

News 4 You

Partnerships 4 Families

September 2010
Volume 17, Issue 159

Congrats! GCPH and Good Luck St Anthony PH

Greene County Medical Center Public Health H.O.P.E.S. program received news on August 17th that they are the third agency in Iowa to receive the Iowa Family Support Credential. Congratulations go out to the staff; Cindy Wise, Donna Sutton, Cindy Kail, Pam Mentzer and Phyllis Woodley, along with others in their agency. Greene County had the vision over twelve years ago to implement a family support program in their county. When the credentialing process was rolled out, GCPH embraced the process and worked through many standards and criteria to achieve this credential.

Now it is time to celebrate. Join GCMC-PH on Tuesday October 5th at noon when they will be

presented with their credential by the Office of Early Childhood Iowa. RSVP to GCPH at 515-386-3228

GOOD LUCK goes out to St Anthony Public Health Carroll County H.O.P.E.S. program on their Iowa Family Support Credentialing site review schedule for September 21, 22, and 23. Two site reviewers will review files, conduct interviews with the agency staff, funders, community partners and program participants to evaluate if the program will receive the credential. Many hours of work go into preparing for a review. We wish the Carroll County H.O.P.E.S. good luck. Perhaps we will be celebrating their success shortly!!

October 6th meeting Canceled

Due to changes with in the immediate implementation of the Levels of Excellence Partnerships 4 Families will NOT be holding a meeting on October 6th. The state is still moving forward with Levels of Excellence but is waiting on legal clarification as to the implementation of the process. Therefore

P4F will not have to validate their Level of Excellence but we will work on areas that we are aware of immediately.

One of the area within the Levels of Excellence will pertain to the P4F Boards recruitment of new members and the

marketing/public awareness that they do. You can assist in these areas by recognizing persons who would be great board members and providing P4F with an opportunity to share at your board meeting or staff in service.

Stay tuned for updates.

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Alphabet Soup:

- CACCC&P-Carroll Area Child Care Center & Preschool
- T.E.A.C.H.— Teachers Education and Compensation Helps

Community Human Service Coalition Meetings

Community Coalition Meetings are intentional meetings of human service providers gathering to network for the benefit of the people they serve. Any one is welcome to attend.

Audubon County meets at 11:30 AM on the second Wednesday of the month at the ISU Extension Meeting Room Their next meeting is: **Wednesday, September 8th at 11:30.**

Carroll County meets at noon on the third Wednesday of the month at Charlie's in the Carrollton Center. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday, September 15th at noon.**

Greene County meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the Greene County ISU Extension meeting room. Their next meeting is **Tuesday Sept 7th at noon.**

Guthrie County meets at noon quarterly in March, June, September and December on the second Thursday of the month at the Guthrie County ISU Extension meeting room. **Sept 9th at Noon**

The success of the meetings is driven by the people attending and the connections that are developed.

P4F Early Childhood Task Force Meetings

Early Childhood Task Force meetings are intended to bring together early childhood providers four times a year for networking and program development. Information from the Early Childhood Task Force meetings provides local input to the Partnerships 4 Families Board decision making process.

Following are the meeting times for September 2010.

Audubon at 4:00 PM
Wednesday Sept 8th at the Audubon ISU Extension Meeting Room

Carroll at 4:00 PM
Wednesday Sept 15th
New Opportunities, Rm D

Greene at 4:00 PM
Tuesday Sept. 7th

GC Medical Center Public Health Conference Room

Guthrie at 4:00 PM
Tuesday September 14th at Guthrie ISU Extension Meeting Room

The focus of the September ECTF will be on final funding for FY11, program changes and efforts for the coming year.

If you carry your childhood with you, you never become old.

- T. Stoddard

DECAT

Nim Knobbe has resigned as the DCAT Coordinator, the DCAT Board is in the process of finding a replacement. If you have questions

regarding DCAT or CPPC please leave them on the following voice mail.

DCAT and CPPC
P.O. Box 278
608 N. Court St., Ste. C
Carroll, IA 51401
712-792-4391, Ext 239
Fax: 712-792-1516

September Early Childhood Task Force Agenda

ECTF meetings will resume in September with a packed agenda and hopefully a packed meeting room. All early childhood providers are encouraged to attend. At the meeting we will receive program updates from any early childhood program in the county. Programs are encouraged to share information. We want to hear how the new

preschool year is going, do child care providers have needs, how the community can support the local child care center. Come prepared with an update, bring new staff and learn about the early childhood community in your county.

P4F will provide an update of their programs

and the funding that was received for FY11. We will also ask for your input on developing a list of potential new members.

Meeting times and locations are listed on page 2 of this newsletter. We look forward to reconnecting with you in September.

Partnerships 4 Families Board Update

The Partnerships 4 Families Board did not meet in August. Their next meeting will be on September 17th in Coon Rapids at 10:30.

The new slate of officers will conduct their first meeting at that time. They are: Patricia Nielsen, Chair. Sam Graves will

be Vice Chair, Donna Sutton Secretary and Jean Stadlander Treasurer.

P4F meetings are open to the public. Meeting minutes are on the P4F website and will be posted once they are approved by the board.



Do you have information to share with the P4F Board?

Do you have information to share with the P4F Board that will assist them in making decisions regarding early childhood services and programs in our area? Would you be interested in presenting that information to the P4F Board at a meeting?

The P4F Board meetings are open to the public and programs that service children 0-5 are welcome to bring information or a concern to the P4F Board. To get on an agenda you must submit your request to their area director, Cindy Duhrkopf two weeks before a board

meeting. The agenda's are available to the public and board members one week before the meeting.

Partnerships 4 Families welcomes new information that is vital to the children 0-5 in our four county area.

Partnerships 4 Families
PO Box 672
Carroll, IA 51401

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Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.



DHS Centralized Intake

Since July 1, 2010, Iowa Department of Human Services has been phasing in a single statewide centralized intake system for reporting of suspected child abuse and dependent adult abuse, as well as for referrals for possible services for at-risk children and their families.

The following counties in your area will be covered by the statewide centralized abuse reporting system effective August 31, 2010:

- Audubon
- Carroll
- Cass
- Crawford
- Fremont
- Greene
- Guthrie
- Harrison
- Mills
- Monona
- Montgomery
- Page
- Pottawattamie
- Sac
- Shelby
- Taylor

There will no longer be an intake unit or hotline maintained in Council Bluffs or the surrounding counties.

The toll-free number for the statewide Intake Unit is **1-800-362-2178***. Beginning August 31, 2010, use this number to:

- Report possible abuse or neglect of a child;
- Report possible abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a dependent adult;
- Find out what interventions, services, or supports might be available to help a child, family, or adult whom you believe to be at risk. (You should also consider calling your local 211 to learn about services available to address non-abuse situations.)

CASA-Court Appointed Special Advocate

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program is a volunteer based child-advocacy program found in all 99 Iowa Counties. CASA Volunteers are trained to advocate for children who have been abused and neglected and are involved in the juvenile court due to safety issues in their home. Many of the children are living in foster care or with relatives. CASA volunteers visit with the children and other parties involved in the case regularly and to assess

the child's situation. Volunteers then advocate for the child by reporting the child's needs and wishes to the judge along with making recommendations to the court about what is in the child's best interest. Volunteers are assigned to only one case at a time, allowing them the time to get to know the child and find out what the child truly needs. Volunteers are needed in all counties. I someday hope to have enough volunteers so that every

child who needs a CASA volunteer will have one. If you'd be interested in volunteering or know of someone who might be interested, please contact:

Amy Carpenter,
toll free 866-923-1083 or
email

amy.carpenter@dia.iowa.gov

OR

visit the Iowa Child
Advocacy Board at
www.casaiaowa.com