Welcome to the Early ACCESS (EA) Wednesday Wonders! The purpose of this newsletter is to have a consistent, predictable way for EA stakeholders to stay current on happenings as well as share information with other stakeholders such as practical advice, training announcements, video clips, and/or success stories. It is a newsletter for stakeholders, by stakeholders. Please let me know if you have something you would like to contribute or have suggestions or comments at: melissa.schnurr@iowa.gov

To view archived Wednesday Wonders, visit the Iowa Family Support Network website.

A goal is a dream with a deadline. – Napoleon Hill

Wondering about FGRBI?

Webinar - Using Constructive and Supportive Feedback to Build Practitioners’ Confidence and Competence:
Recently, the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations hosted a webinar as part of their “Unpacking Coaching Webinar Series”. Although the series is based on Practice-Based Coaching, the general concepts and strategies can be applied to any evidence-based coaching model, such as that used with family guided routines based intervention (FGRBI). The July webinar highlighted how the reflection and feedback component of coaching occurs within the context of collaborative partnerships and shares tips and strategies for providing supportive and constructive feedback with peers.

Wondering about Service Coordination?

Walking in Someone Else’s Shoes – Supporting the Relationships among Parents, Therapists, and Child Care:
Review this blog from EI Excellence in North Carolina for tips to navigate all of the relationships involved when children receive early intervention in child care settings.

In case you were wondering….

Higher Ed Faculty Resource:
If you haven’t already, consider subscribing to Camille Catlett’s “Faculty Finds” distribution (scroll down on the page for archived Faculty Finds). The May 2019 issue had so many useful resources, I could have included them all in Wednesday Wonders! Faculty Finds is distributed six times per year. Each issue focuses on early childhood content resources, instructional resources, and information about the effective preparation of early childhood and early childhood special education professionals. All resources are free. Sign up to receive Faculty Finds every other month.

Early ACCESS Vision: Every infant and toddler with or at risk for a developmental delay and their families will be supported and included in their communities so that the children will be healthy and successful.
How to Read with a Squiggly Baby (or Toddler):
Parents know they should read with their child every day. But reading together requires that your baby or toddler will actually sit still long enough for a book! If you’ve got a squiggler in your house, see if these tips help your reading time go a little more smoothly. Tips available in English and Spanish.

Let Your Hands Do the Talking:
When it comes to supporting language development, developmental psychologists say it’s not just the words, but our movements that are especially important. Read more and watch a video, in English and Spanish, that shares how gestures can help children to learn and retain new words and concepts.

Something wonderful is happening....

Future Ready Iowa Last Dollar Scholarships Available:
The new Future Ready Iowa Last Dollar Scholarship is designed to help more Iowans launch rewarding careers or improve their skills with current employers. The scholarship is for both new high school graduates and adult learners who pursue up to two-year degrees in eligible programs of study leading to designated high-demand jobs. The scholarship covers the cost of tuition and campus-wide fees after applying non-repayable state and federal financial aid. In addition, scholarship recipients can opt to have a mentor, ideally someone who will help them stay on track via text messages and connect them to opportunities like internships. The Iowa Volunteer Service Commission is coordinating the mentor piece of the initiative.

Iowa AEYC Job Opening – Mental Health Consultant:
The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children is seeking a strong candidate to serve as a Mental Health Consultant on the Early Childhood Quality Improvement Project (ECQuIP). View full details here.

Registration Open – Early Learning Fall Institute:
Registration for the 2019 Iowa Early Learning Fall Institute, Workforce Behind the Workforce, is now open! Join the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children on October 4-5, 2019 (pre-institute workshops: October 3) in Altoona, Iowa. Visit the website for additional information and click here to access the full registration booklet. Members, review page 12 of the registration booklet or visit the website for full instructions on how to access your discounted member rate. Contact Anne Geiger, 515-331-8000 ext. 122 or anne@iowaaeyc.org with any questions!

For more information about Early Childhood Iowa, visit: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov

For more information about Early ACCESS, visit: www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org or contact:

Cindy Weigel, Early ACCESS State Coordinator
Iowa Department of Education
Bureau of Learner Strategies & Supports
Des Moines, IA 50319
Phone 515-314-9396
Email cindy.weigel@iowa.gov

or

Melissa Schnurr, CSPD Consultant
Iowa Department of Education
Bureau of Educator Quality
Des Moines, IA 50319
Phone 515-419-9471
Email melissa.schnurr@iowa.gov