

Dallas County Coalition

Minutes

Waukee Church of Hope
305 N.E. Dartmoor
Waukee, Iowa 50263
10:30am – 12 Noon
Wednesday October 26, 2025

Meeting Handouts

A [Dallas County Meeting Folder](#) is available for meeting handouts and other agency information. Go [here](#) to access the information and it is open to the public. Meeting agendas and minutes are located at www.4rkids-eci.org.

Attendance and Introductions

Jenny Felt (DCAT), Lenny Christianson (The Family Place), Dawn Holt (LSI), Bridgette Skalla (Zion), Michelle Greenough (CCRR), Shelley Flanery (Ivory Plans), Reshana VanDeuren (American Lung), Ricki Hall (Big Brothers Big Sisters), Carol Bayer (New Opps), Megan Jensen (Every Step), Lisa Carstens (Zion Behavioral Health), Betsy Ausdemore (Raccoon River Preschool), Val Cameron (ISU Extension), Jackie Giles (ISU Extension), Danielle Kenworthy (Short Years P) Kaylie Graham (CIAC), Amanda Bullard (CIAC), Kacey Barrow Miner (CIAC), Tonya Weber (New Opps) and Debra Schrader (4 R Kids).

Presentation – Tonya Weber with New Opportunities provided a presentation on Early Head Start and Head Start

Agency and Other Information

- **American Lung Association** – 4 new smoke free partnership agreements have been implemented.

Early Childhood Updates/Information

- The Governor has proposed a bill to change the structure of ECI going from 34 ECI boards to 7 districts, which mirror the behavioral health regions, in addition to a new continuum of care project in which no new money is allocated, therefore many current ECI programs/services will be defunded. It is expected to take place July 1 of this year.
- The Associations legislative agenda was reviewed.
- An overview of legislation and bills were reviewed.
- The preschool experience rate was reviewed, Dallas County's ate is 81.2%, the four-county average is 82.8%.
- An update on Thrive Iowa was provided, Warren and Madison County each have a Thrive Iowa pilot. There are 5 ECI areas that have implemented the pilots.
- Iowa Primary Care Association has won the HHS contract to be the administrative service organization for behavioral districts.
- The 2025 federal poverty guidelines were reviewed.

Dallas County Children's Advocacy Council Updates/Information

- 2nd Quarter progress report was reviewed, 6 sessions served 79 adults has been completed.
- HHS released the prevent child abuse prevention grant. There can only be one application per ECI area. DCCAC will be the legal applicant for Adair, Dallas, Madison, and Warren County and will apply for home visitation and sexual abuse prevention. Grants are due March 11, 2025.
- The Biennial report has been filed with the secretary of state.
- There is \$733.70 sitting in Warren County from Generation Wellness that needs to expended by the end of the year. A portion of the funds will be expended on a possible conference in collaboration with CPPC and the remainder will be spent on curriculum for CIAC.
- The Prevent Child Abuse conference next year will be April 29-30, 2025.

The next in person meeting is March 26, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Schrader