

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

Early Childhood Iowa

An initiative to empower individuals and their communities to achieve desired results to improve the quality of life for children ages birth-5 years of age and their families.

In Every Edition

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Social Media in Reaching Families

Do you use social media to reach parents? If so how successful is it?

These are the questions providers are asking as young families don't subscribe to papers or use traditional media sources for news. Parents with young families rely on a web search, social media or word of mouth to learn

about resources available to them.

P4F is interested to know of providers who have had success using social media and are willing to share their experience with others. Last year P4F's October ECTF featured Chad Wittrock who provided us with a very important pointer- "Make sure that your

website is up to date, because that is where young parents are getting information". Chad also shared that a post on Facebook mid to late afternoon will get more hits than a post at other times of the day.

Email us if you are willing to share your success with social media.

p4fchildren@gmail.com

Brain Development-Information for Parents

As early childhood providers you have probably sat through a training or two or three that talks about brain development in young children. We can share until we are blue in the face with parents about the importance, until now. The website Adam &

Mila was developed by two parents looking to share with other parents the importance of brain development. They have also collected a wealth of activities for parents to do at home with their children. Check it out and let us know if you use it with parents and their

reaction. We are always looking for resource to use with parents.

<https://www.adam-mila.com/brain-development-children-0-6-years/>

Tells us about websites you use with parents?



"Every child beginning at birth will be healthy and successful."

Community Human Resource Coalitions

Community coalition meetings are intentional meetings of human service providers and community members 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, June & October at the ISU Extension meeting room in Audubon. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday January 10, 2018 at 11:30.**

Carroll County meets at noon on the third Wednesday of the month at ISU Extensions Meeting Room in Carroll. Their next meeting is: **Wednesday November 15th at Noon**

Greene County meets on the first Tuesday of the month at noon at ISU Extension in Jefferson. They do take July & August off. Their next meeting is: **Tuesday November 7th at Noon.** No July or August Meetings

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 14th at noon.**

The successes of the meetings are driven by the people attending and the connections that are developed.

Want to know more about Child Care? Need child care?

Child Care Resource & Referral is Iowa's go to source for learning about child care, parents needing child care and child care provider support.

Maybe you are looking for child care or know someone who is. Send them to: <https://iowaccrr.org/families/> to search on line or they can call the Parent Specialist at the number listed on the website.

Are you wondering about what to look for in a quality child care setting? Or a list of questions to ask in interviewing a provider. They can help you out with that too. Again: iowaccrr.org

Are you considering becoming a child care provider, they can help with that too. CCR&R even has someone who will come to your home to visit about what it takes to start a child care home.

If you don't find the answer to the question you have on their website CCR&R has persons available to answer your questions or research the answer for you. Some of your questions might be on the DHS website too at:

<http://dhs.iowa.gov/childcare>

P4F Board Update

The P4F Board did not meet in October. Their November meeting will focus on family support in our area.

The board is looking for new board members from

Guthrie County. If you know of someone willing to serve, please let Cindy know and she will follow up with them.

The next P4F Board meeting is scheduled for:

November 17, 2017
At 10:30 in Carroll at New Opportunities

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

Partnerships 4 Families

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.partnerships4families.org

Person in the Spot Lite-Becky T

Becky Thompson is a Public Health Nurse in Audubon County. Becky is a lifelong resident of Audubon County and has served as a public health nurse since before she can remember. ☺ Becky has been a great advocate for

healthy children and families. She served as the H.O.P.E.S. coordinator from 2000 to 2014 and has administered more immunizations on babies than she could begin to count.

Thank you Becky for being an advocate for the children in Audubon County and watching out for their wellbeing.



November Family Activities

Does your family gather with multiple generations gather in November? Need some activities for the children or some food they will enjoy trying. Parents magazine has

lots of ideas that are easy to make. Check out the Hide the Turkey Leg-how simple and fun for kids from 2 to 82.

Check out all the ideas.

<http://www.parents.com/holiday/thanksgiving/grateful-for-fun/>

Too Small to Fail & Talking is Teaching

On October 18th twenty-two early childhood providers from our 4 counties came together to learn about the book "Thirty Million Words, Building a Child's Brain". The main point in the book is talk does matter to infants and children. Talk matters in developing reading skills, math skills and social emotional development. Talk matters-period.

If you were unable to attend the P4F ECTF on October 18th, we encourage you to pick up the book by Dana Suskind, MD and read how a brain surgeon is leading the charge to bring awareness that talk matters in building the brain of young children. Check out their website at: <http://thirtymillionwords.org/>

Too Small to Fail has many resource that builds on the initiative. <http://toosmall.org/>

Or check out cities that have come together to promote the initiative: <http://talkingisteaching.org/about>

P4F will have a follow up to this conversation in March, you can attend that session even if you did not attend in October.