



T.E.A.C.H. News

for participants and their programs

A New Look

—From Your Program Manager—

The Iowa T.E.A.C.H. program has been transitioning this summer. As you may know, Iowa is one of 22 states to offer a T.E.A.C.H. program. We all offer participants a contract agreement that supports education, scholarship, retention, and compensation. Child Care Services Association in North Carolina provides us all with guidance and support which allows us to offer the best program possible for you. They also provide us with a database for tracking your progress, bills and payments, and outcomes of your successes and our program.

In 2009, we have been updated to a new database. It can do more and keep track of more information for us. You will notice your forms have changed and the paperwork you receive with your check (or bill) looks slightly different. Please don't hesitate to call your Counselor, me, Pat (our Data Specialist), or Nicki (our Accounting Specialist); if you have any questions at all.

Don't forget to keep all the copies of the paperwork that come from T.E.A.C.H. every semester. This is important to track your progress, to keep for your tax preparer, and to have in close at hand if you call with questions. We recommend you find a binder or file drawer and set up a system to keep all your forms and paperwork.

A new look for this newsletter too! Let us know whether it is helpful to you.

How can it be the end of August already? What a busy year it has been! We hope you're enjoying your summer and ready for back to school.

We want to invite you, your co-workers, and your director to our Iowa AEYC/Iowa Head Start Association fall conference October 1-3, 2009. Go to www.iowaaeyc.org for a conference flier and registration materials. We are hosting several sessions about and for T.E.A.C.H. participants. On **Saturday, October 3 from 8:00-9:30 a.m.** we will have a special reception for the T.E.A.C.H. participants. If you are coming to the conference, join us for refreshments and giveaways, as well as time to visit with your Counselor "face to face". We are looking forward to seeing you then!

Let us know if we can support you in any way.

Many thanks for all you do,

Barb

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"Education for Iowa's Child Care Workforce"

Did you know?

That in 2008-2009, 540 Iowa early care and education providers participated in T.E.A.C.H.

- These providers worked in over 350 programs across the state
- They attended 25 different colleges across the state
- They earned 4,037 college credits
- 35 finished a college degree or endorsement
- 88 earned a CDA credential
- Overall, their hourly salary increased by over 7%
- Over 95% of them remained in their early childhood programs

Release time — really important!

Many of the T.E.A.C.H. model options require release time. For home providers, a release time payment is provided to you with your book reimbursement check each semester. We know it is hard for you to take time off from your work. We hope you will “pay yourself” with this check for the extra hours you put in every week attending school and studying.

For center staff, release time is time away from your child care job. This could be time you spend studying, or, depending on when your class meets, this could be time that you are attending class. It could also be time you spend grocery shopping or housecleaning or doing whatever else needs to be done so that you can juggle the task of attending school and working full time. The hours away from your job are recorded, preferably by you, on a form C and turned into T.E.A.C.H. at the end of each semester. Before the form C is turned in, both you and the director sign it, to verify that the hours are correct. While you are taking “release time,” you are paid your regular salary for this “time away from work.” T.E.A.C.H. partially reimburses the center for some of these costs.

For each semester credit (1 credit) of college coursework, you earn 16 hours of release time. If you take more than 6 credits a semester (which we do not recommend), you still receive only 96 hours of release time. T.E.A.C.H. does not base your release time by the length of the class, but rather, by the number of credit hours. This means, if you take a 3 credit, 8 week course in the summer, you still are entitled to 48 hours of release time. This time off can be spread out over the semester and does not all need to be taken during the “fast track” course.

Release time is an added benefit to the T.E.A.C.H. recipient, and something that you are entitled to by the terms of your contract, which, as you know, is signed by you, your center director, and T.E.A.C.H. **IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE CORRECT RELEASE TIME, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR COUNSELOR IMMEDIATELY**, since this is a breach of your contract! Teachers who are working in full-time child care programs are required to be provided with paid release time in order to be on the T.E.A.C.H. program. If we understand that a teacher is NOT being provided with the proper release time, we will not renew their contract or allow others from the same center to become involved with T.E.A.C.H. **Again, when a teacher signs the form C, s/he is verifying that the release time has been earned and awarded.** As a T.E.A.C.H. recipient, you should not be signing the form C before you receive release time. When a recipient and her director sign the form C, it should tell us that the release time on the claim was earned, given by the center, and should be reimbursed to the center by T.E.A.C.H. (currently at the rate of \$3.75 per hour). It can be considered **fraud** if these forms are completed and signed but release time was not awarded. In addition, you should never sign a blank form C.

The T.E.A.C.H. policy is that all release time claims for a semester must be submitted within 30 days following the completion of each semester, or we reserve the right not to reimburse the center. This is for TWO reasons. For budgeting purposes, we need to know how much money is available for our programs. For auditing purposes, we need to pay our bills within the same contract period and fiscal year that costs were incurred. All form Cs (release time claims) for summer semester must be in our offices by September 15.

Questions? Please call your Counselor!

Congratulations!

CDA Credentials: many of our participants received their CDA credentials in the past few months. Congratulations!

Jennifer Adams, Muscatine
Agnes DeBoer, Des Moines
Kadee Easton, Weldon
Teresa Ellis, Des Moines
Traci Gerling, Mediapolis
Crystal Gerst, Burlington
Ida Gregoire, Iowa City
Linda Hermann, Burlington
Roxanne Huseman, Sac City
Tanya Kitchen, Des Moines



Deanne McCarthy, Eldridge
Tami Meller, Burlington
Michelle Phelps, Muscatine
Lisa Piskorski, Council Bluffs
RoxAnn Rhoads, Peru
Tessa Schrier, Muscatine
Bonnie Simpson, Sac City
Leesa Sorensen, Sac City
Ann Willenbring, Dubuque

Quality Rating System: the following T.E.A.C.H. participants and sponsoring programs have received their QRS rating recently. Congratulations!



Charlotte Henry,
West Des Moines

St. Paul Lutheran
Preschool, Treynor



Seton Rainbow Circle
Preschool, Farley



Rachel Klein, Sheldon



College Honors: the following T.E.A.C.H. participants received college honors recently. Congratulations!



Early Childhood Endorsements:

Emmi Binning, Endorsement #100, University of Northern Iowa, August 2009
Sarah Bosch, Endorsement #100, University of Northern Iowa, August 2009
Mikki Campbell, Endorsement #100, University of Northern Iowa, August 2009
Megan Conway, Endorsement #100, University of Northern Iowa, August 2009
Regan Fehrle, Endorsement #103, Buena Vista University, August 2009
Karen Ritter, Endorsement #103, Buena Vista University, August 2009
Katie Smith, Endorsement #100, University of Northern Iowa, August 2009
Rachel Tegeler, Endorsement #100, University of Northern Iowa, August 2009

Graduates:

Sharon Grothaus, AA, Iowa Lakes Community College, May 2009
Jessica Roloff, AS, Kirkwood Community College, May 2009
Tarah Widaman, AA, Des Moines Area Community College, May 2009
Heidi Lunn, AAS, Iowa Western Community College, May 2009

President's List:

Lori Parsons, Des Moines Area Community College
Kim Richman, University of Northern Iowa

Dean's List:

Shonda Clark, Des Moines Area Community College

Other Congratulations

Congratulations to Cori Beaty for her marriage on June 6, 2009.

Congratulations to Angela Gering-Ludwig who is the proud parent of a baby girl born named Adley Grace Ludwig, born June 1, 2009 and weighed 2 pounds 15 1/2 ounces and measured 15 inches long.

Congratulations to Candace Turner who is the proud parent of a baby girl named Chesney Jolie Turner, born April 21, 2009 and weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces and measured 10 inches long.

Please let us know of your honors and celebrations before October 31 2009 for inclusion in our fall newsletter.

Meet a T.E.A.C.H. Recipient



*Tom and Kim Richman with
President Obama*

Kim Richman — Kim began working in the field of early childhood over 25 years ago, working at centers and preschools.

When her son was very young, the center where she was employed did not offer infant care. When her son turned two, her excellent caregiver was moving far away and she was faced with the task of having to find another high quality provider. It was at this time that she made the decision to provide care in her home.

The journey of providing child care in her home has been an excellent one. She started out by attending a ChildNet informational meeting and becoming ChildNet certified. She learned that both experience AND formal education were important to high quality care. She became

passionate about continuing education.

It was through the T.E.A.C.H. program that she was able to get her CDA credential. She then was excited to take the Program for Infant and Toddler Caregivers (PITC) at the college level. She then got her Associate of Science Degree with great assistance from the T.E.A.C.H. program. Next she earned her Associate of Arts Degree.

Right now, she is proud to be a senior at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI). She is a cohort in the 2+2 Program. She is taking an Elementary Education program and getting an early childhood endorsement. She currently has a 4.0 grade point average with UNI.

“I would not have had the money in my budget for college without T.E.A.C.H. having been there for me. I am thankful!”

—Kim Richman, Des Moines—

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA

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T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association.