



Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children



2007-2008 Annual Report

Affiliate of the
National Association for the Education of Young Children

Dear Friends and Supporters of Iowa AEOC:

It has been an amazing year for the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children! Due to extraordinary support from our members, funding partners, and Iowa's early childhood community, our services have expanded, membership has increased, and we have assumed a stronger leadership role at both the state and national levels.

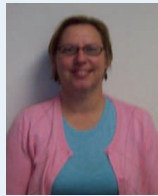
We thank our exceptional Board and dedicated staff for making this possible. Growth and new outcomes were achieved with our programs including the NAEYC Accreditation Facilitation Project, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA, the Annual Iowa AEOC Conference, and leadership development efforts across the state. We hope you take time to review this report, highlighting some of the accomplishments of the July 2007 to June 2008 fiscal year.

Gandhi shared..."We must become the change we want to see." If you would like to become part of our work to create change as we support Early Childhood Iowa's vision of "Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful", please let us know. We'd love to have you join us as a member, in a volunteer leadership role, as a participant in one of our projects, or as a donor or contributor to this work.

Donna

Donna Kennebeck

2005-08 Governing Board President



Barbara

Barbara Merrill

Executive Director



Our Mission is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights, and well-being of all young children with primary focus on the promotion of educational and developmental services and resources for children, families, and communities.

Iowa AEOC respects and encourages the active participation of all members regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, ableness, and education.

2007-2008 Iowa AEOC Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/
T.E.A.C.H. PROGRAM MANAGER
Barbara Merrill

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST
Nikki Varble

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Pat Dautremont

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES SPECIALIST
Rhonda Bancroft

T.E.A.C.H. COUNSELING SPECIALISTS
Pam Ellis
Susan Hayes
Stacie Steveson
Karen Thelin



Iowa AEOC endorses the vision of Early Childhood Iowa,
Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended June 30, 2008

REVENUE

| | |
|--|------------------|
| T.E.A.C.H. program | |
| Iowa Department of Human Services | \$ 504,400 |
| Iowa Department of Management | 341,116 |
| United Way of Central Iowa | 60,458 |
| Empowerment, local areas | 93,911 |
| Recipient and center contributions | <u>22,756</u> |
| | 1,022,641 |
| Accreditation | |
| Iowa Department of Management | 25,000 |
| Polk County Empowerment grants | 25,586 |
| Scott County—Quality through Accreditation project | 48,173 |
| Conference income | 61,397 |
| Membership dues | 35,476 |
| Investment income (loss) | (5,232) |
| Miscellaneous | <u>3,305</u> |
| Total revenue | <u>1,216,346</u> |

EXPENSES

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Program services-education and training | 1,092,228 |
| Supporting services-management and general | <u>113,214</u> |
| Total expenses | <u>1,205,442</u> |

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

10,904

NET ASSETS, beginning

146,288

NET ASSETS, ending

\$ 157,192

Based on Independent Audit completed by Denman & Company, LLP, West Des Moines, Iowa. September 2008.

Iowa AEYC Annual Conference

The Annual Iowa AEYC conference drew over 650 participants to Des Moines in October 2007. **Play....the missing link** was chosen as the conference theme, to draw attention to our role in promoting developmentally appropriate play in the world of standards and assessments. Buttons worn all over the state proclaimed **"Plays well with others"** to heighten interest in the event. Keynote speaker Pam Phelps helped us better understand play, and Dan Gartrell shared vital information about behavior management. In conjunction with our early childhood partners, three pre-conferences were offered, including informative sessions on outdoor play environments, New Staff Orientation director training, and curriculum and assessment. Former Governor Tom Vilsack was honored with the Children's Champion Award, and Iowa AEYC past-president Anita Hampton was named the 2007 Friend of Young Children. Participants enjoyed an evening at the Science Center of Iowa, thanks to a new collaboration.



Leadership/Advocacy

A key role for Iowa AEYC is promoting leadership development in the field of early care and education in Iowa and beyond. Under the leadership of the Governing Board, Iowa AEYC has taken a greater role in many state initiatives and advocacy efforts, including Early Childhood Iowa, State Child Care Advisory Council, Early Access Council, and more.



- In April, Iowa AEYC hosted the **Midwest AEYC** state boards and key staff for the annual Midwest AEYC leadership event. Gwen Simmons and Peter Pizzolongo from NAEYC facilitated training and conversations on board leadership and ethics in our field. We received a **MWAEYC Leadership Grant** to support some of the costs.
- **Donna Kennebeck**, President, and **Dee Stolze**, Vice-president, were named as recipients of the Governor's Volunteerism Award.
- **Tom Rendon** from the Iowa AEYC Board was elected to the NAEYC Governing Board, and **Melanie Felton**, Iowa AEYC President-elect, was named to the NAEYC Affiliate Council Executive Committee.
- Members in southern Iowa identified a need and successfully collaborated on a NAEYC Value of Membership grant, resulting in the formation of a new Iowa AEYC Chapter, **Green Valley**.
- Advocacy events such as 2008 Iowa Legislature Day on the Hill, NAEYC Public Policy conference, Week of the Young Child table at the Iowa Capitol and more featured an Iowa AEYC leadership presence.
- Our membership grew from 1192 in July of 2007 to 1483 in July of 2008.

NAEYC Accreditation

NAEYC ACCREDITATION represents the “gold standard” for our industry, and as an affiliate of NAEYC, Iowa AEYC is proud to support the efforts of our members and others in our state working to achieve program accreditation. The Iowa AEYC Board voted to expand our accreditation grants given annually to also include NAFCC and NAA accreditation efforts this year. Iowa AEYC hosts an **ACCREDITATION FACILITATION PROJECT**, *Quality Improvement Meetings for Administrators*, with over fifty directors meeting with facilitators in Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Dewitt, Oskaloosa, Quad Cities and Sioux City throughout the 2007-08 year. A meeting was held with members of the Accreditation Committee and Facilitators and Hosts on October 24, 2007. Packets of information on accreditation were prepared for audiences including parents, potential programs, and community partners/funders, and are distributed on request through our offices. Our spring 2008 Iowa AEYC newsletter, distributed to over 1400 members, had an accreditation focus, and NAEYC accreditation links were added to our website. An **ACCREDITATION SEMINAR** was held in West Des Moines on April 30, 2008 for thirty-six Accreditation Committee members, facilitators, hosts and directors that were interested in learning more about the project and NAEYC accreditation. This project was supported by funding from the Department of Management, **OFFICE OF EMPOWERMENT**, from the state-wide professional development funds.

POLK COUNTY EMPOWERMENT supported accreditation grants to eight programs seeking NAEYC Accreditation. These programs participated in our Accreditation Facilitation Project and many of them finished their NAEYC accreditation process this year. Apple Tree Children’s Centers in West Des Moines and Urbandale, Little Dragon Preschool in Johnston, Iowa Health System Child Development Center, The Children’s Place at Farm Bureau, House of Mercy/John R. Grubb Child Development Center, and the Science Center of Iowa Preschool appreciate this support from Polk County Empowerment and Iowa AEYC.

Through a contract agreement with **SCOTT COUNTY EMPOWERMENT**, Iowa AEYC supported the fiscal services for the Quad Cities Iowa AEYC Chapter’s Accreditation Project, *Quality through Accreditation*. An intensive model offers training and technical assistance to support programs in Scott County and surrounding areas, and has made outstanding progress this year in promoting higher quality early care and education services for the children and families of that part of our state.

CENTERS ACCREDITATED JULY 2007-JUNE 2008

AHST Community School Preschool, Avoca
Apple Tree Children’s Center, Ankeny
Apple Tree Children’s Center, Clive
Apple Tree Children’s Center, Norwalk
Apple Tree Children’s Center, Urbandale
Apple Tree Children’s Center -Ashworth Rd., West Des Moines
Apple Tree Children’s Center-Grand Ave., West Des Moines
Carter Lake Preschool Center, Carter Lake
Community United Child Care Center-Valley Park, Cedar Falls
Coral Ridge Head Start Center, Coralville
Crittenton Center/Stella Sanford, Sioux City
Eagle’s Loft Child Care Center, Ames
Edison Elementary Preschool, Council Bluffs
Franklin Elementary Preschool, Council Bluffs
HACAP Vinton Head Start, Vinton
Happy Hearts—Smiling Faces Preschool, Edgewood
Iowa State University Child Development Lab School, Ames
Iowa Western Early Childhood Education Center, Council Bluffs
ISU Child Care Center at Vet Med, Ames
Kiddie Karrasel Academy, LeClaire
Laurens/Marathon Early Childhood Program, Laurens,
Lewis Clark Preschool, Council Bluffs
Lily Furgerson Head Start, Waterloo
Messiah Preschool, Burlington
Muscatine Community School District Shared Visions Preschools-
Wisconsin St., Muscatine
Muscatine Community School District Shared Visions Preschools-
Mulberry Ave., Muscatine
Nathan Pusey Elementary, Council Bluffs
Project Child Care, Manly
Riverside Preschool, Oakland
Sioux Center Early Learning Center, Sioux Rapids
Spencer Child Development Center, Spencer
The Bettendorf KinderCare 301113, Bettendorf
The Children’s Place, West Des Moines
The Childrens Village at Hoover, Davenport
Tri-Center Preschool, Neola
Tri-County Child & Family Development, Waterloo
Uncle Sam’s Federal Child Care Center, Des Moines
Walnut Grove Featherstone Preschool, Council Bluffs
Walnut Grove Preschool, Council Bluffs
Waterfront Family Resource Center, Iowa City
Western Dubuque Shared Visions, Epworth



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA

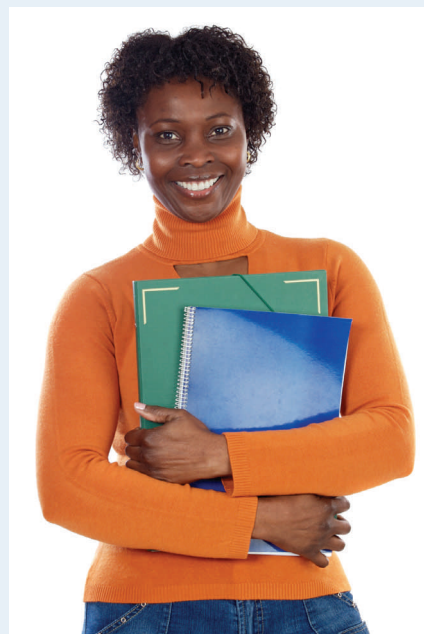
T.E.A.C.H. GRADUATES SUMMER 2007-SPRING 2008

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| CDA CREDENTIALS: | Edina Koco |
| 108 Earned | Kimberly Miller |
| | Brenda O'Halloran |
| ASSOCIATE DEGREES | Kristi Parsons |
| Bonnie Blake | Laura Perry |
| Jon Ann Beede | Pamela Rogers |
| Rochelle Evans | Katherine Seibel |
| Kelly Ford | Kimala Smith |
| Angie Gaul | Jamie York |
| Wendy Houser | |
| Tiffany Huemann | ENDORSEMENT |
| Debra Kephart | Cherie Rissman |

In fiscal year 2008, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA celebrated our fifth anniversary of providing scholarship support for the early care and education workforce in this state, and our first anniversary as part of Iowa AEYC. In a year when Iowa implemented state-funded universal voluntary preschool, as home-based child care is being studied by the Iowa Legislature, and when participation in the Iowa Quality Rating System continues to exceed expectations, T.E.A.C.H. is a critically important system component and vital support for the workforce. With increased resources from our funding partners, including support from the Early Childhood Iowa Professional Development funds, participation grew by over 20% to over 441 teachers, assistant teachers, directors, and family child care providers benefitting from a T.E.A.C.H. contract as they work to achieve a CDA credential, associate or bachelor's degrees in early childhood education, or an early childhood education endorsement to a teaching license.

HOW ARE OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS DOING?

- ★ **3374** college credits were completed
- ★ Participants average **12** credits per contract year with grade points averaging **3.6** out of 4.0
- ★ Over **600** Iowans have earned their CDA credentials since 2003, **108** completing their CDA in 2007-08 with help from T.E.A.C.H.
- ★ Wages of participants increased by an average of **6%**
- ★ Turnover for those who completed a T.E.A.C.H. contract this year was only **2%**, compared to a field that averages 30 – 40% annual turnover.



The T.E.A.C.H. staff and Advisory Committee have implemented several projects this year that increased accessibility to higher education for our workforce.

- "PLUS" options were created and implemented to allow programs such as school districts who previously could not participate in T.E.A.C.H. because of the required compensation increases to pay more of the tuition and books "up front" and allow T.E.A.C.H. to directly send the recipient a compensation bonus at the end of the contract year.
- The College Resource Directory was updated and distributed through websites, providing detailed information on the colleges throughout Iowa that provide early childhood education coursework.
- With the new minimum wage law, we adapted our release time reimbursement amount appropriately, and with the higher cost of gasoline, we increased our travel stipends.
- We identified the need for an updated workforce study and a system for supporting the CDA credentialing process state-wide.

There's much to be done as we move forward. We hope the year ahead brings us closer to a WAGE\$ compensation initiative for Iowa. In tough economic times, we recognize the need to be not only careful stewards of these funds, but also good advocates for the needs of our workforce and the young children of Iowa.

Recipients of Grants and Scholarships and Awards

TONY LACY AEYC MEMBERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Laura Bradley
Kim Fenton
Cheryl Gardiner
Amy Haneklas
Jessi Haptonstall
Tammy Harney
Sarah Hesse
Denarae Huffman
Stephanie Kelsey
Jeannette Larrabee
Tessa LeBahn
Chelsea Lesnet
Emily McManus
Wendy Meisheid

Amanda Nelson
Debra Ness
Jacqueline Pepper
Pauline Plants
Kristy Jo Roberts
Jennifer Schneider
Rosemary Sherwood
Tami Zumach

IOWA AEYC CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP

Deb Buffington
Holly Finegan
Jessica Gisi
Barb Irwin
Sheri Jensen

Stephanie Kelsey
Amy Lane
Brenda O'Halloran
Pauline Plants
Theresa Reetz
Teresa Sammons
Jill Schmitz
Mollie Scott
Bonnie Simpson
Elizabeth TenEyck

CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT

Aime Klostermann
Candice York

LOIS E. DELL CENTER ENHANCEMENT AWARD

Fremont Childcare, Fremont
UNI Child Development Center,
Cedar Falls

CHILDREN'S CHAMPION AWARD

Thomas Vilsack

FRIEND OF YOUNG CHILDREN AWARD

Anita Hampton

In Recognition and Appreciation

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their valuable contributions during fiscal year 2008.

FUNDING PARTNERS

IOWA COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (Professional Development)
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (Federal funding through the Child Care Development Fund, Quality Targeted Funds)
LOCAL EMPOWERMENT AREAS including: Boone, Floyd-Mitchell-Chickasaw, Marion, Polk, Scott, and Story
UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL IOWA (Woman's Leadership Connection)
298 CHILD CARE PROGRAMS STATEWIDE

SPONSORS AND DONORS WHO CONTRIBUTED OVER \$50

KAPLAN EARLY LEARNING COMPANY
LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS
SCIENCE CENTER OF IOWA
UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL IOWA

ACCREDITATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dee Stolze, CHAIR
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Susan Gray

Barbara Grundleger
Deb Gustafson
Donna Kennebeck
Jennifer Kennedy
Penny Milburn
Jennifer Ohman-Rodriguez
Jennifer Praet
Jennifer Reynolds
Mary Schertz
Stacey Walter

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Keri Burian
Nancy Chown
Renee Detloff
Charlene Ellis
Sheri Morud
Tara Roddick
Teresa Sammons
Candice York
Jo Ellen Zeimet

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Dawn Collins
Jason Daniel
Cathy Eddy
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Donna Kennebeck

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Tracey Mavis
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Jennifer Reynolds
Deanne Rowland
Mary Schertz
Jennifer Schreck
Deb Scowther
Dee Stolze
Nancy Taylor
Karen Veerhusen-Langerud

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Jane Drapeaux
Donna Kennebeck
Angie Mapes
CHAPTER POLICY REPRESENTATIVES
Connie Schulte, CEDAR RAPIDS
Jennifer Reynolds, DES MOINES
Ann Willenbring, DUBUQUE
Sheri Morud, FORT DODGE
Stephanie Burbridge, ISU
Heather Daniel, ISU
Nancy Lilienthal, IOWA CITY
Sheri Jensen, NORTH IOWA
Jody Kleve, NORTHWEST
Angie Mapes, QUAD CITIES

Deb Buckingham, ROLLING PRAIRIE
Sally Hatley, SIOUXLAND
Nicole Lind, SOUTHEAST
Merliee Mescher, SOUTHWEST

T.E.A.C.H. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tom Rendon, CHAIR
Isbelia Arzola
Jody Caswell
Cathy Eddy
Rosemary Geiken
Cathy Ketton
Alicia Lewis
Ann Lundvall
Angie Mapes
Sharon Mays
Kim Richman
Deb Scowther
Marcia Stewart
Shanell Wagler
Terry Wangberg
Cathy Wheatcraft

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Governing Board

PRESIDENT

Donna Kennebeck, Des Moines

PRESIDENT ELECT

Melanie Felton, Minden

VICE PRESIDENT/ACCREDITATION CHAIR

Doreen (Dee) Stolze, Ankeny

TREASURER

Art Dinkin, West Des Moines

Rob Reed, Des Moines

SECRETARY

Nicole Lind, Winfield

PUBLIC RELATIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Mary Jo Madvig, West Des Moines

Jeff Johnson, Sioux City

MIDWEST AEYC REPRESENTATIVE

Jane Drapeaux, Cedar Rapids

T.E.A.C.H. ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Tom Rendon, Des Moines

PUBLIC POLICY

Angela Mapes, LeClaire

Emily Moriarity, Ames

BLACK HAWK CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Angie Noll, Cedar Falls

Jennifer Kennedy, Cedar Falls

CEDAR RAPIDS CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Myrna Loehrlein, Cedar Rapids

Kimm Unkrich, Cedar Rapids

DES MOINES CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Jennifer Reynolds, Des Moines

DUBUQUE CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Patricia Emerson, Dubuque

FORT DODGE CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Lena Eyrich, Fort Dodge

IOWA CITY CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Susan Gray, Iowa City

ISU CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Michala Wilson, Ames

Sara Havener, Ames

NORTH IOWA CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Dianne Casto, Mason City

NORTHWEST CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Heidi Wunschel, Storm Lake

QUAD CITIES CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Deb Gustafson, Davenport

ROLLING PRAIRIE CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Jerri Leighton, Oskaloosa

SIouxLAND CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Erika McWell, Sioux City

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Amy Liles, Winfield

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

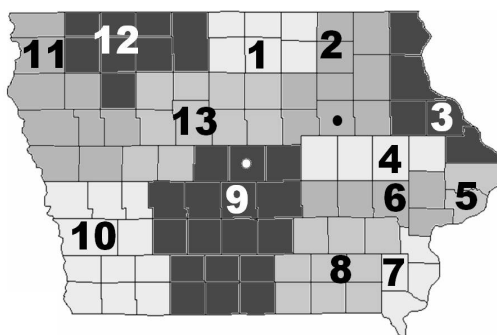
Elaine Mayberry, Council Bluffs

Linda Sladky, Council Bluffs

UNI CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

Charles May, Cedar Falls

Iowa AEYC Local and Affiliate Chapters



- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. North Iowa | 9. Des Moines |
| 2. Black Hawk | 10. Southwest |
| 3. Dubuque | 11. Siouland |
| 4. Cedar Rapids | 12. Northwest |
| 5. Quad Cities | 13. Fort Dodge |
| 6. Iowa City | |
| 7. Southeast | ○ ISU Student Chapter |
| 8. Rolling Prairie | ● UNI Student Chapter |



Iowa Association for the
Education of Young Children

Serving and Acting on Behalf of Young Children

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