

Partnerships 4 Families News 4 You

March 2022
Issue 2001



Contents

[Program Updates](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[P4F Board Update](#)

[P4F Board Member](#)

[P4F Early Childhood Task Force](#)

[Community Meetings](#)

- ◆ Every Child beginning at birth will be healthy and successful.

Area Directors Note

Moving Parts

A few of us “old timers” recently commented on all the moving parts going on this year. Not that any of them are good or bad, they are just moving. Here are a few:

We have the long awaited [IQ4K](#) released for childcare providers. Iowa is moving toward a quality rating and IMPROVEMENT system for rating childcare providers and centers.

We have the release of the new Collaborative Service Areas (CSA’s) from IDPH and people moving quickly to write five different grants that include WIC, 1st Five, Title X Family Planning, Maternal Health and Child/Adolescent Health.

We have childcare centers moving into new buildings or additions this spring and summer, but not without

a lot of groundwork before it happens.

We have long time co-workers who have moved on to new positions.

We have preschools moving back to in-person spring open houses.

Oh and so much more!!

If you are a person overwhelmed with all the moving parts, don’t fear others are thinking the same thing.

Remember to take time to process all that is happening and celebrate where celebration is due and seek help or a friendly person to talk to if it is all too much for you.

If you need someone to help blow up balloons to celebrate or someone to be your listening ear, I hear to support you. *Cindy*

Preschool and Head Start Recruitment

Do you know a family with a child who will be 4 by September 15th? If so encourage them to reach out to their local school district about preschool in the fall. Many of the area preschools have survey’s they are asking families to fill out or an Open House planned for March or April.

If you know of a family who may be eligible for Head Start, they are accepting applications for children 3 or 4 years of age. Magan Fineran

712-792-9266 or Diane Allen
Greene and Guthrie Counties
712-830-6990.

If parents ask why they need to enroll their children already, let them know that spring enrollment determines how many teachers the district will hire for the fall and it is important to have a head count in the spring.

Tell US

Have you shared the Sesame Street in Communities materials with families you serve? With children?

Tell US: What are some of the comments you have heard? Have you seen positive changes in children's behaviors?

One HOPES family said "It feels like Christmas! You have no idea how excited I was over the Sesame Street educator book!!" another said "Thanks for the book and activities. It will help at times I don't remember what to do."

Send your quotes to Cindy.

Social Emotional Resources on the P4F Website

P4F now has information about SSIC on our website. If families are feeling overwhelmed with all that the SSIC website has to offer take them to the www.partnerships4families.org site and look under Resources. There you will find the main video we have

been featuring on Facebook each month.

Keep your eye out for a new one in March and do not forget to like our Facebook page.

Keep promoting the SSIC-March's theme is Breath Balance and Bend



*"Why Worry? If you've done the very best you can, worrying won't make it any better."
Walt Disney*

Legislation regarding Children and Families

Are you curious about current legislation that pertains to children and families?

You can go straight to the source and look up bills on the Iowa Legislatures website at: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

Or you can sign up for email alerts from organization that track bills pertaining to children and families. One of those is Common Good Iowa.

March 21st 1-3 P4F Early Childhood Task Force

A spring four county meeting is being planned for Monday, March 21st from 1-3 via Zoom to bring early childhood providers together to discuss next steps in our outreach regarding Social-Emotional Development. We will also discuss other gaps in services and review our goals set forth in our Early Childhood Community Plan.

The focus of the Early Childhood Task force is to bring early childhood providers and advocates together, benefiting the children in our area through collaboration.

Zoom link will sent out with newsletter email or is available on request to p4fchildren@gmail.com

Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholder Alliance

Are you familiar with the Early Childhood Stakeholder Alliance? If not check out information about them on the Early Childhood Iowa website <https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/system/s/state-system>

The Stakeholder Alliance is one large group and many sub committees working on various efforts across the

state that influence the early childhood system. A visual with a list of all the component work groups is available at: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2020-11/tool_a_11_19_2019_update.pdf

Consider joining a component work group in 2022.



Prevent Child Abuse Iowa Conference

The Prevent Child Abuse Iowa Conference will be held virtually again this year. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear about programs being offered across the state and current research.

To learn more or get alerts about the conference go to: <https://pcaiowa.org/>

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 2nd Wednesday of the month in January, April, June & October at the ISU Extension meeting room in Audubon. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday April 13, 2022 at 11:30 AM, We will meet in person and possibly Zoom.**

Carroll County meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every other month. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday at Noon on April 20th @ ISU Extension Meeting Room in Carroll.** *Now meeting every other month. Mental Health Coalition meets on the opposite months*

Greene County meets on the first Tuesday of the month at noon at ISU Extension in Jefferson. They do take July & August off. Their next meeting is: **Tuesday March 1st.** We will meet 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 March 10th at noon.** We will be meeting in person and via Zoom. Cindy D will be sending out a link.

Join us, the success of the meetings are driven by the people attending and the connections that are developed. In addition, invite others to join us.



Partnerships 4 Families
Early Childhood Iowa
Area for
Audubon, Carroll,
Greene and Guthrie
Counties

E-mail:
p4fchildren@gmail.com

Cindy Duhrkopf
Area Director

We are on the Web!
www.partnerships4families.org

P4F Board

The P4F Board meet on February 17, 2022 and heard an update on the HOPES programs from all four counties. They also awarded funding to Lil'Wildcats Education Center toward the use of technology in their new center.

The meetings are open to the public; agendas are available on

our website 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Next Meeting is:
Thursday March 17th at 11:00 AM
at New Opportunities in Carroll
and Via Zoom.
The Board will not be meeting in
April and their May meeting will
only be held in person.

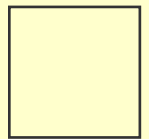
Toddler Fest is on the Road

Toddler Fest is going to be on the Road this year. For one more year the large gathering is on hold but Libraries in Greene County are going to have activates the week of April 4-9 to celebrate the children in their communities.

Look for more details to come out soon. Or check with your Greene County Library to see how you can help.

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SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH

- ❖ CO-WORKERS
- ❖ EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS
- ❖ PARENTS
- ❖ EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVOCATES

OR FIND IT ON THE WEBSITE AND SHARE THE LINK