

Partnerships 4 Families Early Childhood Iowa

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P4F Designation

P4F submitted the P4F Early Childhood Community Plan in September prior to the October 31 deadline. The next steps in the designation process will be for the state to look over our updated plan, previous annual reports and set a date for a site visit.

During the virtual site 2-3 meetings will occur. One will be with the P4F Board, a second with early childhood community partners and a possible third with our fiscal agent. The virtual visit will take place sometime between January and April of 2025. At the ECI State Board meeting in June of 2025 all ECI Areas that are being designated this round will be presented to the state board.

Watch for more information about the virtual visit in January.

Your Life Iowa

Are you familiar with Your Life Iowa? If not put it on your list of things to become familiar with if not for yourself for someone you love and care about.

Your Life Iowa is Iowa's source for help whether it is dealing with alcohol, drugs, gambling, suicidal thoughts or mental health persons can call, text or chat with someone. The site is not only for the person in need but for friends and families members who want to know how to help a person.

There is even a section regarding [Maternal Mental Health](#).

Click on the site and do some searching. Also, don't be shy, share the site with others. If you would like a presentation on it reach out to the Preventions Staff at New Opportunities. They can provide an overview of the site and marketing materials.

Upcoming Meetings

**Partnerships 4 Families
Thursday January 16, 2024
11:00 AM at New Opportunities,
Carroll or via Zoom**

The board will not meet in December.

Experts says....

Limiting screen time for children and adults will improve their health.

Make it a 2025 new years resolution to decrease your screen time and the screen time of children in your lives.

Health and Wellness of Children

Are you searching for information about the well being of a child? Always use reputable resources when searching for information on the internet.

The overall best two resources a parent or early childhood provider can have been the websites for the CDC and AAP.

Center for Disease Control became very popular during the pandemic but have been a presence at the federal

Level for a long period of time. Take some time to investigate their website. www.cdc.gov

The America Academy of Pediatrics is your go to for many topics related to child health. They also have a whole site dedicated to Healthy Children. Save the site and refer to it often.

www.aap.org

www.healthychildren.org

Notes from Cindy

How is your day going? With such a late Thanksgiving December is going to fly by. But remember each day still has 24 hours to enjoy. So enjoy them.

This Thanksgiving & Christmas season I will be taking more time than usual off to enjoy the season with the grandchildren and maybe sneak in a short trip to see family out of state.

My hope for you is that you take time to enjoy the giving season and family near or far too.

To each of you, Merry Christmas, Happy 2025 and from myself and the P4F Board, Thank You for all you do for the children and families all year long.

Cindy

Phyllis & Becky

The HOPES program in Greene County is going to lose a couple of valuable people in December due to retirements.

Phyllis Woodley has been a Family Support Worker with the HOPES program over 20 years. We thank her for dedication to the families in Greene County. Prior to that she was a much sought after home provider.

Becky Wolf has been the Director of Public Health in Greene County for over 15 years and made it all the way through COVID to retirement. Becky has been a wonderful supervisor supporting the HOPES staff.

Thank you Phyllis and Becky and best wishes in Retirement.

HHS Organization Chart

Since Early Childhood Iowa moved under the Iowa Health and Human Services umbrella, we have landed in the Family-Well Being and Protection Division area headed by Janee Harvey. To find out more about this area of HHS take a look at the most recent org chart on their website. <https://hhs.iowa.gov/about/leadership>

Are you looking for data in 2025 that will support the work you are doing. Be sure to check out the following two resources.

- **Health Data Reports for Decision Makers** offer Updates on Substance Abuse, Child Food Insecurity, Asthma, COVID: Community leaders and policymakers can now access updated data to enhance their understanding of public health issues in Iowa. The latest [Health Data for Decision Makers reports](#), released by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, provide insights into community challenges such as substance abuse and food insecurity, emergency room visits for asthma, and lasting impacts of the COVID pandemic. Visit the ISU Extension and Outreach Indicators Program website, where you can also find the newly revised [Health Data for Decision Makers User's Guide](#) for assistance in using the reports.
- [I2D2 https://i2d2.iastate.edu/](https://i2d2.iastate.edu/)
I2D2 is a diverse system of stakeholder who share a common goal of transforming data into actionable intelligence to support Iowa children and families.

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

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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, July & October at the ISU Extension meeting room in Audubon. Their next meeting is **Wednesday January 8, 2025 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 19, 2025 @ noon at ISU Extension Meeting Room in Carroll** Offered in person and maybe via Zoom There is no December meeting as the website said.

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 4, 2025 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 December 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>