

# Partnerships 4 Families News 4 You

January 2023  
Issue 2009



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

What is ahead for you in 2023? New projects at work, new families to serve, a new software to learn? Whatever new is coming your way I hope you will embrace it with the enthusiasm of a three year old.

This year I am trying to not start many new things but to refocus on the old things that need some attention. One thing you may see me highlighting a little more in future newsletters is data and specifically outcomes data. I may be asking your help as we go. Some of the information gathered will go into updating our Early Childhood Community Plan. Yep, it is time to bring that off the shelf and see how we have done in the past three years in regards to reaching our goals.

However, as we all know, a little thing called a pandemic may have interrupted the work we had planned on doing.

This winter the state ECI office will release an updated Early Childhood Strategic Plan. It will appear very similar to the 2019-2022 plan because-yep you guessed it, the pandemic. Spending a little more time on a plan is not a bad thing and being able to evaluate a goal with a new lens is not bad either.

So bring on 2023, I am looking forward to letting data speak about the great work you all are doing.

Happy New Year,

Cindy

## Please Promote Imagination Library Enrollment

Enrollment in Dolly Parton Imagination Library began in Audubon, Carroll and Greene Counties November 2<sup>nd</sup>. All enrollment will be done digitally through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library website at:

<https://imaginationlibrary.com/>

We do not have any advertising dollars to promote the program, we are relying on you, our early childhood partners to share the

information with families now and in the future.

Our Community Health Foundation out of Guthrie County Health Services is the Affiliate for the program and we thank them for offering this program in our area.

We are thankful for the donations that came in during December, especially the Jefferson Kiwanis's. We look forward to having organizations like this partner with us.



### Iowa Family Support

Iowa is fortunate to have one of the strongest family support systems in the United States. Family support workers are available to walk alongside a family setting goals for the parents and for the well-being of the children.

If you know of a family who needs some extra support locally or across Iowa, they can find information about programs in their county on the Iowa Family Support Network website. At the following link, they can enter their zip code and have access to the programs in their county.

<https://www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org/families/family-support/individual/>

### Safe Haven Information

Iowa has had a Safe Haven Act since 2002, in that time 50 babies have been declared Safe Haven babies. Each state differs slightly in the parameters of their Safe Haven Act.

Information about Iowa's Safe Haven Act can be found at:

<https://dhs.iowa.gov/safe-haven>.

If you don't have time right now to learn about the Safe Haven parameters in Iowa, put it on a to-do list and read up on it when you have time to digest the information.

Also, consider a professional way that you can make the information available to families you might serve who have infants.

### Toddler Fest in Greene County April 22nd

IT'S BACK!!

Toddler Fest is back in person on April 22, 2023 at the Greene County Rec Center from 10-12. We would love to have you help by volunteering to assist with an activity.

Do you love toddlers? Do you love doing activities with toddlers?

Come spend a fast morning with us setting up Toddler Fest, playing with the toddlers and a quick 20-minute clean up. Email Cindy at [p4fchildren@gmail.com](mailto:p4fchildren@gmail.com) if you can help.

### P4F Early Childhood Task Force

The next Early Childhood Task Force meeting will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup> in the morning from 9-noon.

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.

This meeting will only be held in person.

Topics to be discussed:

Family Needs  
Non-Registered Child Care  
& Other Topics

*Rest is best.*

*Daniel Tiger*

### Child Care

How can you help the childcare crisis?

Many people are asking that question these days. The best way you can help is to send qualified people to the nearest childcare center to apply for a position. Don't just consider the young female in her 20's that loves kids. Think of the young guys in your community who are wonderful with kids.

On the other hand, the retiree that may be looking for a reason to rock babies would be good too. There are many positions open at some of the centers in our area and they could use your help referring people to them.

Oh and Don't forget that person who is a great cook, we have a couple centers currently needing to fill that position too.

### Human Resources Coalition Meetings

Each month in this newsletter, we list the Community Coalition-Human Resource Coalition-Coalition meeting dates. Regardless of the meetings name it is a time for persons who serve humans in any capacity at any point in a human's life span to gather and share information about their agency, programs and current projects they are working on with the humans they serve. Any one is welcome. Even humans who are just humans and want to learn about services.

During the pandemic, the meetings went to Zoom and last year the meetings went hybrid.

Due to the extra layer of organization involved with hybrid meetings, the facilitators of those meetings are looking for some short cuts. Changes will be highlighted in future newsletters. See some below in yellow.

If you have never joined a meeting and you serve humans in any capacity make plans to attend.

### Human Resource Community Coalition Meeting Dates

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 January 11, 2023 at 11:30 AM, We will meet in person and possibly via Zoom.**

**Carroll County** meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every other month. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday at Noon on January 18th @ 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 **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 February 7, 2023.** 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 9, 2023 at noon.** We will be meeting in person and via Zoom.

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](mailto:p4fchildren@gmail.com)**

Cindy Duhrkopf  
Area Director

## **P4F Board**

The P4F Board meet on November 17, 2022. In attendance was Shanell Wagler from the ECI State Office. She provided an update on the designation process and the mid cycle review that was recently conducted on P4F contracts. She applauded the board for their dedication and consistency as an ECI area.

The Board also received an update from the Child Care Project and evaluated the mini grants received.

The next meeting of the P4F Board is on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 11:00. The meeting will be held in person at New Opportunities with a Zoom option.

## **Meet a P4F Board Member- Paige DenAdel**

Hello, I am Paige DenAdel, I have been working in human services field for 5 years, and while doing so I have had the chance to work in each of the counties we serve on the P4F board.

I am a proud mom and step mom of four kiddos and am a strong believer that the ages of 0-5 are crucial developmental years for all children. I am serving on this board to help

collaborate what we can do in our communities to assist our young children to be successful socially, emotionally, educationally, and developmentally. They say it takes a village to raise children, and bringing any and all support we can be part of that village!

Paige is representing the human service provider on the P4F Board

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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**