

# News 4 You

## Partnerships 4 Families

July 2011  
Issue 169

### [www.earlychildhoodiowa.org](http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org)

The Office of Early Childhood Iowa is happy to announce that the new Early Childhood Iowa web site is now live, [www.earlychildhoodiowa.org](http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org).

The empowerment site and the old Early Childhood Iowa site will automatically redirect to the new site

You can get to the Local information in one of two ways: either by clicking the ECI Initiative link at the top of the home page, then [Early Childhood Iowa Areas - Local System Development](#); or by clicking on [Local System Development](#) at the top of the home page.

As you navigate the site, please let Cindy Duhrkopf, local ECI Area Director know if you are unable to find something that was there previously or if you see anything that is out of date or missing. She will report it to the state office. ECI Office has tried really hard to catch everything, but since we've been in "transition" for several months, there may be things that were not caught.

The new site combines state level initiatives, local ECI materials and information for parents. Please share the new site with all who could utilize the information.

### Inside this issue:

New Website	1
Meeting Dates	2
ECTF Update	3
New Officers	3
Thank You Corey	4

### [www.partnerships4families.org](http://www.partnerships4families.org)

The Partnerships 4 Families web site is also in the process of being updated. The third week of July many updates will be added. If you have information that you would like posted on the

site please send it to: [cduhrkopf@newopp.org](mailto:cduhrkopf@newopp.org)

We are looking for updated program information and contact information. Also if you would like to link your

site to ours please do so.

The main purpose of the site is to keep the public informed of the Partnerships 4 Families Board activities and early childhood initiatives in our area.

### Alphabet Soup:

- IEP— Individualized Education Plan
- IFSP- Individualized Family Service Plan
- IGDI –Individual Growth & Development Indicators

## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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, July 20<sup>th</sup> at noon.**

**Greene County** meets on the first Tuesday of the month. Their next meeting is **Tuesday September 6<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 April.

Audubon at 4:00 PM  
Monday September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Audubon ISU Extension Meeting Room

Carroll at 4:00 PM Tuesday  
September 20<sup>th</sup> at New Opportunities, Rm D

Greene at 4:00 PM  
Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the GC Medical Center

Public Health Conference Room

Guthrie at 4:00 PM  
Wednesday September 21<sup>st</sup> in Guthrie Center at the ISU Extension Meeting Room

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

A baby is a blank check made payable to the human race.

## 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 June 17, 2011 to try and finalize their allocations for FY12. They based their discussion on figures that were released by the Governors office in February. Since there was no new information since their May meeting the Board could not finalize allocations. The Board received an update regarding the QPPS reviews of five preschools. They approved the recommendation to proceed

allowing Zion Preschool and Carroll Area Child Care Center and Preschool to receive preschool assistance funding along with public preschools who charge tuition for three year olds.

Election of Officers was held, after a thank you to Patricia Nielsen for her two years of service as the board chair.

The P4F Board next meeting is July 15, 2011 beginning at 10:30 AM.

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

## Partnerships 4 Families Officers for FY12 and Members

On June 17<sup>th</sup> the Partnerships 4 Families elected a new slate of officers. They are:

Rod Rowland, Chair  
David Ohrt, Vice Chair  
Donna Sutton, Secretary  
Jean Stadlander, Treasury

Officers maintain their

position for one year.

P4F said goodbye to Cheryl Wichtendahl from Guthrie Center at their meeting. Cheryl's term expires and will be pursuing other service projects. Amy Carpenter's has agreed to stay on the P4F board and will being her first three

year term. She came on mid term for Mary Jo Rehm.

P4F is currently accepting application for a faith representative and citizen representative from Guthrie County. If you know of someone who would be interested have them contact Cindy Duhrkopf

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



# Thank you to Corey Sebetka!

A big thank you goes out to Corey Sebetka as she completes her fifth year of service to Partnerships 4 Families as the Early Childhood Consultant to our area.

Due to budget cuts and new opportunities for Corey she will not be working with our preschools this next fiscal year. Corey is going back to Kindergarten!! To teach! Corey has accepted a position at the CAM School District and will have a kindergarten classroom in Anita.

Five years ago Partnerships 4 Families saw the need for someone to work directly with our preschool teachers in assisting them through the Quality Preschool Program Standards (QPPS). P4F wanted our preschools whether public or private to have access to a professional who could focus on their needs. After the first year of working intensively with the preschools Corey saw the need for intensive instruction surrounding Creative Curriculum (CC). With Corey's assistance we brought Teaching Strategies to our area for intensive training. Corey also provided training on each of the interest areas of Creative Curriculum to our preschool teachers. These foundational trainings have benefited our area preschools and allowed many of our public preschools to be primed for implementing CC when they received the state preschool funding.

As a local Early Childhood Iowa Area we identified a need of our early childhood system and meet that need locally. We were fortunate to have someone locally who had the knowledge and passion for preschools and preschool children to work with our teachers and administrators.

*Thank Corey for all the time you gave to the teachers in our area.*

## *Iowa AEYC Annual Conference -*

Each year the Iowa Chapter of the Association for the Education of Young Children holds an annual conference. Over the past few years the conference has grown by leaps and bounds much as a young child does. The conference is held on a weekend to

accommodate the working schedule of child care providers.

This year the conference will be held on October 14 and 15<sup>th</sup> in Des Moines. The conference is open to any early childhood providers.