your ideas and proposal. Plan to leave this seminar equipped with ideas, tools and a great start to succeed in your next funding opportunity.

About this Training

Credit Hours

Provides 6 hours of Iowa DHS training credit and NAC renewal hours.

Target Audience

Directors, owners or board members of child care centers or preschools.

Training Level

Level 1 (Beginner), Level 2 (Skilled) and Level 3 (Mastery)

Content Area

5- Strategies to manage an effective program operation.

Registration

\$45 per person (lunch included). You will receive an email confirmation within one week of registering that will include payment information.

Additional funding support is provided by Northwest Area Foundation and Iowa Department of Human Services.



What Past Attendees have to say:

Child Care Grant & Proposal Writing provided me with clarity, courage and the ability to communicate with a powerful message. I am very excited to pursue my new skills to better Baxter Early Learning Center! -Tiffany Finch

Seeking resources for child development services is overwhelming, but this program outlined it so well it seems doable! -Allison Pattee

I came to this course hoping to walk away with one nugget of information. I walked away with six hours worth of nuggets. -Tammy Rasmussen, Halley's Academy

New Dates and Locations

Cedar Falls- [Register here](#)

July 19, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Kaplan University, Room 101

7009 Nordic Drive

Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Last day to register is Friday, July 14

Des Moines Metro- [Register here](#)

September 21, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Prairie Meadows Events and Conference Center

Altoona, IA

This session is being held as a Pre-Institute Workshop in conjunction with the Iowa Early Care and Education Fall Institute. Early bird registration rates are available until August!

[MORE INFORMATION/REGISTER](#)

Or Contact:

Angie Rae Duncan, Senior Business Development Specialist

Angie@FirstChildrensFinance.org or (515) 229-5064

Introduction to Early Childhood Mental Health and Reflective Practice - FREE TRAINING!

The IA Association for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health is offering a free training opportunity titled "Introduction to Early Childhood Mental Health and Reflective Practice". This training will be held on **Thursday, June 29th, from 9:00 - 4:00** and will be provided FREE to any professional interested in learning more about infant mental health and reflective functioning. Please note that this is an introductory course; an advanced training will be held this Fall.

Trainers for this event will be Jill Hennes and Teya Dahle, infant mental health experts from Minnesota. Both trainers are Infant Mental Health Endorsed at Level IV - Clinical. The training will be held at the Fred Maytag Scout Center in Des Moines.

Registration Procedure: We are piloting the use of Iowa's Child Care Training Registry to manage enrollment in this course. All early childhood professionals are welcome to participate and will use the Training Registry to enroll. Instructions for registering can be found on page 2 of the attached flyer. Seating capacity is 25 and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. The flyer can also be found [here](#).

State of Preschool 2016--Change is in the Air (NIEER)

NIEER has released [The State of Preschool 2016](#), showing state-funded preschool program enrollment reached an all-time high, serving nearly 1.5 million children; state funding for preschool rose 8 percent to about \$7.4 billion, and state funding per child exceeded pre-recession levels for the first time. But our evaluation also reveals how much more states must do to provide high quality preschool.

The Yearbook tells a story of growing inequality in access to high-quality preschool as some states invested in providing high-quality preschool for all children and others did little, or nothing. In 18 states, we found federal Preschool Development Grants (PDGs) were used to expand enrollment and enhance programs. PDGs funded nearly half the increase in enrollment of 4-year-olds.

The PDG program was designed to accomplish this goal, but the new administration's budget would eliminate the \$249 million program. Rather than cutting PDG, we argue for doubling funding for some form of competitive grants to states would allow the federal government to incentivize high quality pre-K in the majority of states, while still the size of a dust mote in the federal budget.

In addition, NIEER's report recommends the federal government support a national pre-K quality audit of public and private preschool programs. Parents and taxpayers deserve to know to the extent to which pre-K programs in their state provide a good early education and how this varies by auspice. The last nationwide study of pre-K quality in 2005 found that most classrooms, private and public, were not good. Yet, high quality is needed in order to provide young children the strong start in school and life that can make a lasting difference.

For the first time, NIEER this year introduced major revisions to the [quality standards benchmarks](#) focusing on policies that more directly support continuous improvement of classroom quality. These new benchmarks are providing the GPS to guide policymakers toward sound investments in our children's futures.

[The State of Preschool Yearbook](#) provides a guide for states and valuable information for parents and policymakers. But only an impartial assessment of children's experiences in the classroom can tell whether we are headed in the right direction.

Iowa Early Care & Education 2017 Institute - registration now open

Iowa AEYC is pleased to announce registration is now open for the Iowa Early Care & Education Fall Institute, **Power to the Profession**. Discounted registration rates are available for members and for those who register before the end of August. You may go to our

website, <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/iowa-aeyc-institutes.cfm>

For registration information, updates on special events, and more information over the next three months. We appreciate you sharing this information with your employees, colleagues, members, and others who might be interested.

As you may have year-end funds available and needing to be spent in June, an AEYC membership is one way you can help teachers and providers in your area attend this Institute at a reduced price.

The Sooner You Expose a Baby to a Second Language, The Smarter They'll Be

A new study shows that babies raised in bilingual environments develop core cognitive skills like decision-making and problem-solving -- before they even speak. Read more at

http://bigthink.com/laurie-vazquez/the-sooner-you-expose-a-baby-to-a-second-language-the-smarter-theyllbe?utm_campaign=Echobox&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook#link_time=1488488006

Equity Infographic (Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute)

What is racial inequity? Why is it important? How can we achieve racial equity? **This infographic** from FPG's Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Committee is the first in a series that begins to answer these questions.

Available here:

 [Racial \(In\)Equity infographic.pdf](#)

Daily Touchscreen Use in Infants and Toddlers is Associated with Reduced Sleep and Delayed Sleep Onset

Recently published research based on a survey of families in the United Kingdom showed that 75% of toddlers ages 6 months to 3-years use a touchscreen daily. Results showed every additional hour of touchscreen use was associated with an overall reduction in sleep of 15.6 minutes. Read more at

<https://www.nature.com/articles/srep46104>

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>

2017 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

September 8

November 3

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

September 12 (AM)

December 12 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

(June will be regional meetings)

September 12 (afternoon)

December 6 All day

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

August 3 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)