

News 4 You

Partnerships 4 Families

August 2011
Issue 170

P4F Regrets Decreased Funding

The Partnerships 4 Families Board met in July to finalize their allocation to local programs. Overall the funding to our four county area was down 10%. This meant cuts to our H.O.P.E.S. program, Child Care Project and preschool assistance.

The H.O.P.E.S. programs will continue to accept families but may have to begin a waiting list. It is important for the community partners to continue to refer families to the program.

The Child Care Project will continue to provide administrative support to child care centers in our area and also provide assistance to child development centers that need assistance with safety of their play areas.

P4F will have preschool assistance available at a few preschools that are participating are working towards the Iowa Quality Preschool Programs Standards (QPPS). We will also pursue resources to assist with behavioral issues at preschools in our area.

Cindy Duhrkopf, the P4F Area Director will remain at .8 FTE. She will continue to oversee the preschool funding and board operations. She will also be working on the Levels of Excellence criteria for our Early Childhood Iowa Area.

P4F will continue to maintain their quality programs but unfortunately have to serve less children and families.

www.partnerships4families.org

The Partnerships 4 Families web site is also in the process of being updated. The third week of July many updates were to be added to the P4F website but a slew of viruses took over the

computer that was to do the updating and the computer was sent to the hospital (Geek Squad). The plan is now to have updates done in August.

If you have information

that you would like posted on the site please send it to:

cduhrkopf@newopp.org

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Alphabet Soup:

- P4F— Partnerships 4 Families
- ECI-Early Childhood Iowa
- ECTF –Early Childhood Task Force

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 quarterly at the ISU Extension. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday, October 12th 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, Aug 17th at noon.**

Greene County meets on the first Tuesday of the month. Their next meeting is **Tuesday September 6th at Noon. There will be no meetings in July or August**

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. **September 8th 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.

Following are the meeting times for September 2011. Please note some changed since the July newsletter.

Audubon at 4:00 PM Wed. September 28th at the Audubon ISU Extension Meeting Room

Carroll at 4:00 PM Tuesday September 20th at New Opportunities, Rm D

Greene at 4:00 PM Monday September 26th at the GC Medical Center Public Health Conference Room

Guthrie at 4:00 PM Tuesday September 27th in Guthrie Center at the ISU Extension Meeting Room

The focus of the September ECTF will be on the new state year and what it holds for our early childhood programs.

Children need kindness to learn for care for others as they are cared for.

DECAT

The Decategorization Governance Board meets quarterly at:

DHS Office Board Room
608 N. Court St.
Carroll, IA 51401

DCAT Coordinator:
Alayna Clancy
aclancy@dhs.state.ia.us

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

Clancy covers Audubon, Carroll, Greene and Guthrie DCAT Area and the Crawford and Sac DCAT.

Early Childhood Task Force Purpose

The Partnerships 4 Families Early Childhood Task Force are held four times a year in September, November, February and April. The purpose of the meeting is to build a network of early childhood providers. Following is a list of other reasons we gather.

- *Share information on early care, health and education.
- *Build community commitment to support children (0-5) and their families
- *Build strong working relationships with community partners
- *Build a seamless transition between the systems of Early

Care, Health and Education System and the K-12 education

The meetings are open to the public and early childhood providers and schools personnel are encouraged to attend. See meeting schedule on page 2 of the newsletter.

Partnerships 4 Families Board Update

The P4F Board met on July 15, 2011 to finalize their allocations for FY12. They based their discussion on figures that were released by legislative bureau in June. Contracts will be awarded with final signatures granted once the governor has signed the bills.

The Board also approved the new performance measures adopted by the state board.

The P4F Board also approved their meeting schedule and meeting topics for the year.

The P4F Board welcomes any early childhood organization to make presentations to at their meetings. To present at a meeting please contact Cindy Duhrkopf for more information on available times this coming year.

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

The P4F Board next meeting is September 16, 2011 beginning at 10:30 AM.

All meetings are open to the public and held at the Coon Rapids Municipal Building.

Do You Know.....

Do you know of a male living in Guthrie County who is a wonderful advocate for young children and would have time to serve on the Partnerships 4 Families Board? If so Cindy Duhrkopf would be interested in visiting with him about serving as a board member.

Board members must be able to meet on the third Friday of the month 10 times throughout the year. The meetings are held in Coon Rapids; they begin at 10:30 in the morning and last until noon. Board terms last three years.

If you know of someone

from Guthrie County who has a passion for young children please visit with them or have Cindy.

P4F is also looking for a faith representative who can come from any of our four counties.

Partnerships 4 Families
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Carroll, IA 51401

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How can T.E.A.C.H. help?

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Iowa assists providers in Iowa to earn a CDA credential by offering scholarships. This requires commitment to their current program and offers compensation (raise/bonus). There are 3 ways T.E.A.C.H. can help:

_ Assist with the **college credit courses**, materials, and books.

_ Provide support for the \$325 **assessment application fee**, and provide a **bonus** when the credential is earned. This scholarship is available regardless of how the coursework is completed.

_ Provide support for CDA **renewal** requirements.

For more information about the CDA in Iowa or an information/application packet, please contact Iowa AEYC/T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA, 5525 Meredith Dr. Suite F, Des Moines, IA 50310, 515- 331-8000, www.iowaaeyc.org.

Additional information can be obtained from **The Council for Professional Recognition**, 2460 16th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009-3575, 800- 424-4310, www.cdacouncil.org

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



Iowa's Education Summit

The following statement was taken from remarks by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to the Iowa Education Summit:

“These four concrete reforms—boosting standards, elevating educator effectiveness, implementing innovation, and advancing high-quality early learning--can help Iowa again become a

national leader.”

You can read his remarks in their entirety at:

<http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/iowas-wake-call>

Mr. Duncan’s remarks and those of many others at the Education Summit commented that Iowa must invest in high-quality early learning if we are to see

increased student achievement.

You can find out more about the summit at: <http://iowaeducation.iowa.gov/education-summit/>