



# T.E.A.C.H. News

## —From the Program Manager—

All of us at T.E.A.C.H. and Iowa AEYC want to thank you for your patience and efforts as we are dealing with a tight state economy. Many of you have waited to get your approval to continue on with T.E.A.C.H., either in May, August, or now for January 2010. Many of you have waited for your checks as we have waited for funding to arrive from our state partners. Thanks for your determination to continue, your hard work, and your understanding!

You know that T.E.A.C.H. provides financial support to you and your program for your education, but what else does T.E.A.C.H. do to make a difference? As with all of our passions, we should be able to state the **values** that lead us in this work. In Iowa, as in 20 other states, T.E.A.C.H. is working to:

- Build partnerships for professional development
- Reach out to the diversity of the field
- Use and strengthen existing higher education systems
- Increase collaboration through a state-level T.E.A.C.H. advisory committee
- Collect, analyze and share data
- Create and support educational pathways
- Strengthen Iowa's early childhood infrastructure
- Deliver high quality, outcome-focused services
- Promote system building
- Advocate for increased compensation for the early childhood workforce

No wonder we are so busy! T.E.A.C.H. welcomes your participation in our efforts. You are key for providing a leadership voice for T.E.A.C.H.

Please read this newsletter carefully and let us know what we should be celebrating about **your** successes!

Have a wonderful holiday season,

*Barb*

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"Education for Iowa's Child Care Workforce"



## Iowa QRS

Iowa's Quality Rating System is a way that programs can be recognized for the effort being made to make improvements in services for young children. At T.E.A.C.H., we recognize that YOUR efforts to earn credentials, degrees, and endorsements in early childhood education ensure that the care you are providing for the children is improving in quality. Your journey to your degree is like little steps climbing a big hill. The QRS rewards you for many of these steps. **For that reason, by next fall, we will start requiring programs using T.E.A.C.H. to also participate in the QRS. Home providers need to earn a QRS rating of TWO or higher.**

Start your QRS journey now!

*If you have a QRS level please send us a copy of your certificate.*

## *Congratulations to the following T.E.A.C.H. participants and sponsoring programs.*



<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — Ankeny	<b>Jon Beede and Brandi Matwick</b> — Creston
<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — Clive	<b>Kids World, Inc.</b> — Sac City
<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — Iowa City	<b>Michele McDaniel</b> — Earlham
<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — Norwalk	<b>Rebecca Murphey</b> — Davenport
<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — West Des Moines, Ashworth	<b>Brenda O'Halloran</b> — Grinnell
<b>Wendy Arnborg</b> — Des Moines	<b>Amber Punt</b> — Sioux Center
<b>Capitol Park Early Learning Center</b> — Des Moines	<b>Cindy Sloan</b> — Nevada
<b>CFI Teddy Bear Town</b> — Des Moines	<b>Dawn Stonehocker</b> — Earlham
	<b>The Children's Place</b> — West Des Moines



<b>A to Z Learning Center and Day Care</b> — Waterloo	<b>Our Savior Lutheran Preschool</b> — Bettendorf
<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — Johnson	<b>Peck Child Development Center</b> — Newton
<b>Apple Tree Children's Center</b> — West Des Moines, Grand	<b>Wendy Petersen</b> — Atlantic
<b>Bidwell Riverside Child Development Center</b> — Des Moines	<b>Puddle Jumpers Preschool</b> — Des Moines
<b>Debra Buffington</b> — Forest City	<b>Kimberly Richman</b> — Des Moines
<b>Jo Ellen Cecak</b> — Toledo	<b>Angela Robinson</b> — Janesville
<b>CFI Child Development Center</b> — Des Moines	<b>Amy Speed</b> — Hiawatha
<b>Child Care Junction</b> — Boone	<b>St. Paul Lutheran Preschool</b> — Treynor
<b>Evelyn Davis Early Learning Academy</b> — Des Moines	<b>Stepping Stones Early Learning Center</b> — Knoxville
<b>Handicare Inc.</b> — Coralville	<b>Thomas Thumb Christian Preschool</b> — Winterset
<b>Charlotte Henry</b> — West Des Moines	<b>Tiny Treasures Lutheran Preschool</b> — Urbandale
<b>Kiddle Karrasel Academy</b> — Le Claire	<b>Jessica Vilovchik</b> — Kalona
<b>Jodi Kirchner</b> — Atlantic	<b>Anne Wall</b> — Indianola
<b>Native American Childcare Center</b> — Sioux City	<b>Kimberly Williams</b> — Harlan
	<b>Xochipilli Children's Center</b> — Des Moines



<b>Adair Casey Preschool</b> — Adair	<b>Cedar Valley Preschool and Child Care Center</b> — Cedar Falls
<b>Aliber Child Development Center</b> — Des Moines	<b>Michelle Christensen</b> — Atlantic
<b>Mary Arkfeld</b> — Earling	<b>Michelle Clime</b> — West Des Moines
<b>Bear Basics Children's Center</b> — Des Moines	<b>Patricia Danielson</b> — Norwalk
<b>Keri Bolles</b> — Ankeny	<b>Theresa Deetz</b> — Charles City
<b>Erin Bradley</b> — Des Moines	<b>Elkader Child Care and Learning Center</b> — Elkader
<b>Kim Brewster</b> — Davenport	<b>Grace Preschool and Grace Drop-in-Center</b> — Des Moines
<b>Caring Corner Christian Day Care and Preschool</b> — Marion	

☆☆☆ (continued)

**Grandview Park Baptist School** — Des Moines  
**Stacey Gunter** — Council Bluffs  
**Tina Harter** — Grinnell  
**Lynn Hoth** — Cedar Falls  
**Carrie Kelly** — Clinton  
**Kids Country Club** — Kalona  
**Kidz on the Ridge** — Williamsburg  
**Tori Knutsen** — Cedar Rapids  
**Tara Lincicum** — Clear Lake  
**Little Roadrunner Preschool** — Truro  
**Julia Moats** — Des Moines  
**Montgomery Street Preschool** — Knoxville  
**Tami Montgomery** — Knoxville  
**Jessica Mullenix** — Cedar Rapids  
**Lorraine Murray** — Des Moines  
**Debra Nading** — McGregor  
**Oakridge Early Enrichment Child Care Center** — Des Moines  
**One Way Preschool** — Missouri Valley

**Orient-Macksburg Preschool** — Orient  
**Pleasantville Preschool** — Pleasantville  
**Nikki Reha** — Van Meter  
**Stacey Schakel** — Pella  
**LouAnn Schuler-Bresson** — Independence  
**Seton Rainbow Circle Preschool** — Farley  
**Gin Simpson** — Cumming  
**Sunflower Child Development Center** — Shenandoah  
**Tiffany Warren** — Otley  
**Waypoint-River Ridge Kids** — Cedar Rapids  
**Waypoint-Uptown Kids** — Cedar Rapids  
**Josie Weier** — Sioux Rapids  
**Elizabeth Wilson** — Story City  
**Wonder Years Academy** — Des Moines  
**Carrie Yacko** — Burlington  
**YMCA Child Development Center and SA** — Oskaloosa  
**Young-ums Preschool and Child Care Center** — Dubuque

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

**Melissa Bowman**—Sioux City  
**Val Furnal** – Pleasantville  
**Traci Gerling**—Mediapolis  
**Deanne McCarthy**—Eldridge  
**Tami Meller**—Burlington  
**Kylee Minnick**—Kellerton  
**Connie Moore**—Allerton  
**Michele Phelps**—Muscatine  
**Lisa Piskorski**—Council Bluffs  
**Deepanee Samarakoon**—Cedar Falls



**Bonnie Simpson**—Sac City  
**Jessica Smith**—Cedar Falls  
**Leesa Sorensen**—Sac City  
**Mary Spaulding** — Johnston  
**Sue Sullivan** —Sioux City  
**Cheryl VanBrocklin**—Evansdale  
**Ann Willenbring**—Dubuque  
**Kathy Wilson**—Johnston

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

**Endorsements:**

**Mary Duray**, Endorsement # 103, Ashford University, August 2009

**Graduates:**

**Kristina Jacobsen**, AS, Iowa Valley Community College (Marshalltown), July 2009

**Elizabeth Vanderflucht**, AA, Southwestern Community College, May 2009

**President's List:**

**Tammy Allen**, Iowa Western Community College



**Did you know**

With our new database, we are only billing and reimbursing child care/preschool programs **once** per semester, in January for fall, in June for spring, and in September for summer. Contact your Counselor if you have any questions.

Meet Dara Madigan! Dara is from Colorado, is a senior at Iowa State University in Child and Family Services, and has been interning with us since late August. We have loved her enthusiasm and fresh ideas. She has helped with the Iowa AEYC/IHSA fall conference, with CDA and T.E.A.C.H. work, and has attended state and national meetings with us. We thank her for all she's done and will miss her after December.

**Reminders**

- Your Fall Form B (Tuition/Book Reimbursement Form) or B/C (Tuition/Book/Release Time Form for home providers) should have already been sent to our office; if you have not yet done so, please send it as soon as possible.
- Contact your Counselor regarding your spring classes as soon as possible.
- Your Form C must be in our office no later than January 15, 2010 in order for your facility to be reimbursed for their release time for fall.
- Please make sure your name is on every sheet you mail or fax to our office.

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

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®  
IOWA

*I want to express my appreciation for the opportunity to complete my early childhood endorsement during this past school year! When I first considered this task, I felt a bit overwhelmed and concerned about the cost. I discovered T.E.A.C.H. really made a difference for me and I will always be thankful for all the help to make this process go smoothly and be manageable, not just for the cost but for also for my time at work and with my family. Through my classes at Buena Vista University and student teaching, I have gained many new ideas and insights that will help me in the years to come in my preschool classroom!*

*With Much Gratitude,  
Sandy*

**Sandy Wilson** — Sandy is currently a lead teacher for Sheldon Head Start. She works with 3-5 year olds and began in August of 2006 at her current work place. She received her CDA from Morningside College in Iowa in 2004 and her B.S. in Teaching and Sociology in 1976 from Mankato State University (not in Iowa, not eligible for T.E.A.C.H. Iowa scholarship support). She received her Early Childhood Endorsement #103 (PreK-K) from Iowa's Buena Vista University in spring of 2009. She had one contract with T.E.A.C.H. to earn this endorsement, which had a total of 12 credits.

She started out working at a childcare center in California where she caught the early childhood "bug" and has been in the early childhood field ever since. Several years ago, she had the opportunity to serve as the director/lead teacher for a faith-based preschool. During her years there, she completed the NAC and enjoyed the leadership role, but especially loved the time she spent teaching in the classroom. She's been the lead teacher at Sheldon Head Start (grantee – Upper Des



Moines Opportunity) since August of 2006 and very happy to be full time in the classroom. Her program is NAEYC accredited, and she said she is enjoying learning about accreditation and working toward the level of quality it represents. Her long term goal is to continue to work in the Head Start setting. She says it would be a difficult decision to leave the classroom, but if a leadership position became available to her down the road, she would be ready for the challenge.

She started the courses toward her EC Endorsement several years ago, but completed it in May of 2009 with the help of T.E.A.C.H., in order to strengthen her teaching skills as well as to meet job requirements. She received a perfect 4.0 grade point average while on T.E.A.C.H.

### 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.