

# Partnerships 4 Families Early Childhood Iowa

Cindy Duhrkopf, Area Director

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## 27 Years

Contracts are in place to kick off FY25 on July 1, of 2024. This year P4F will be celebrating 27 years of providing funding for early childhood services in our area.

In FY98 we started with the HOPES program in each county, the Child Care Project which worked with the registered home providers and the full time area director. It seems we have come full circle in providing a variety of projects over the years and now we are back to only the HOPES program in all four counties along with the Child Care Project which now focuses on the licensed centers and preschools along with some support to the Child Care Nurse Consultant and a part time area director.

Our original grant was for \$637,000 and this year we were awarded \$514,230. The highest amount we were ever allocated was \$829,000 in FY08. While money had decreased over the years the programs have remained strong and continue to serve the families and providers in our area.

As we look to the future and alignment with HHS we will advocate for increased funding to again widen our scope of service through out our four county area.

## Disaster Resources

Our local public health agencies and CCNC have shared these resources. Even if your family has not been effected consider checking out the sites to learn how to be more prepared if a disaster strikes you.

Iowa HHS website is continually being updated: [hhs.iowa.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-recovery-resources](https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-recovery-resources)

Iowa Disaster/Recovery page  
<https://www.iowa.gov//resources-0/other-resources>

After a disaster many items are needed by the families, before you give check to see what is needed. Often clothing is the first thing that comes to mind but many sites fill up fast with clothing. Check before you give but also keep in mind the items needed for young children to keep them safe, loved and healthy following a disaster.

## Upcoming Meetings

**Partnerships 4 Families  
Board Meeting if Needed  
Thursday July 18, 2023  
11:00 AM at New Opportunities,  
Carroll or via Zoom**

**The P4F Board will be taking August off.**

## Summer Reading

We would love to receive pictures of your youngest children attending a Summer Reading Program with their older siblings. Email them to [p4fchildren@gmail.com](mailto:p4fchildren@gmail.com) and give us permission to place them on our Facebook page. We would like to highlight how families that read together learn together.

We look forward to seeing all the smiles.



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# Child Care Resources

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We often highlight the resources that CCR&R offers to parents, providers and the community. Their website at [iowaccrr.org](http://iowaccrr.org) and should be the first stop for information.

But if you are looking for other opportunities that have a federal lens, we encourage you to consider:

\* NAEYC-National Association for the Education of Young Children

\*Office of Child Care-An Office of the Administration for Children & Families or

\*Child Care Aware of America

If you are looking for specific information, please reach out to CCR&R and they can assist you in your search.

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## Notes from Cindy

Each July 1<sup>st</sup> I say "Happy New Year!!" and I also say that we should throw a party. As one year ends there are reports to be done and books to close. As a new year begins there are contracts to put in place and new files to create. (I now do electronic files-so much easier.)

As we begin this new year take time to set goals on what is it you hope to achieve professionally this year.

Is it to embrace technology, is it to establish a succession plan, or to learn about a new support for families. What ever it is write it down and remember to check in on your goal every month.

Happy New Year!!

Cindy

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This section is waiting for your information. If you have information to share with other early childhood providers, please send it to Cindy by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

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## Carroll County DPIL

Funding is needed for the Carroll County Dolly Parton Imagination Program. If you know of a generous donor who loves literacy and young children please connect them to Cindy or Jo.

Or do you know of a grant program that is available for residents of Carroll County. We are currently applying for a Timmerman Grant and will consider the Community Foundation of Carroll County this year.

The Champions for DPIL will be meeting soon to brain storm options.

# Are you a WIC Participant?

## Benefits for Participants

WIC and Senior FMNP participants can receive vouchers to purchase fresh, unprepared, locally-grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs. FMNP vouchers may only be used from June 1 to October 31 at **FMNP-authorized farmers markets and farmstands**.

### *How To Use Vouchers*

Not all vendors are certified to accept FMNP vouchers, only use your FMNP vouchers where the "WIC and Senior Farmers Market Vouchers Accepted Here" sign is displayed, with a current year certification sticker. FMNP vouchers cannot be used in grocery stores.

- FMNP vouchers are worth \$5.00, and no change is given. But you may use cash to purchase items other than produce or additional produce.
- FMNP vouchers may only be used to purchase fresh, unprepared produce and not to purchase items such as popcorn, ornamental pumpkins, gourds, baked goods, eggs, jam or jelly, nuts, plants, flowers, crafts, etc.
- Honey may be purchased only with Senior FMNP vouchers.
- The certified vendor must be present to accept the FMNP vouchers.

**Find an FMNP-authorized farmers market or farmstand near you.**

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

**PO Box 672 Carroll, Iowa 51040**

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

# 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 10, 2024 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 September 18, 2024 @ noon at ISU Extension Meeting Room in Carroll** Offered in person and maybe via Zoom

**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 September 3, 2024 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 September 12, 2024 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>