



# Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children

Serving and Acting on Behalf of Young Children



Vol. 24, No. 1

Spring 2008

## Accreditation: What's in it for me?

*Donna Kennebeck, Governing Board President*



“Accreditation, it’s what’s best for kids” was the original tagline put out by NAEYC’s marketing of the new accreditation process, but what does it really mean for the children in our programs? As a teacher working in a program, I have first-hand knowledge of the process and the impact on our children. Our center is currently going through the NAEYC accreditation self study. We all have been taught a child needs to be in a safe, healthy environment. The self study process allows for a thorough look at the physical environment and the practices of the teachers. Illness prevention is one of our biggest concerns with young children. We are battling it by our hand washing procedures, how we put out our cots, the food that is brought into the center. **The end result is simply: healthier kids.**

A child also needs to build a relationship of trust and respect with the teacher. Relationships start with the child and the teacher, but also need the support of the family working with the teacher. Communication is a big part of building the relationship. Through the process at our

center, **classrooms are communicating more** at a more **professional level.**

Newsletters go out from classrooms on a regular basis. Communication has improved, moving away from generalizations, to the details that our families need to hear daily.

I have seen the preschool classrooms embrace their new curriculum and fly with it. I have noticed more math and literacy activities happening. Science interest has been picking up, and a renewed interest in community. These are all things that the **children are enjoying while learning.** Isn’t that what early learning is, learning through playful but intentional experiences? Engaged children are not disruptive children, the classrooms appear to have less behavior issues. It is the smile factor!

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Beginning in 2008, each Iowa AEYC newsletter will now feature a theme for many of the included articles. Spring 2008 highlights [Accreditation](#).

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## Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children

An affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children  
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[www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org)  
Donna Kennebeck, Governing Board President  
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Rhonda Bancroft, Membership Services Specialist  
Pat Dautremont, Pam Ellis, Susan Hayes, Mollie Horton, Stacie Steveson, Karen Thelin, Nicki Varble; Iowa AEYC/T.E.A.C.H. staff

### Iowa AEYC Grants and Scholarships for Members

To request an application or for additional information, contact Rhonda at 515-331-8000 ext 12. or email [rhonda@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:rhonda@iowaaeyc.org), or check our website at [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org).

	Deadline for submission
Accreditation	April 30
Conference Scholarship	September 1
Continuing Education	March 1
Lois E. Dell	July 1
Tony Lacy Iowa AEYC	March 1
Membership Scholarship	

### Iowa AEYC Staff Share a Smile



Back row Karen Thelin, Pam Ellis, Rhonda Bancroft, Pat Dautremont  
Front row Barb Merrill, Stacie Steveson, Nicki Varble, Susan Hayes

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Newsletter is published quarterly. Articles published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Iowa AEYC as a whole, they reflect the opinions of the authors who have written them. Articles for the Summer 2008 Newsletter are due May 1, 2008. Send articles to: Iowa AEYC, 5525 Meredith Drive, Suite F, Des Moines, IA 50310.

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There are so many ways the child benefits from following the criteria in the NAEYC accreditation standards. **The experience they have on a daily basis, will be warm, inviting, playful, educational, and geared to the individual needs of the child. It will leave a positive impact of a lifetime love of learning, self confidence, and independence. In other words the child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.**

I cannot say what step toward quality improvement is best for your program, but I do know that the self study process has already benefited the children in our program. I do challenge you to make an improvement plan based on thoughtful assessment. Let's work toward quality! Start where ever you are and work forward—one step at a time. Let us help you if we can.

### **Remember, *Early Years are Learning Years***

*Donna Kennebeck , Governing Board President*

**Iowa currently has 100 programs that are NAEYC accredited, serving 6,172 children.**

**Iowa currently has 19 family child care homes that are accredited.**

**Iowa currently has 3 after school programs that are accredited.**

## **The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Accreditation Facilitation Project *Quality Improvement Meetings for Program Administrators***

Iowa AEYC is sponsoring meetings for administrators who wish to learn more about the NAEYC accreditation process. Currently we have seven groups meeting in the following areas, **Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Dewitt, Fort Dodge, Oskaloosa, and the Quad Cities.**

We are looking for groups to meet in additional communities. All you need is 4-6 program administrators interested in learning more about the accreditation process as they are considering it for their programs. Funding and supports are available.

Information about the project including facilitator and host applications can be found on the Iowa AEYC website at [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org) under the Accreditation tab, or you can call Rhonda at (515) 331-8000 ext. 12 or email [rhonda@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:rhonda@iowaaeyc.org) for more information or to join a group in your area.

Iowa AEYC now has accreditation information packets available. The packets target the needs of communities and community partners, programs interested in accreditation and parents. Thanks to support from Iowa Community Empowerment, professional development state-wide funding, these packets are available upon request free of charge.

Contact our office at (800) 469-2392 to request the appropriate packet. Some of the information included in the packets can also be found on our web site at [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org) under the accreditation tab.

## NAEYC Accreditation: Required, recommended, or recognized?

NAEYC Accreditation represents a “gold standard” for our industry, especially for centers and preschool programs. However, it is time-consuming, requires quality improvement and collaboration within a program, and can be expensive. So, why do it?

As I’ve traveled the state over the past year, meeting with members and partners on behalf of Iowa AEYC, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood@IOWA, and Early Childhood Iowa Professional Development, I’ve had some stimulating conversations with many of you. We recognize our early childhood system is changing...for the better. The Quality Rating System has given us an incentive to move towards higher levels of quality. Many of us work for systems such as Head Start or Shared Visions with increasing standards for programs and for personnel. We recognize that our new state funded universal voluntary preschool programs require degrees, teaching licenses and a quality program standard being met. The Quality Preschool Program Standards (based on NAEYC accreditation standards) are being implemented in centers and preschools throughout the state. In some systems and for some initiatives, accreditation is recognized (earns you points of the Quality Rating System), in other systems, it is recommended (NAEYC is one of three quality standards recommended for our state-funded preschools), and in other systems it is required (Shared Visions requires programs to be NAEYC accredited). Our conversations around the state have affirmed our recognition of these changes, and our need for ever-increasing education, supports and technical assistance, as well as appropriate compensation for the important work that we do.

Think of our commitment to this field. Think of our commitment to young children. We are all on a life-long learning path towards “being the best we can be”. As part of a team with the families we work with, we are constantly assessing and striving to improve the quality of our programs. We are all on a “Quality Improvement” journey.

NAEYC Accreditation is one benchmark on the path to best practices. It represents a very high standard. To be true – it represents a lofty goal, an ideal, but don’t our children deserve the best we can be?

At Iowa AEYC, we’ll help you in any way we can on your path exploring accreditation. We have “accreditation packets” available free of charge for programs interested in exploring the NAEYC accreditation option, or trainers or community partners interested in more information. Contact us at [info@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:info@iowaaeyc.org) and we’ll send one out to you. We have grants available to help support your work (see page 5 for application information). Our accreditation facilitation groups (Quality Improvement Meetings for Administrators) can provide local support partners for you on your journey (see page 3 for information about groups in your area). Call us if you’re interested in resources to get your own group started! Visit our website [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org) for more information.

*Quality Counts...are you ready for the journey?*

*Barb Merrill*

Iowa AEYC Executive Director

## **Accreditation Grants** *Deadline for Application April 30*

### **Iowa AEYC Accreditation Grant Accredited through NAEYC**

Iowa AEYC will award accreditation grants totaling up to \$2000.00 annually. Grants will be awarded to centers seeking accreditation or re-accreditation. The funds are to be used toward enrollment, application, candidacy, annual report or re-accreditation fees. The center must be DHS licensed and in good standing or be administered by an approved public or private school and at least one employee needs to be an Iowa AEYC member.

### **Iowa AEYC Accreditation Grant Accreditation through the National Association of Family Child Care**

Iowa AEYC will award accreditation grants totaling up to \$1000.00 annually. Grants will be awarded to child development homes seeking accreditation or re-accreditation through the National Association of Family Child Care to be used toward application fees. Applicants must be in compliance with all DHS regulations, have a current registration with DHS and must meet the National Association of Family Child Care criteria and be a member of Iowa AEYC.

### **Iowa AEYC Accreditation Grant Accredited through the National AfterSchool Association**

Iowa AEYC will award accreditation grants totaling up to \$500.00 annually. Grants will be awarded to centers seeking NAA accreditation or re-accreditation to be used toward intent to submit, application submission and processing fee, endorsement visit fee, annual report fee or re-accreditation fees. The center must be DHS licensed and in good standing or be administered by an approved public or private school and at least one employee needs to be an Iowa AEYC member.



### **Funding for Centers/ Preschools in Polk County**

Thanks to an agreement between Iowa AEYC and Polk County Empowerment, we will be able to offer accreditation resource support for Polk County centers/preschools participating in the Iowa AEYC Accreditation Facilitation project and NAEYC accreditation. Grants of up to \$2000 for centers licensed for under 100 children and up to \$3000 for centers licensed for 100 or more children are available.

Call Rhonda Bancroft (515) 331-8000 ext. 12 or email [rhonda@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:rhonda@iowaaeyc.org) for more information about the Quality Improvement for Meetings for Administrators.

*The applications for the Iowa AEYC Accreditation Grants and the Funding for Centers/Preschools in Polk County can be found on the Iowa AEYC website at:  
<http://www.iowaaeyc.org/grants-and-scholarships.cfm>*

### **NAEYC Accreditation Scholarship Program**

NAEYC is offering a limited number and a limited amount of Accreditation Scholarships in support of programs working toward NAEYC accreditation. The scholarship will primarily be based on financial need. Funds will be used to subsidize and support the fees associated with achieving and maintaining NAEYC Accreditation. The scholarship application is on the NAEYC website at: [http://www.naeyc.org/academy/pdf/scholarship\\_app\\_1-07.pdf](http://www.naeyc.org/academy/pdf/scholarship_app_1-07.pdf).



## NAEYC Accredited Programs 2007

Alice's Rainbow Child Care Center, Iowa City (2 sites)  
Anamosa Children's Center –HACAP, Anamosa  
Apple Tree Children's Center, West Des Moines  
Bloomer Early Childhood Preschool Center, Council Bluffs  
Butler County Head Start, Clarksville  
Capital Park Early Learning Center, Des Moines  
CB Rue Elementary Preschool, Council Bluffs  
Central Park Head Start, Cedar Rapids (2 sites)  
Child Development Center, Hawarden  
Children's Center, Council Bluffs  
Children's Village at Monroe, Davenport (2 sites)  
Children's Village West, Davenport  
Childtime Learning Center, Ankeny and Clive sites  
Community United Child Care Center Valley Park, Cedar Falls  
Corning Head Start, Corning  
Creative Beginnings Preschool, Creston  
Creative Center for Young Children, Des Moines  
Des Moines Area Community College Child Dev. Ctr., Ankeny  
Discovery Kids, Creston  
Early Childhood Learning Center, Cherokee  
Evelyn Davis Early Learning Academy, Des Moines  
Exemplary Elementary Preschool, Council Bluffs  
Grand Beginnings, Boxholm  
Grinnell College Preschool, Grinnell  
Grinnell Head Start & Child Dev. Preschool, Grinnell  
HACAP Head Start Early Head Start Urban Ctr., Cedar Rapids  
Highland Park Christian Church Head Start, Des Moines  
House of Mercy/John R. Grubb Child Dev. Ctr., Des Moines  
Iowa State University Child Dev. Lab School, Ames  
Kaleidoscope Preschool Lamoni Community School, Lamoni  
Kirkwood Kids Child Care Center, Cedar Rapids  
Lewis Central Preschool Kreft Preschool Program, Council Bluffs  
Little Dragon Preschool, Johnston (4 sites)  
Little Roadrunner Preschool, Truro  
Longfellow Preschool, Council Bluffs  
McKinstry Title One Prekindergarten, Waterloo (2 sites)  
MICA Head Start and Child Development Ctr., Iowa Falls  
MICA Head Start & Early Head Start Learning Ctr. on High St, Marshalltown  
Midland Preschool, Oxford Junction  
Monroe Early Childhood School, Cedar Rapids  
Nishna Valley Community School District, Hastings  
Nodaway Valley Preschool, Greenfield  
Northeast Iowa Community College Child Dev. Ctr., Peosta  
Old Main Children's Ctr., Washington  
Peck Child Development Center, Newton  
Ringgold County Child Care Inc. d/b/a Family Resource Ctr., Mount Ayr  
Ringgold County Headstart, Mount Ayr  
Roosevelt Preschool, Council Bluffs  
Roots and Wings Child Care Center at Expo, Waterloo

SCICAP Early Childhood Program, Wayne County, Corydon  
Shared Beginnings Program Operation New View CAA, Dubuque  
Stepping Stones Early Learning Center, Knoxville  
Successful Beginnings Preschool, Afton  
The Children's Place, West Des Moines  
The Family Place Preschool, Leon  
Tri-County Independence Head Start, Independence  
Truman Early Childhood Educational Program, Davenport  
UIHC Child Care Center, Iowa City  
University Community Childcare, Ames  
Washington Elementary School, Council Bluffs  
WCDC Atlantic Head Start, Atlantic (2 sites)  
WCDC Mapleton Head Start, Mapleton  
WCDC Onawa I, II Head Start, Onawa  
West Central Dev. Corp. Denison I, II, III Head Start, Denison (3 sites)  
West Central Dev. Corp. Missouri Valley Head Start, Missouri Valley  
West Central Dev. Corp. Villisca Head Start, Villisca  
Willson-Bearshear Early Childhood Ctr., Ames  
Xochipilli Children's Center, Des Moines  
YWCA-Aliber Child Development Ctr., Des Moines

## Congratulations to programs newly accredited by NAEYC

AHST Community School Preschool, Avoca  
Apple Tree Children's Center, Ankeny, Clive, Norwalk and Urbandale Sites  
Bettendorf KinderCare 301113, Bettendorf  
Carter Lake Preschool Center, Carter Lake  
The Children's Village at Hoover, Davenport  
Crittentons/Stella Sanford Child Development Center, Sioux City  
Coral Ridge Head Start Center, Coralville  
Eagles Loft Child Care Center, Ames  
Edison Elementary Preschool, Waterloo  
Franklin Elementary Preschool, Council Bluffs  
ISU Child Care Center, Ames  
Iowa Western Early Childhood Education Center, Council Bluffs  
HACAP Vinton Head Start, Vinton  
Kiddie Karrasel Academy, Le Claire  
Lewis and Clark Preschool Program, Council Bluffs  
Messiah Preschool, Burlington  
Pusey Elementary, Council Bluffs  
Tri-Center Preschool, Neola  
Uncle Sam's Federal Child Care Center, Des Moines  
Walnut Grove Elementary Preschool, Council Bluffs  
Walnut Grove Featherstone Preschool, Council Bluffs  
Waterfront Family Resource Center, Iowa City  
Western Dubuque Shared Visions, Dubuque



## Leveraging NAEYC Accreditation to Improve Program Quality

NAEYC's Public Policy department released the report, *Elevating the Field: Using NAEYC Early Childhood Program Accreditation to Support and Reach Higher Quality in Early Childhood Programs*.

The report highlights strategies that states are using to improve the quality of early childhood programs and, in turn, their early care and education systems. To view the report or for additional resources on state public policies and trends go to the NAEYC state public policy page at [www.naeyc.org/policy/state/](http://www.naeyc.org/policy/state/).

## Accreditation and the Quality Rating System

Where does accreditation fit into the Quality Rating System (QRS)? QRS representatives from across the nation gathered at a meeting sponsored by NAEYC to discuss the role of NAEYC affiliates and accreditation in Quality Rating Improvement Systems. Angela Mapes and Emily Moriarity represented Iowa AEYC at the meeting. As states vary in regulations, the Quality Rating Improvements systems vary as well, especially the placement and role of accreditation in the ratings. It was exciting to see the role of the local affiliates and the various roles they play in the implementation of the QRIS. The one thing that is common is the role of NAEYC accreditation and the level of quality it represents as a national standard. Despite where accreditation fits into a Quality Improvement System, NAEYC accreditation supports and guides programs to reach higher quality in early childhood programs and is an important piece of the QRS system. Working together, NAEYC and Quality Rating Systems make a great difference in the quality of care parents can select, professionals working in the field, and in places for children to learn and grow.

## NAEYC Spotlight on Pediatric First Aid Training

### *How does the NAEYC Academy define pediatric first aid training?*

Courses that include topics on administering first aid to children (including managing a blocked airway and providing rescue breathing for infants and children) are considered pediatric first aid training. Standard adult-oriented first aid courses do not address the specific needs of young children and are insufficient to meet this criterion.

In some instances, pediatric first aid courses do not include rescue breathing and managing blocked airways. If so, the course must be supplemented with a training that covers these topics. A person who has taken a pediatric first aid course that does not include rescue breathing but has a valid CPR certificate meets this criterion.

### *What evidence does my program use to demonstrate compliance with this required criterion?*

Pediatric first aid training courses typically come with a certificate or similar documentation of completion. If a first aid certificate or similar documentation does not state "pediatric first aid," the program must provide additional documentation to verify the content of the first aid course. A course syllabus or outline, curriculum guide, or letter from the first aid training agency identifying the pediatric content of the first aid course.

### *Where can I find courses that offer pediatric first aid training?*

Sources to consider for first aid and CPR courses specific to infants and children include:

- [American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
- [American Red Cross](#)
- [National Safety Council](#)
- [American Heart Association](#) (enter "pediatric first aid" in the search box)

For a list of topics recommended for coverage in a pediatric first aid course, see Standard 1.027 in *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care*.

## Quality through Accreditation

### A project of the Quad Cities Association for the Education of Young Children

Jennifer Ohman-Rodriguez, M.Ed.

Raising quality in early care and education is no easy task. Throw in the differences between two state child care regulatory systems, early care and education funding streams, and a river, and raising quality becomes nothing short of complicated. Yet for a group of early care and education professionals in the Quad Cities area these differences fueled dialogue. And dialogue helped create a quality facilitation project—Quality through Accreditation.

Quality through Accreditation is a project of the Quad Cities Association for the Education of Young Children. It is a quality facilitation project for center-based early care and education programs. The goal of Quality through Accreditation is to raise quality in the bi-state Quad Cities region through a comprehensive and systematic approach. Iowa AEYC serves as one of the project's many partners.

Participation in Quality through Accreditation is by application and covers a twelve month period. Initially each participating center is assessed using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale, Revised (ECERS-R) and the Infant Toddler Environmental Rating Scale, Revised (ITERS-R). These assessments are administered by trained assessors who are inter-rater reliable.

From assessment, each program is given a consultant—called a mentor—to help take the assessment findings and turn them into a quality facilitation plan. Mentors visit each program monthly aiding in the quality facilitation process. In addition, each participating program has training experiences at a designated demonstration center and monthly cohort meetings. Other quality facilitation supports include help with the Quality Rating Scale, training using the ECERS-R and ITERS-R for self-assessment (Iowa only), national accreditation support for interested centers, and director membership in the National Association for the Education of Young Children.



Taken at Scott County Family Y Palmer Center. The center participates in the Quality through Accreditation project.

## It's about priorities!

*Emily Moriarity, Policy Chair Iowa AEYC and  
Angela Mapes, Public Policy Chair Quad Cities  
Affiliate Chapter of Iowa AEYC*

While some Quality through Accreditation participating centers work directly on national accreditation, most do not. However every participating center works indirectly on national accreditation in that they are making changes that are based on the same research and practice as national accreditation standards.

For more information regarding Quality through Accreditation, please contact Jennifer Praet, Project Coordinator, at [Teampr8@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Teampr8@sbcglobal.net), 309-721-1650, or visit our website at [www.quadcitiesaeyc.com](http://www.quadcitiesaeyc.com)

Quality through Accreditation is pleased to receive funding from Scott County KIDS-Empowerment and through a community partnership grant from the United Way of the Greater Quad Cities Area. Quality through Accreditation is a collaborating partner with the Illinois Statewide Accreditation Mentoring Project and with Iowa AEYC's Q.I.M.A. project.

**Author Bio:** Jennifer Ohman-Rodriguez is one of the creators of Quality through Accreditation. She served as the project's first coordinator. Currently Ms. Ohman-Rodriguez is a Quality through Accreditation mentor and serves on the project's advisory committee.

It's about priorities-a clear message from the NAEYC Public Policy Forum in Washington D.C. this year. In a year where budgets are tight on a state and federal level it's important to keep children as a priority. During the visits on the Hill, the two requests we brought to our federal congressmen was an \$874 million increase for the Child Development Block Grant and \$1.072 billion increase in Head Start. Both of these requests are to recoup the lack of inflation adjustment since 2002, and to support Head Start. Please join us by contacting your federal Senators and Representatives to encourage them to make children one of their top priorities.



*Emily Moriarity, Senator Harkin, Angela Mapes*

(Emily Moriarity and Angela Mapes represented Iowa at the 2008 NAEYC Public Policy forum February 12-13, 2008. They participated in meetings with leaders from other states and met with Iowa's Congressional delegation.)

## Candidates for Iowa AEYC Governing Board



### Candidate for Secretary: Nicole Lind

**Current or past involvement in the field:** I am the owner/operator of a child development home. I have been running my business for 10 years.

**Current or prior involvement in Iowa AEYC:** I am the current Southeast Iowa AEYC Chapter President and the past Representative. I have also held many other offices at the local level. I am the current Iowa AEYC state governing board Secretary. I have held this position for the last 2 1/2 years.

**Contributions you will bring to Iowa AEYC:** I have had many experiences serving in various officer positions for many different boards both at the local and the state level. I feel that I am best suited for the position of secretary, having had the most experience in that area. I want to continue in my efforts to support the Iowa AEYC Mission Statement and to support the children of Iowa and the people who care for them.

### Biographical information:

I live in rural southeast Iowa. My husband and I have been married for 13 years and we have four children, Hailee Marie, 11, Peyton James 6, Coy Adam 3 and Kennadee Ann 7 months. My children attend school in the Winfield-Mount Union school district where I try to stay active in the school. Besides running my child care business, I am also a Girl Scout leader, softball/soccer coach and of course, a full time mommy. I am very involved in CCPT/AFSCME serving on the state negotiation team. I enjoy helping other providers with their businesses. My hobbies are camping with my family, watching stock car races and playing with my kids. Having just finished my CDA, my next personal goal is to start taking the necessary steps for going back to school.



### Candidate for Secretary: Leann Andre

After graduating from Iowa State University with a Bachelors degree in Child Development, I began teaching Infants and Toddlers. Since then, I have held a variety of positions in a variety of child care settings. I am currently Regional Manager for Apple Tree Children's Center and help oversee the nine Iowa locations. I have been actively involved in the NAEYC accreditation process, previously as a validator and currently leading an Accreditation Facilitation Group in the Des Moines area. All of our Apple Tree sites are also involved in the NAEYC accreditation process. I have also held positions on the Child Care Council, Inc. board and have presented training sessions at local conferences, IAEYC and NAEYC conferences. While infants and toddlers are still my favorite age group, I truly enjoy teaching children and adults of all ages. I am looking forward to becoming more involved with Iowa AEYC.

### Election of Officers

Iowa AEYC will be electing a Secretary and Treasurer in next summer's election. Candidate bios can be found in this newsletter. Nomination of additional candidates may be made by petition signed by no less than one hundred (100) Iowa AEYC members and submitted to the Iowa AEYC office by April 1. Watch for your official ballot in the mail in May.

## Candidate for Treasurer: Art Dinkin

Art is a husband and father of two young children, ages 8 months and 2 1/2 years. He and his wife are keenly aware of the importance of quality early childhood experiences, and their family appreciates the services of a child development home provider. Art resides in West Des Moines. Art is currently the Treasurer of the Iowa AEYC Governing Board.

### Financial Consultant

1990: Began serving clients

1992: Designated a Life Underwriter Training Council Fellow (LUTCF)

1994: Designated a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU)

1997—1999: Worked as an Advanced Markets Consultant for a Fortune 500 company doing Business Planning, Retirement Planning, and Estate Planning

1999: Moderator for the Life Underwriter Training Council course “Meeting Client Needs”

2002: Designated a Certified Financial Planner

2003: Moderator for the Life Underwriter Training Council course “Long Term Care”

2007: Launched Moment on Money, a blog on financial planning issues

### Relevant Additional Professional Experiences

2004: Elected President of the Des Moines Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors

2005: Began serving as an Adjunct Instructor for Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) teaching Introduction to Investments, Introduction to Business, and Managing Entrepreneurial Ventures

Application forms for the Children’s Champion and Friend of Young Children awards can be found on the Iowa AEYC website at <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/about-us.cfm>.

## Friend of Young Children Award

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children will grant an annual award to a person who has made a significant contribution to improving the quality of care and education of young children. The person, group, or organization can be any professional, legislator, volunteer, or anyone currently living or working in the state, who has demonstrated an outstanding service or achievement to benefit young children and is a current Iowa AEYC member. The award will be presented at the fall Iowa AEYC conference.

Nominations for the award can be made by any Iowa AEYC member and submitted to Iowa AEYC by April 1. Nominations will be considered at the Summer Board meeting and the candidate selected by the Governing Board.

## Children’s Champion Award

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children will grant an award to a person who has made significant contributions on the state level to improving the quality of care and education of young children. The person can be any professional, legislator, volunteer, or anyone currently living or working in the state, who has demonstrated an outstanding service or achievement to benefit Iowa's young children. The award will be presented at the fall Iowa AEYC conference.

Nominations for the award can be made by any Iowa AEYC member and submitted to Iowa AEYC by April 1. Nominations will be considered at the Summer Board meeting and the candidate selected by the Governing Board.

**Mark your calendars for the  
IOWA AEYC ANNUAL STATEWIDE  
CONFERENCE**

**OCTOBER 9-11 2008  
DES MOINES, IOWA**

*the early childhood conference for professionals*

Lisa Murphy, The Ooey Gooley® Lady will be the Friday keynote. To learn more about Lisa check out her website at [www.ooeygoeey.com](http://www.ooeygoeey.com).

Jeff Johnson, former Iowa AEYC board member, will be the Saturday keynote. Check out Jeff's website at [www.explorationearlylearning.com](http://www.explorationearlylearning.com).

Sue Russell, NAEYC President, will present a seminar on the WAGE\$ compensation initiative on Thursday, October 9 and a workshop on Friday, October 10.

We are now accepting presentation proposals. For a presentation proposal form go to our web site at [http://www.iowaaeyc.org/docs/2008\\_wkshop\\_proposal\\_form.doc](http://www.iowaaeyc.org/docs/2008_wkshop_proposal_form.doc)

For additional information contact Rhonda Bancroft at 515-331-8000 ext. 12, email [rhonda@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:rhonda@iowaaeyc.org).

**The Iowa AEYC Newsletter is now  
available electronically**

If you would prefer to access your newsletter electronically rather than a paper copy that is mailed to you please contact us at [info@iowaaeyc.org](mailto:info@iowaaeyc.org). Give us the email address where you want your newsletter sent and your next newsletter will conveniently be sent to you via email.

**Training Scholarships for Family  
Support Workers**

The Office of Empowerment has contracted with the Division of Community Action Agencies (DCAA) to award scholarships for training to family support workers across the state. The trainings approved for the scholarships are Healthy Families Iowa Core training, Healthy Family Iowa Core training for supervisors, Partnering with Parents (PwP), Parents as Teachers 0-3, Parents as Teachers 3 –K and Family Development Certification (FDC) offered through Iowa State University Extension and University of Iowa - National Resource Center, combined FDC and PwP, and Healthy Families America Great Beginnings Start Before Birth training. The scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. Any family support organization is encouraged to apply for a scholarship.

Your agency will be reimbursed for registration cost and materials upon successful completion of training/certification and the submission of Family Support Scholarship Reimbursement Request to DCAA. Participants who incurred expenses related to the training between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, may be eligible for partial reimbursement if you training started before July 1, 2007 but ended after that date.

For information about all trainings, please see the FaDSS website [www.iowafadss.org](http://www.iowafadss.org). For additional information contact Lorie Easter at [Lorie.Easter@iowa.gov](mailto:Lorie.Easter@iowa.gov).



## Do you have your Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential? Why wait?

### What is the CDA Credential?

The CDA Credential is a nationally recognized credential awarded to individuals who have demonstrated the required competency through both experience and education in working with young children ages 0-5. The CDA Credential is awarded to teachers, directors or family child care providers. It is awarded by *The Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition* who administers the CDA program.

The CDA eligibility requirements are:

- \* Must be 18 years or older
- \* Have high school diploma or GE
- \* Have 480 hour of experience working with young children in the past five years
- \* Have 120 hours of formal childcare education and/or training within the past 5 years in the CDA training content areas.

The purpose of the CDA program is to enhance the quality of early care and education by defining, evaluating, and recognizing the competence of child care providers. The successful CDA meets the following competency goals:

1. To establish and maintain a safe, healthy learning environment.
2. To advance physical and intellectual competence.
3. To support social and emotional development and to provide positive guidance.
4. To establish positive and productive relationships with families.
5. To ensure a well-run, purposeful program responsive to participant needs.
6. To maintain a commitment to professionalism.

Formal child care education and training in our state is offered in a variety of ways. Several colleges have CDA courses for college credit. Other colleges have a non-credit course specific to the CDA. Another way providers and teachers may earn their training hours for their CDA would be by individually compiling their training hours from approved, recognized training organizations such as Child Care Resource and Referral, Area Education Agencies, or ISU Extension.

Completing the education hours is just one step in the process, however. Additional steps help to ensure that many types of evaluation are completed, that the candidate is assessed not only caring for children, but from the parents of the children in his/her care.

Iowa's T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program assists providers from regulated child care settings in Iowa to earn their CDA credential by offering assistance in the preparation for application of the credential, through scholarship assistance for the application fee, and compensation increase (usually as a bonus) when the credential is earned.

Check the CDA website at the Council for Professional Recognition: [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org)  
Please call us at T.E.A.C.H. IOWA for more information 515-331-8000 ext 10.



## Join Iowa AEYC in Celebrating Week of the Young Child April 13-19, 2008

Week of the Young Child is held each year to honor young children and thank early childhood teachers and all those who make a difference in young children's lives. The theme for Week of the Young Child 2008 (WOYC) is:

*Bring Communities Together for Children  
Children Bring Communities Together*

All young children need and deserve high quality early learning experiences that will prepare them for life and the week of the young child is a great opportunity to recognize the importance of early learning for all young children.

Young children and their families depend on high-quality education and care, which helps children get a great start and brings lasting benefits to Iowa.

Tell us about your WOYC event. Send articles and pictures to the Iowa AEYC office so that we can print them in a future issue of the newsletter.

**Dreams and Realities**  
**Directors: Gatekeepers to Quality**  
**April 29th from 8 am to 4 pm**  
**Scheman Continuing Education Building,**  
**ISU campus, Ames**

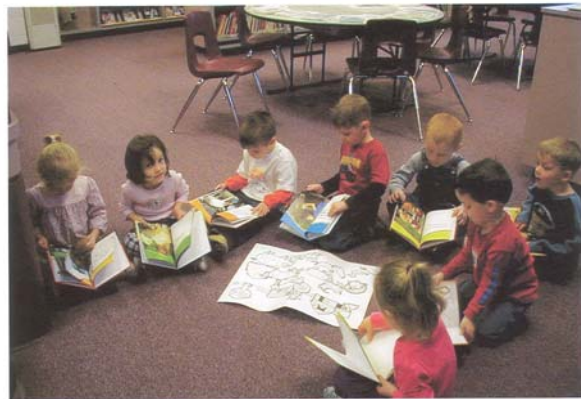
Registration fee: \$50 for directors from programs outside of Story County Registration is through the Center for Child Care Resources. Call 515-294-8833 or 800-437-8599 for details.

Keynote speaker: Sue Baldwin  
Additional breakout sessions,  
and lunch are included in the registration fee.  
NAC approval is pending.

The conference is open to all child care center/preschool owners, directors, and assistant directors as well as any other administrative staff – education coordinators, etc.

### Recipient of the 2007 Lois E Dell Award

Fremont Childcare Center, located in Fremont, Iowa used proceeds from their award to purchase materials for literacy centers.



*The children at Fremont Childcare Center enjoying their literacy materials.*

To apply for the Lois E Dell Award go to our web site at: <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/grants-and-scholarships.cfm>



# Iowa AEYC Spring Leadership Training



*Saturday, April 5, 2008 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

*Foxboro Conference Center, 6165 NW 86<sup>th</sup> St, Johnston, Iowa*

**This training has been NAC approved!**

## ***What SHOULD we do? Dealing with difficult decisions in early care and education programs***

Peter Pizzolongo, NAEYC Director of Training and Associate Director of Professional Development, and Gwen Simmons, NAEYC Director of Affiliate Relations, will lead us through typical scenarios we face with parents, staff, co-workers, and community partners every day. Strategies for getting everyone “on board”. Sensitivity to diversity issues. Based on the NAEYC Code of Ethics – and the Code’s Supplements for Program Administrators and Adult Educators - we’ll share solutions for difficult situations. Participants will receive a copy of the NAEYC Code of Ethics and resource book.

**Registration Fee:** Iowa AEYC Members \$ 70      Non Members \$ 90

Registrations must be received by March 28, 2008. Register early, this seminar is limited to 150 participants. Refund of registration will be considered, with receipt of written request 10 days prior to the event, less a \$10 processing fee. Lunch and drinks will be provided. For additional information contact Rhonda at rhonda@iowaaeyc.org or 515-331-8000 ext. 12.

**Send this registration form and check payable to:**

**Iowa AEYC  
5525 Meredith Drive, Suite F  
Des Moines, IA 50310**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone (home):** \_\_\_\_\_ **(work):** \_\_\_\_\_

Office use only ck# \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ fr \_\_\_\_\_



## Spring 2008 Iowa AEYC Newsletter

Iowa AEYC  
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**Are you moving? Please notify  
Iowa AEYC of address changes.**

### Upcoming Events

**Iowa AEYC Governing Board Meetings**, April 4, July 12, October 9

**Iowa Family Child Care Association Spring Conference**, *Caring for Iowa's Future*,  
March 15, 2008, Cedar Rapids

**Black Hawk Chapter of Iowa AEYC Conference**, *See How They Grow*, March 29, 2008  
Waterloo

**Midwest Leadership Event**, *Governance*, April 4, 2008

**Iowa AEYC Spring Leadership Training**, *What Should we do? Dealing with difficult  
decisions in early care and education programs*, April 5, 2008

**WOYC**, *Bring Communities Together for Children – Children Bring Communities Together* ,  
April 13-19, 2008

**Fort Dodge Chapter of Iowa AEYC**, *Early Childhood Seminar*, April 26, 2008

**Dreams and Realities**, *Directors: Gatekeepers to Quality*, April 29, 2008, Ames

**Iowa AEYC State Conference**, October 10-11, 2008

**NAEYC 2007 Annual Conference & Expo**, Nov 5-8, 2008, Dallas, Texas