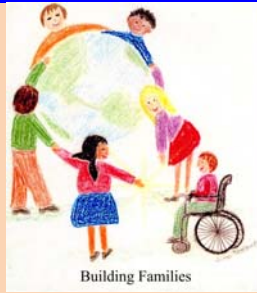


Building Families Empowerment



Building Families Vision:

Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.

Building Families Mission:

Building Families' mission is for children, youth, and families to live in safe and nurturing environments that promote health, independence and success. Building Families will create a continuum of supports and services that embrace children and their families.

October Newsletter

When children receive the right nurturing and care, the results can be tremendous. As these children grow into teens they are less likely to drop out of school, abuse drugs, have health problems or engage in criminal activities!



Parents are the true experts on their children. There is no "one-size-fits-all" approach to raising children. Parenting information, support groups and classes are designed to support parents in developing their own ways to promote their children's growth and development.

Our children matter. They represent our future work force leaders, neighbors, and community. Amy Muller, Parent Coordinator 515-832-1791 Ex 202

CAPP Coordinator Hired

Building Families approach is to help parents:

- Understand and enhance your young child's growth and development with in-home or group parenting classes.
- Parent Pal newsletter is an e-mail resource for parents of young children.
- Parent resource centers; information and resources on parenting and family life located in communities.
- Young parent support groups where parents take part with their children in a range of programs and activities, get answers to questions, gain information about programs and services that are available for young children and to talk to early year's professionals, as well as other parents in the community



Tiffany Larson has been hired as the full time Community Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator. She will work with existing programs, school districts, faith and businesses to provide a continuum of services and supports that develop protective factors in youth; and will reduce the rates of adolescent pregnancy or additional pregnancies to teen parents. Our target population is male and female teens aged 13 to 18 and their parents in Hamilton, Humboldt and Wright Counties. Tiffany will be available to provide education classes, presentations and information to parents, youth and teen parents. Her contact information is: Phone 515-832-1791 Ex: 204, e-mail tlarson@hamiltoncountymhsb.org

Did you know??? Using glitter for art projects in preschools is not recommended. Glitter is a toxic substance. For more information on health and safety in your program contact Michelle Olson, Child Care Nurse Consultant.



Four Building Families Programs are working on accrediting or state credentialing of their program. They include the three HOPES programs and Parenting program. Quality counts! Preschools have worked the past three years on quality by using the IQPPS self assessment, participating in training such as Creative Curriculum and Early Learning Standards and using the Creative Curriculum Child Profiles to assess children's needs. Home providers and Centers are working on improving their programs with the Quality Rating Scale. Legislatures look to empowerment for creating programs that work, that produce results, and are researched or science based. Funding is dependent on quality programs. For technical assistance in developing a quality program contact one of your respective empowerment staff.



Building Families will be updating our community plan including assessing the three counties for needs and gaps in services this year. Input from community members and provider assessments will be used as resources. We will also be sending out community surveys for input. One will be an assessment of needs for the minority populations. Our Prevent Child Abuse Council will be working on these assessments in October. If you are interested in participating, the meeting will be held at Building Families on October 7th. For more information: Amy Muller 515-832-1791

Training Page

County Child Care Provider Support Groups

Hamilton times from 6:30-8:00 pm: Oct 14th at ICCC in Webster City; December 9th, Fire Station in Jewell; February 10th, ICCC in Webster City; April 14th Fire Station in Jewell

Humboldt times from 6:30 to 8PM meeting at Godfather’s Pizza in Humboldt: September 17th, November 10th, January 7th, March 11th, and May 11th.

Wright times from 6:30 to 8PM: September 16th at Belmont Pizza Ranch; November 18th at Clarion Pizza Ranch; January 20th at Belmont Pizza Ranch; March 17th Clarion Pizza Ranch; and May 19th at Belmont Pizza Ranch

Creative Curriculum Child Profiles

Three and four year old Preschool Programs in Hamilton, Humboldt, and Wright Counties whose teachers have taken the Creative Curriculum training are qualified to receive assistance in using the on line Creative Curriculum Child Profile to complete their classroom assessments for next year. Building Families will pay for up to 20 children in your classroom (license is about \$20/child). Assessments using the on line Creative Curriculum Child Profile of up to 20 children in one classroom will be done by November 14, 2008 and again by April 17th, 2009. Training for using the on line assessment tool and for completing and using the Child Profile Assessments will be held from 6:30 to 9PM on: October 13th, at Building Families Office; February 1, 2009 in Eagle Grove; May 4, 2009 in Humboldt. By June teachers will be required to report to Building Families the number of children assessed, their classroom (3 or 4 year olds) and the results. This will give us a good idea of the number of children who are ready to begin school in the fall and the amount of skill development that took place during the school year.

PBS Training

Positive Behavior Supports for 0-3 training will be held at Building Families Office on January 15th and 16th. This training is open to all Building Families funded staff including Early Head Start and HOPES in-home visitation staff, DHS social workers, Head Start, and child care center staff. Watch for the registration. There will be a fee for food, but there is no charge for the training.

FFCERS: Ft. Dodge on November 4, 11 18 and 25

Early Learning Standards training for 0-3 will be held at the Eagle Grove school administration building at 325 N. Commercial on the following dates from 6:30pm to 9 pm:

September 30 October 7 October 14 October 21 October 28 November 4

Child Care Staff in our area:

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| CCR&R Director Jeanine Hough 1-800-245-6151 | Parent Referral Specialist Julie Kuhlmann 515-576-7994 | Child Care Specialist Sybil Smith 515-576-7994 |
| Child Care Education Consultant Marjie Wonderlich 515-832-3953 | Childcare Home Evaluation Specialist Amy Shannon 515-832-3140 | Child Care Nurse Consultant Michelle Olson 515-832-1791 |
| | Central Registration for Child Care Providers Cara Bocker, DHS | Quality Rating System Specialist Anna Letsche 800-859-2025 |



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