



**Warren County Partnership Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 10:00am
710 N. Main Street, Norwalk Iowa**

Attendance

Debra Schrader, Barb Ranck, Stephanie Cassidy, Brett Biermann, Rachel Bardwell, Amanda Scalise, Stacy Powell, Kristin Tague, Betsy Stursma, Kendra Wilson, Kyla Brooks, Beth Roghair, Sandy Kilgore and Laura Belle.

Deb Schrader will be retiring and this will be her last meeting to facilitate. She thanked stakeholders for their passion and commitment to early childhood; the flowering plant and refreshments were appreciated.

Presentation

Betsy Stursma, Iowa Primary Care Association provided an overview of the behavioral health services for District 5.

Agency Updates

- 4 R Kids Board Update, Nancy Krause will be the new ECI Director and starts October 14, 2026. Deb will start transitioning with December date to be determined for retirement.
- Crisis Intervention & Advocacy Center started serving Warren County for domestic violence services this month.
- Low-income energy assistance program is available through IMPACT.
- Rays Program is available through IMPACT.
- The Warren County Early Childhood services map was reviewed and updates made where necessary.
- The Warren County family support map was reviewed and updates made where necessary.
- Information was shared about the Meta settlement; Iowa will receive \$126 million.
- SF175 regarding pregnancy and fetal development requirements for grades 5-12 were reviewed.
- Warren County birth and death rates were reviewed; Warren County had 615 births compared to 504 deaths.
- HHS announced a new Thrive Iowa grant.
- The 2025 condition of education executive report was reviewed; preschool experience rate was 79.8%.
- The fastest growing jobs in America by 2035 was reviewed; nurse practitioners growth rate is 41% followed by solar photovoltaic installers.
- Drake University Head Start has 3 positions open.

Child Abuse Prevention Grants

- No update

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

In lieu of the November meeting, community partners are asked to attend the Re-entry Simulation on November 4, 2026 from 8:00-12:30 at the Lighthouse Community Center, 109 West Boston, Indianola Iowa.

Next regular meeting is December 2, 2026 at 10:00 at the Norwalk Christian Church in Norwalk. A hybrid option will be available.