



Early ACCESS
Wednesday Wonders
June 3, 2020
Vol. 62, No. 119



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](#).

We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now. – Martin Luther King Jr.

Wondering about FGRBI?

Another New Video Featuring Green Hills AEA Early ACCESS Provider:

In this [video](#), Grayson's parents Niki and Matt describe how home visits they receive via video conferencing engage and support the entire family during the stresses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Early interventionist Jenny Seuntjens highlights key strategies including focusing on all family members, embedding intervention in typical everyday routines, and following the family's lead.

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

Shout-Out to Green Hills AEA Service Coordinator – Ruth Rust:

Ruth Rust is a trusted team member and is committed to the families she serves. She supports her Early ACCESS (EA) team members by completing appropriate paperwork, timely uploading pertinent medical information, and making EA team members aware of information so we can best support and serve families. She works tirelessly to provide thorough and timely services to families. She goes above and beyond to be flexible and meet families on their schedules. She collaborates and supports other EA providers throughout the entire IFSP and transition process. She provides support to families during the IFSP process and the transition planning process making sure families are engaged and understand the process by taking the time to explain and answer questions. Not only does she share appropriate resources to fit that family's needs, she problem solves with families to find appropriate resources and includes other EA providers in support of those resources. For example: Getting EA involved in supporting a child's adoption, filling out grant money paperwork so families can acquire stair lifts and playground equipment. She consistently supports families to attend free community events by making sure they have the information about these opportunities AND volunteers at these events, for example: Shriners Circus and Henry Doorly Zoo. It is a pleasure to work with such a true professional and leader!



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 likely to have a developmental delay and their families will be supported and included in their communities so they will be healthy and successful.

Wondering about Service Coordination?

National Service Coordination Happenings:

Last month, the DEC Service Coordination Community of Practice hosted a **Web Conversation**, "Partnering with Families in Their Times of Need". The recording and materials are on the [DEC Service Coordination Community of Practice](#) website. Also on the website, you will find the **call for input** on the DEC/ITCA Joint Position Statement on Service Coordination. Please take time to complete the request by June 10.

In case you were wondering....

A Trauma-Sensitive Approach to Education and Learning for Children Aged 0-8 Years:

This [Australian review](#) focuses on the impact of trauma and concepts from neurobiology. It is written for early childhood educators who encounter infants and children, from newborns to 8-year-olds, who have suffered the effects of significant trauma in their young lives. It aims to enhance existing knowledge of child development by focusing on attachment, neurobiology and the impact of trauma on learning.

Brief Article on Using Mindfulness:

Now, more than ever, we need a way to calm anxieties and be more present. Mindfulness is a practice that can help us do that! Check out this [brief article](#) on Mindfulness from the Early Intervention Training Program in Illinois.

Something wonderful is happening....

Two-Part Webinar Series about Children with Special Health Care Needs:

The [National Resource Center for Patient/Family-Centered Medical Home \(NRC-PFCMH\)](#), in partnership with [Bright Futures National Center](#) and the [Screening Technical Assistance and Resource \(STAR\) Center](#), is hosting a 2-part educational webinar series in June, *Making Connections: The Critical Role of Family-Centered Care in Addressing Social Determinants of Health for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)*. The goal of the series is to provide state Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) / CYSHCN programs, pediatricians, families, and others with information about the impact of social determinants of health on CYSHCN and their families, including implementation strategies for state programs. The series will discuss the role of these groups and state systems in addressing SDOH for CYSHCN by using components of the medical home model. [More information about the series here.](#)

Free Webinar on Equity:

The next webinar in the series on equity hosted by Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) is on June 25 from 11:30am-1:30pm CT and is titled "Culture, Identity, History as Sources of Strength and Resilience for African American Children and Families". The first two webinar recordings are housed [here](#). Register for the June 25 webinar [here](#).

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

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

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