# Partnerships 4 Families Early Childhood Iowa

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# **Iowa State Fair**

The Iowa State Fair is a big deal and can be overwhelming even to adults. A few tips and tricks will make your day go smoothly if you are taking a little one with you to the fair.

#1 download the lowa State Fair Authority app. It will give you schedules for the day, maps and so much more.

#2 find the locations intended for little ones such as the Little Hand on the Farm, Knapp Animal Learning Center, Hy-Vee Fun Forest or Thrill Town with rides for the kiddies.

#3 scout out where the family restrooms are using the app #4 plan a rest time by watching a show or check out a horse event in an area.

The lowa State Fair has something for everyone but plan before you go with little ones. While strollers and wagons are welcome be sure to travel light for ease of getting around in all the buildings.

Enjoy your time and maybe even make it an annual event for your family.

https://www.iowastatefair.org/

# **Imagination Library**

The Champions for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program is looking for your help. How you can help: #1 Tell families you know about the program and send them to the website to enroll.

#2 Help us raise funds. Ask people to donate to the DPIL on your Birthday. Friends can make a donation at: <a href="https://www.imaginationlibrary.come">www.imaginationlibrary.come</a> You can designation your donation to IAAudubon, IACarroll, IAGreene or IAGuthrie when asked.



## **Upcoming Meetings**

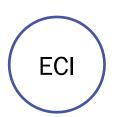
Partnerships 4 Families
Board Meeting if Needed
Thursday September 19, 2024
11:00 AM at New Opportunities,
Carroll or via Zoom

The P4F Board will be taking August off.

#### **Routine**

As we head into fall and back to school for the older children in a household be sure to include the youngest members of the family in the back-to-school routine.

Although their schedules may not change, they will notice the changes. Be sure to include them!



# P4F Board Members

P4F is looking for two additional board members to round out our team for FY25. Recent legislation did away with the requirement to have a gender balanced board but P4F has always strived to have equal representation and so we are looking for two male board members. We could use more representation from Carroll and Greene County. We do still need to have representation from education, health, human service, faith, business and a consumer. If the new members

would have a health, human service or business back ground that would provide us with a well rounded board.

Visit with your friends and neighbors who love children and ask if they want to give of their time in advocating for the children in their county.

If they are interested reach out to Cindy and she will follow up with more information.

## WIC Partners with Hy-Vee

The Iowa Dept of HHS WIC is expanding a partnership with Hy-Vee stores to offer online ordering and pick-up for participants. Qualifying individuals can use their eWIC card during the online checkout process and easily pick up their items at their nearest participating Hy-Vee store. Both the Jefferson and Carroll Hy-Vee stores are participating in our area.

### Behavioral Health Bill Update

As of the release of this newsletter on July 30<sup>th</sup> we are patiently waiting for the release of the map that will announce the districts that will be established for the Behavioral Health Districts on August 1<sup>st</sup>. These districts will not directly affect Early Childhood Iowa but it will likely come with changes to some of our partners.



## Natural Playgrounds

Do you know of any Natural Play grounds in Audubon, Carroll, Greene or Guthrie Counties? P4F is looking for examples of playgrounds that utilize nature or natural structures for play environments. If you know of such a place let us know.

If you are ever in Dickinson County or visit the Okoboji area, be sure to visit the Dickinson County nature center and natural playground. It is worth your time. Do you wonder what resources are available in your county? Do you need all resources or just early childhood resources?

The P4F website has a twosided brochure for each of our counties listing the early childhood resources. Find it on our website at: Partnerships4familes.org

If you are in need of a

Many resources then find the large resource booklet at any Family Development Center or on the New Opportunities website at:

https://www.newopp.org/countyresources

Be aware, this is a longer document if you print it yourself.

Be sure to share these resources with new employees.

### Resources

#### **Notes from Cindy**

August is the month of transitions for many. I mention it often in the August newsletter that our world seems to rotate around August and back to school times. It doesn't matter your age. Even the elderly neighbor notices the change in the neigbhorhood as the buses start to roll and the sidewalks are quiet during the day. What are your favoirte memories of

August and what memories are you making for the little ones in your life. Or maybe it is time to make new memories and traditions of starting back to fall.

Enjoy the back to school schedule what ever it means for your life.

Cindy

#### **PCA** Iowa

Prevent Child Abuse lowa is a 501c3 nonprofit that works tirelessly to create a world where children don't know fear, experience neglect and never encounter abuse.

Child abuse is preventable. It takes lowans working together to ensure children are raised in safe, nurturing environments.

PCA lowa has been advocating for children since 1975.

Learn more about the work they do at: pcaiowa.org

The Family Resource Center is the local chapter of PCA lowa for Audubon, Carroll, Greene and Guthrie Counties.

Website: carrollfrc.org

#### School Calendars

Parents, did you know that the school calendar is available on every school's website. The one-page document shows all the PD days, no school days and the possible last day of school.

### **Head Start is Enrolling**

The Head Start preschool program is currently taking applications for the upcoming school year. Child has to be 3 or 4 by September 15, 2024. They are an income-based program that provides active learning experiences, nutritious snacks and meals, and help families connect with community resources. Interested families can fill out an interest form at <a href="https://www.newopp.org">www.newopp.org</a> or contact Magen at 712-830-9442 for Audubon and Carroll Counties and Diane for Greene and Guthrie County.

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 Email: 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 October 9, 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