FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division December 18, 2017



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA STAKEHOLDERS ALLIANCE MEETING

The Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) Stakeholders Alliance met on December 12, 2017, in Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting began with a lunch presentation on Medicare and Medicaid programs, as well as presentations by the ECI Steering Committee co-chairs and the ECI governance component groups. The group also reviewed the strategic plan and worked toward creating new goals in the areas of quality services, infrastructure, and public will. The expectation is that a new strategic plan will be established by the end of 2018, with issues to be addressed through 2020. This is the second cycle for the combined ECI strategic plan. Before 2015, the ECI State Board and Stakeholders Alliance each had their own strategic plan.

The group also saw a series of informational presentations on various programs that are available across lowa, including the <u>Healthy Choices Count!</u> program from the Iowa Department of Public Health, which is focused on helping students make healthy choices, and the <u>Iowa Act Early</u> program through the University of Iowa Division of Child and Community Health. The Iowa Act Early program is focused on ensuring that parents have access to materials that support their understanding of their young child's developmental milestones and enable them to monitor their child's growth.

The next Stakeholders Alliance meeting will be February 13, 2018.

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