



**Johnson County Empowerment/Early Childhood Iowa Board  
Early Education Work Group**

**Monday January 30, 2023  
2:30-3:30pm**

Present: Cheryl Collins (JEC/ECIA Board), Christi Regan (HACAP), Emily O'Sheridan-Tabor (JCE/ECIA Board), Sam Turnbull (JCSS), Lorri Horra (CCR&R), Jill Cryer (4C's), Jess Burger (GWAEA), Stephen Henkhaus (JCSS), Sandra Busta (GWAEA), Chelsey Markle (ARC), Jana Garrelts (NCJC), Kathy Klingman (CCR&R), Jon Green (JCBOs)

**1. Introductions and program updates**

- a. Sam: ECI is being moved via legislation into DHHS. There is discussion about all ECI funding coming from DHHS rather than DOE and DHHS as has been the case historically (most recently Sam has heard funding will continue to come from both departments). Shanell Wagler long term ECI TA team member retired. ICCSD gave a presentation about using LOST funding to increase preschool offerings.
- b. Christi: Head Start and Early Head Start are accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year for 18month olds-5 year olds. Staffing in Johnson County has stabilized. In January base pay rates were raised by \$1/hr.
- c. Chelsey: At the end of February the ARC anticipates construction at their center will be done. March 5<sup>th</sup> they will hold an open house from 2-4pm.
- d. Jana NCJC is at full enrollment and staffing. They are applying for IQ4K level 5 rating.

**2. Wage Enhancement Program**

- a. Sam: rolling out soon, reviewed center/staff criteria:

<b>Program Eligibility</b>	<b>Staff Eligibility</b>
Located in Johnson County	Consistently work a minimum of 32 hours per week
Licensed and in good standing with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Work year-round (may not be temporary or seasonal)
Quality rated (QRS or IQ4K) or NAEYC accredited	Serve children ages birth to five
Hourly Wage must meet Johnson County Minimum Wage (adjusted annually by CPI, currently \$11.56)	Earn less than \$23 per hour
Maintain a CCA Cap of no less than 20%	Staff funded by statewide voluntary preschool funds are ineligible
Childcare Assistance Families must pay no more than the cost of the designated copay	Hired as a classroom teacher, classroom assistant, floater, or center director who maintains classroom teaching responsibilities of 32 hours per week.
Priority will be given to programs that do not receive grant funds for operations or subsidy from the County, City, or other Municipal Entity. (Subsidies for CACFP,	Staff agree to provide necessary documentation and application to the program in addition to the center.

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Shared Visions, Statewide Voluntary Preschool Funds, Stabilization Grants, or PPP are not included.)	
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3. Passport to Early Learning Incentive
  - a. Incentive authorized by JCE/ECIA board to incentivize child care center staff completing the 12 hour Passport to Early Learning training required for all IQ4K levels.
4. Board investment opportunities brainstorm
  - a. CCR&R suggested fall surfacing grants or training incentives for in-home child care providers.
5. Q1/Q2 Reports
  - a. Reviewed Q1/Q2 reports
    - i. Home Ties- on track except # served
    - ii. NCJC Wrap-underspent due to fewer part time CCA contracts this year.
    - iii. HACAP- on track except attendance concerns due to frequent illness
    - iv. CART- on track except struggling to get centers to start using BIR's
6. Next Meetings: March 27 2:30-3:30pm

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