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Early Childhood News

From Dubuque County Early Childhood - a nonprofit that builds collaboration around the needs of families with young children.

Shared Vision: "All Children in Dubuque County are Healthy and Successful."

March 2016
www.dcearlychild.org

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Opportunities in Early Childhood

Dubuque County Early Childhood (DCEC) announces some important ways to get involved with early childhood supports. One is an opportunity to apply for grants. See details below:



* DCEC is accepting applications for grants for early childhood programs/services to begin July 1. This opportunity is open to any organization in Dubuque County serving children age birth to five. Interested applicants are required to attend a meeting on March 8. For more info, see below.

* DCEC has several fun activities happening now for children in our community. These include a drawing contest and book drive. For more info, call 588-1620 or look up DCEC on Facebook.

Upcoming Meetings



Advocacy/Public Awareness Committee - March 3, 1:00 p.m., Keystone AEA

Bidder's Conferece (for all interested in applying for DCEC funding for next year) - March 8, 1:00 p.m., Keystone AEA

Executive/Finance Committee - March 9, 9:00 a.m., Keystone AEA

Long-Range Planning Committee - March 10, 2:00 p.m., Archdiocese Pastoral Center

Dubuque County Early Childhood Board - March 22, 12:00 p.m., Keystone AEA

NOTE: Meetings are subject to change. To obtain meeting agendas, minutes, or location/directions - contact DCEC at (563) 588-1620, sedward24@aol.com. All meetings are open to the public and are held at locations reasonably accessible to the public. Submit questions or requests for special accommodations to (563) 588-1620.

Dubuque County Early Childhood Announces Grants are Available

Dubuque County Early Childhood (DCEC), a nonprofit that supports children age birth to five, is accepting applications for grant funding to address early childhood needs in this county. Grants are available for collaborative projects that address the following community priorities for young children:

- Family/caregiver success skills
- Learning readiness
- Safe and secure relationships
- Healthy physical and mental development



DCEC considers applications through a request for proposals (for awards over \$10,000) and mini-grant process (for awards at \$10,000 or less). Total funding amount is not available until the conclusion of Iowa's legislative session, but local awards tentatively are based on the prior year total of \$788,000. Grants are for the upcoming year running July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017.

To be considered, all interested applicants must attend a required bidder's conference on March 8 at 1:00 p.m. at Keystone AEA, 2310 Chaney Road, Dubuque.

Applications must follow outlined terms and are due by April 15. To obtain application instructions and forms, contact DCEC at 2310 Chaney Road, Dubuque, IA, (563) 588-1620, sedward24@aol.com, www.dcearlychild.org.

What are Family Support Services?



Family support programs, also known as home visiting programs, provide services to families and parent education to support parents/caregivers in their important role. One program available in Dubuque County is Parents as Teacher through Four Oaks.

Family support programs offer education related to parenting, child development milestones, and strengthening family relationships. These programs take place in the home, to ensure families and children feel comfortable.

Family support programs empower families to learn and grow while ensuring children are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school. Home visiting programs have shown to improve birth outcomes, increase parental confidence, and encourage family economic success while building community support.

For more information on home visiting programs available throughout Iowa, visit the Iowa Family Support Network interactive map at the link below. Simply select the link and visit the map, double click on a county and the home visiting programs available in that area will appear.

<http://www.iafamilysupportnetwork.org/family-support>

Article reprinted courtesy of Iowa Family Support Network, March 2016 Newsletter.

For More Info

Dubuque County Early Childhood (formerly Empowerment), 2310 Chaney Road,
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