

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.



Audubon, Carroll, Greene
and Guthrie Counties

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Prevent Child Abuse Iowa

Prevent Child Abuse Iowa-(PCA Iowa) is the state organization that administers two funding streams from the Iowa Department of Human Services for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. PCAI recently had a very thorough needs assessment done for the state of Iowa and is in the process of developing a strategic plan. The needs assessment has been released and can be

found on their website at:
<http://www.pcaiowa.org/downloads/library/2017-iowa-child-maltreatment-prevention-needs-assessment.pdf>

Family Resource Center is the local PCA Iowa Council for Audubon, Carroll, Greene and Guthrie Counties. For years the Family Resource Center has used the funds received by PCA Iowa to administer the Parent

Time Out and Crisis Child Care Programs.

In the Strategic Plan currently being developed by PCA Iowa they will formulate recommendations for the best use the funding streams in the future. The strategic plan will be based on the needs assessment and federal requirements for the funding stream.

Sign up for their e-newsletter at:
<https://www.pcaiowa.org/get-involved/>

P4F Preschool Committee Meeting

Partnerships 4 Families has a **Preschool Committee** that establishes the requirements for the P4F Preschool Support. The preschool support in the past has been mainly tuition assistance for three-year-old preschoolers attending a preschool that agrees to follow certain requirements

set forth by Early Childhood Iowa.

With decreased funding, P4F is reconvening the ad hoc committee on **Thursday December 14th at the Guthrie County ISU Extension meeting room in Guthrie Center.**

Persons interested in being on the committee should

contact Cindy Duhrkopf at p4fchildren@gmail.com.

If you know a family who has been served by the funding, please encourage them to reach out about attending.



"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 January 17th at Noon NO DECEMBER MEETING**

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 December 5th 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.

CDC Releases Milestone Tracker App

Download the Milestone Tracker app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today!

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention announced in November the new Milestone Tracker App for parents of children 2 months- 5 years of age.

Milestones matter! The app allows parents to

track their child's milestones from age 2 months to 5 years with CDC's easy-to-use illustrated checklists; get tips from CDC for encouraging child's development; and find out what to do if they are ever concerned about how their child is developing.

Currently there are apps that are similar and different one's appeal to different parents.

Text4BABY is also popular and is promoted by Iowa Department of Public Health and is sponsored by the Johnson & Johnson Foundation.

Parents seeking apps should rely on ones developed or promoted by recognized leaders in child development.

P4F Board Update

The P4F Board met in November and focused the majority of the meeting on hearing updates from the HOPES program that provides home visitation services in our four counties. Board members

appreciated the time to ask questions and learn about the families they serve.

Other business of the board included evaluation of the indicators for the P4F area.

The next P4F Board meeting is scheduled for:

January 17, 201

At 10:30 in Carroll at New Opportunities

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

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Person in the Spot Lite-Sara S

Sara Skinner is our person in the Spot Lite this month. Sara is the Family Assessment Worker for the Carroll County H.O.P.E.S. program and the coordinator for the Carroll County Nest. For the past 9 years Sara has served families

and is often our go to person for data systems.

Her personal life is also quite busy while she studies for an MSW program AND finalizes the adoption of their little boy on December 7th.

A big CONGRATULATIONS to the entire Skinner Family.



December Family Activities

December is a month that can be overwhelming for adults, just think of what little kids go through. The number one theme parents of young child should follow during

December is to Keep is Simple! Whether it is decorating cookies, attending events or unwrapping paper. Let the kids enjoy the little things.

Perhaps you can follow the four gift recommendations that has become popular.

1. A book,
2. Clothing
3. Something they need
4. Something they want.



We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.partnerships4families.org

Merry Christmas from Partnerships 4 Families