

# Partnerships 4 Families Early Childhood Iowa

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## Legislation

### Still Pending

As if the writing of this newsletter we are still waiting on the Iowa Legislature to move the bill that would make changes to Early Childhood Iowa as we have known it for the past 27 years.

The bill recommending the changes is coming from the Governors Office. The Senate did pass the bill with an amendment but we are waiting on the House now.

While nothing is final until bills are signed the ECI State Office is preparing ECI areas for the changes.

The most noticeable change is to move from 33 ECI areas to 7 Districts using the map that was created for the Behavioral Health Districts. With that changes Partnerships 4 Families as we know it would be divided into three Districts.

District 1 Carroll County  
District 4 Audubon & Guthrie  
District 5 Greene County

As we wait and see what will happen in the legislator meetings are being held to make transitions go smoothly should the change occur.

Reach out to me if you have questions. Cindy

## Summer Reading Programs at your Library

Check with your local library for a Summer Reading Program for your children and you at your local library. Be sure to mark your calendar if they are having special activities and presenters.

Children who continue to read through the summer months are less likely to lose their reading skills.

But you say, my child is only two. An even better reason to read during the summer as you develop year long reading as an important part of their educational journey.

So head to your library, check out their website and be sure to follow their Facebook page for current events.

## Upcoming Meetings

**Partnerships 4 Families**  
**Thursday, May 15, 2025**  
**11:00 AM at New Opportunities,**  
**Carroll or via Zoom**

**It is the hope of the P4F Board that by May 15<sup>th</sup> they have an understanding of the direction they will be heading come July 1. All of their decisions are pending changes in the legislation and formula of the funds.**

## May is ....

Child care provider appreciation time. Child Care Provider Appreciation Day is held the Friday before Mothers Day in May. It is a day for communities, families and children to show their support of the child care providers in their communities.

Show our providers some love on Friday May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Even if there are some clouds the sun does shine through, so use the sunscreen on cloudy days too.

DPIL

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# Head Start

If you know of someone who will be 3 or 4 by September 15, 2025 and might be eligible for Head Start preschool, have them give Magen a call at 712-830-9442 for Audubon, Carroll, and Coon Rapids Head Start programs, and Diane at 712-830-6990 for Jefferson or Panora..

Children attending will be provided nutritional snacks and meals, active learning experience, and health and dental services.

Head Start also offers an Early Head Start center based program in Carroll. Call 712-830-3028 for more information.

<https://www.newopp.org/services/head-start-early-head-start>

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## Notes from Cindy

Next to October, May is probably my 2<sup>nd</sup> favorite month. There is always so much going on and the weather is delightful. There are celebrations for child care providers, mothers, and graduates. There may even be a wedding or two that sneaks in.

May is a delightful month to get the littles in your life out doors to explore parks, green houses and nature in general.

Take time in May to pause and enjoy the month as though you are a two year old really seeing flowers for the first time.

Please don't forget about our child care providers. Let's all make them feel extra special this month.

Cindy

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## Our Community Health Foundation

Our Community Health Foundation overseen by the Guthrie County Health Services Board and Jo Rassumsen is to be applauded for taking on the Dolly Parton Imagination Library project. We thank them for sponsoring our program locally.

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## First Aid

### Basic First Aid Skills Every Parent Needs to Know

Dr. Katie Giordano, a pediatric emergency physician, joins host Dr. Bracho-Sanchez to explore what to do when your child gets injured. They discuss treating cuts and scrapes, head injuries after a fall, what to do if a tooth gets knocked out, assembling a first aid kit and what to look for when choosing a CPR class.

This episode and many others can be found on the [HealthyChildren.org](https://www.HealthyChildren.org) website sponsored by the AAP.

# Community Coalition Meetings

Community coalition meetings are intentional meetings of community members and service providers gathering to network for the benefit of the people they serve. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**Audubon County** meets at 11:30 AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month in January, April, July & October at the ISU Extension meeting room in Audubon. Their next meeting is **Wednesday July 9, 2025 at 11:30 AM**, Offered in person and via Zoom

**Carroll County** meets at noon on the third Wednesday of five times a year in Feb, April, June, Sept, Nov. Their next meeting is **Wednesday at Noon on June 18, 2025 @ noon at New Opportunities, Room D in Carroll** Offered in person and maybe via Zoom There is no December meeting as the website said.

**Greene County** meets on the first Tuesday of the month five times a year at noon at ISU Extension in Jefferson. The five months are Feb, April, June, Sept & Nov. Their next meeting is **Tuesday June 3, 2025 at noon**. Offered in person and via Zoom

**Guthrie County** meets at noon four times a year in March, June, September and December on the second Thursday of the month at the ISU Extension meeting room in Guthrie Center. Their next meeting is **Thursday June 12, 2025 at noon**. Offered in person and via Zoom

The meetings are offered in person and via Zoom. The Zoom link for all the above-mentioned meetings can be found on New Opportunities website at: <https://www.newopp.org/county-resources/coalitions>

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**[www.partnerships4families.org](http://www.partnerships4families.org) Email: [p4fchildren@gmail.com](mailto:p4fchildren@gmail.com)**

**Partnerships 4 Families is the Early Childhood Iowa Area  
Serving Audubon, Carroll, Greene, and Guthrie Counties**