

# Partnerships 4 Families News 4 You

December 2023  
Issue 2020



## Upcoming Events

P4F Board Update

P4F Board Member

P4F Early Childhood Task Force

Community Meetings

## Area Directors Note

How has your 2023 gone?

December is a great time to reflect on your past year and be ready to make 2024 even better.

My 2023 has focused on being acceptable to change and being more kind to myself in accepting new technology.

Change is what change will be, since there are whole books written on this including my favorite "Who Moved the Cheese?" I am not going to go into detail on this topic other than to say that change is inevitable.

Now for the accepting new technology. I have used my life long learner skills and Google to help me with this, or YouTube. But regardless I have developed many skills this year and a change of attitude in regard to technology. But I have also had to remind myself that technology can be our friend, but we need to take it in small doses just as we want our children to do.

What did you focus on in 2023, are you better because of it?

Happy Holidays from P4F,

Cindy

## New HHS Website including ECI

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

Iowa Health and Human Services launched a new website recently and now that Early Childhood Iowa is under HHS their information will also be housed there. Currently as the site is still being developed information you may have accessed in the past will be more hidden. Persons are encourage to keep searching or reach out to others to help them find items they are searching for.

Be sure to bookmark links when you find them.

Early Childhood Iowa

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/eci>

The ECI Toolkit will be found at the bottom of that page.

## HHS Service Delivery Alignment Assessment Project

For those that have been following along regarding the HHS Assessment, the HHS website has been updated and the old page dedicated to the assessment process has gone away.

The final report was provided to HHS the end of October but as of our newsletter nothing has been released to the public other than three high level generalizations regarding service delivery, block grant funding and staffing.

## Early Childhood Data

The Iowa Data Drive has been come a very useful tool for persons looking for data. I2D2 as it is commonly called has data pertaining to early childhood through out the state. Persons interested in county level data can obtain it there or even by ECI areas. Recently I2D2 released a

report develop from data collected from child care providers across the state of Iowa.

So, whether you are a data geek, need data for a grant application or are looking for information about an area you served. Check out the data on the I2D2 site.

<https://i2d2.iastate.edu/>

## CCNC

Do you know what CCNC stands for? It is Child Care Nurse Consultant. CCNC's are here to support our child care providers with health-related issues that take place in a child care setting. But their information is so good it should be shared with all

parents. From tips about frost bite, RSV, Poison Control or safety recalls the information they share is helpful to all persons who have a little one in their life.

For more information check out the following link.

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci>

## P4F Early Childhood Task Force

The P4F Early Childhood Task Force meet on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

We focused our time on building relationships, how we serve children and discussing any new needs of children and families in our area.

Heartland AEA staff in attendance encouraged

participants to make referrals to them if they are seeing concerns in children. Referrals can come from parents or anyone working with a child who has the parents consent to make the referral. If you would like more information to reach out to Cindy and she will connect you with the appropriate persons.

### Heartland AEA Info Sheet

At the recent ECTF person were interested in the services of offered by AEA. From that request came an informational piece that is too large to include in our newsletter but will be attached to the email provided to persons on the P4F distribution list.

If you are reading this and don't have the sperate attachment to the newsletter, please reach out to:



**Heidi Schultes, LMSW**  
School Social Worker  
[hschultes@heartlandaea.org](mailto:hschultes@heartlandaea.org)

### 4 Gift Rule

The season of giving is upon us. If you are giving to a child in need or giving to children, you know consider implementing the "4 Gift Rule".

1. Give something the child needs
2. Give something the child wants
3. Give something the child can wear
4. Give something the child can read

Your thoughtfulness will know they are heard, cared for, warm and given the gift of educating themselves.

Perhaps your family is not about giving lots of gifts then choose just one of the four to give. But what ever you give make sure the child is shown love through your gift giving.

## Community Human Service 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 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 February 21 @ 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 February 6, 2024**. Offered in person and maybe 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 December 14, 2023 at noon**. Offered in person and maybe 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>

## P4F Board


The P4F Board meet in November to receive an update on the HHS Service Delivery Assessment and the ECI Designation process. P4F will submit information for designation in October of 2024 that will include an update to their Early Childhood Community Plan. The I2D2 Iowa Data Drive Annual Report 2022 for Early

Childhood Area: Partnerships 4 Families was also shared. Board members took some time going over the data presented in the report.

Board agenda and minutes can be found on the P4F Website. All meetings are open to the public.

## Giving Tuesday to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library


Please consider on Giving Tuesday giving the gift of literacy. You can give online at [imaginationlibrary.org](https://imaginationlibrary.org)

If you want to designate your gift to IACarroll or IAAudubon or IAGreene or IAGuthrie my heart  thanks you. Donations are tax deductible.

This program has been on my wish list of programs to bring to our Early Childhood Iowa Areas since Sawyer was little.

A big Thank You to Our Community Health Foundation for being our local sponsor and to all the generous businesses and organizations that have already invested in the children in their counties.

## Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Through funding provided by Dolly Parton and local community partners, [#ImaginationLibrary](https://imaginationlibrary.org) is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting free books to children.  Check availability in your area and register your child for this incredible program today! <https://bit.ly/2BwMs8D>

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

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Cindy Duhrkopf  
Area Director

Partnerships 4 Families  
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- ❖ **EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS**
- ❖ **PARENTS**
- ❖ **EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVOCATES**

**OR FIND IT ON THE WEBSITE AND SHARE THE LINK**