



Early ACCESS  
Wednesday Wonders  
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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](mailto:melissa.schnurr@iowa.gov)

To view archived Wednesday Wonders, visit the Iowa Family Support Network [website](#).

*We all can dance when we find music we love.* – Giles Andreae

## Wondering about FGRBI?

### New Videos Featuring Iowa Early ACCESS Providers:

Larry Edelman recently produced several videos featuring Iowa Early ACCESS providers from Green Hills AEA. One video is about [using SS-OO-PP-RR](#) during the COVID-19 Pandemic, another is about [using technology](#) to enable team meetings, and [this one](#) is about using SS-OO-PP-RR during a home visit.

## Service Coordinator Shout-Out (New Spotlight on Service Coordinators in Iowa)

### Shout-Out to Heartland AEA Service Coordinator – Margie Cahill:

These sentiments were echoed over and over again when I called on Margie's colleagues and teammates-- "Margie has worked in the Service Coordinator capacity for many years and is an excellent mentor, colleague and resource. Her quiet demeanor allows families to relax and feel comfortable in an uncomfortable initial visit. Her knowledge of the system and the community continues to astound me. It is my pleasure to say that I know her and she is not only a colleague but also a friend." "Margie is kind and empathetic. She is soooo good at building rapport with ALL families. I aspire to be more like, Margie!" "Margie is an incredibly empathetic, knowledgeable and professional service coordinator and social worker. She works hard to provide quality support to her families and it's evident that she cares about every child and caretaker that she serves. She is an outstanding team member who goes to great lengths to help her Early ACCESS team be successful, organized and effective during home visits. In addition, she is the most caring and kind human being who takes a personal interest in whatever is going on in your life outside of work. If you need an understanding friend, trustworthy confidant or knowledgeable advisor--Margie Cahill fills all of those roles. I am so blessed to work with her and call her both my colleague and friend." "Margie goes out of her way to make our families and team members feel important. She is compassionate and kind to all of our families and makes them feel at ease with her calm approach. Margie never complains and always offers her help to others."



If you work with an outstanding Service Coordinator, submit their information [here](#) to be included in a future Shout-Out.

*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.*

## Wondering about Service Coordination?

### Upcoming Service Coordinator Networking Webinar:

Iowa Service Coordinators are invited to join Ryan Page, Iowa Department of Human Services, on May 18 from 1-2pm to learn about childcare-related resources to provide to families. To join the webinar, use this zoom link: <https://IDOE.zoom.us/j/784905392>

## In case you were wondering....

### Family Educator Partnership an Important Resource for Families in Early ACCESS:

The [Family & Educator Partnership \(FEP\)](#) develops and sustains effective partnerships between families, educators, and community providers to promote success for individuals with disabilities ages 0-21. Services include IFSP and IEP meeting support, transition support, and information about community resources, to name just a few. Use [this list](#) to connect your families to the FEP coordinators who serve their areas.

### Tips for Video Chatting with Young Children: Staying Connected While Far Apart:

Many families are using electronics to stay in touch with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers while everyone shelters in place. Karen Nemeth shares her ideas for valuable interactions with children across the internet on the [NAEYC website](#).

## Something wonderful is happening....

### Iowa Council for Early ACCESS is Seeking New Members:

The Iowa Council for Early ACCESS advises and assists the Department of Education, Department of Public Health, Department of Human Services, and Child Health Specialty Clinics in the coordination, development and implementation of the policies that constitute the statewide system of Early Intervention services as established in Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004) – known in Iowa as Early ACCESS. The Council is seeking two representatives for “public/private providers”, one “parent representative”, and one from “personnel preparation”. This [folder](#) contains flyers with more information for each position and instructions to apply. Email Kate Small with questions at [kate.small@iowa.gov](mailto:kate.small@iowa.gov).

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

For more information about Early ACCESS, visit: [www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org](http://www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org) or contact:

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