



Quality Counts: Inspiring leadership and professionalism in Iowa's early care, health and education system – the 16th Annual Early Childhood Iowa Congress

Dates for Congress and Day on the Hill

February 10-12, 2009

Committee meetings: January 31, April 11, September 9, November 14, January 29, 2009
beginning at 9:00 – locations to be announced

Committee membership

Representing Early Childhood Iowa, the Congress committee broadly represents the field of early care, health and education in Iowa. To provide appropriate leadership and decision making, we include practitioners on the committee who represent diverse thinking across systems, and link the work of the Congress planners back to their field or system.

The Steering Committee works to ensure that active members include:

- State partners from Health, Education, Human Services, Economic Development, Workforce Development, Human Rights, U.S.D.A., and Empowerment
- Appropriate representation from the Early Childhood Iowa co-chairs and leadership team, and specific representation from the Public Engagement component group (Day on the Hill planning committee)
- Early care, health and education professionals representing Area Education Agencies, higher education, ISU Extension, Local Empowerment Areas, Child Care Resource & Referral, Head Start, Iowa Business Council, Urban Education Network, Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children, Prevent Child Abuse Iowa, Every Child Counts/Child & Family Policy Center, Iowa Family Child Care Association, Iowa Association of Community Action Agencies, Iowa Head Start Association, AFSCME/Child Care Providers Together, and other relevant partners
- Direct providers of child care and early education services, including family support providers, health care professionals, early childhood education caregivers and teachers
- Parents and other community members with an interest in early childhood education

Steering committee of 2-3 members of the ECI co-chairs group - Shanell Wagler, Empowerment; Tom Rendon, Head Start State Collaboration Office; and Barb Merrill, Iowa AEYC.

Committee member expectations:

- Attend the 2-3 day Early Childhood Iowa Congress and Day on the Hill
- Actively participate in 4-5 planning meetings per year, usually two full-day retreat sessions and 2-3 half-day logistical meetings.
- Assist with Congress arrangements including workshop confirmations, program development, marketing, resources.

If a committee member wishes to add someone to the Congress committee membership list, please send names, representation, and full contact information including email address to Lois Kiester, our conference coordinator, lmkiester@dmacc.edu.