

# Family Life Notes

Notes prepared by Donna K. Donald, Family Life Program Specialist  
Adapted to NW Iowa By Rhonda Rosenboom

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## QRS Update

- ✦ The Child Care Quality Rating System (QRS) is experiencing changes due to FY10 budget reductions.
- ✦ QRS will not be suspended; the program will continue to operate at a reduced capacity for FY10.
- ✦ ISU Extension environment rating classes scheduled for fall will continue to be held. Spring classes may need to be canceled unless supported through local empowerment dollars.
- ✦ Environment rating assessments will continue through 6-30-2010.
- ✦ Providers will be able to apply and re-apply for QRS through 6-30-10.
- ✦ Programs will continue to receive ratings and achievement bonuses.
- ✦ QRS specialists will still be available to assist providers with the QRS process.
- ✦ Funding for National Administrator Credential (NAC) classes is being discontinued.
- ✦ Funding for QRS public awareness campaign is being suspended.

## Environment Rating Scale Trainings

No classes scheduled in our area after Jan. [check website for the closest ones.](#)

- ✦ Web site: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/childcare/ratingscaletraining/default.htm>

## New Staff Orientation:

New staff orientation for day care center directors is scheduled for Cherokee, Nov 10 =. We have 21 signed up to date. This training is designed to help center directors keep staff trained by using self- study DVD lessons. All staff receive training in the same format and no one has to travel.

## Early Learning Webinars

- ✦ The webinars are a new effort to provide online education for early childhood professionals. They help replace the previous checkout packets.
- ✦ The webinars are scheduled monthly with the first one in November.
- ✦ Web site: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/chldcare/earlylearning>

## Powerful Tools for Caregivers

- ✦ The winter class leader training for *Powerful Tools for Caregivers* is scheduled for February 3-5 in Ames. Kristi Cooper and Donna Donald will lead the training.
- ✦ Give Kyle Kostelecky (515-294-4824) a call if you have someone interested.
- ✦ Registration: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/homefamily/aging/caregiving/tools\\_certification.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/homefamily/aging/caregiving/tools_certification.htm)

## eXtension

- ✦ New parents can subscribe for free to the Extension *Just in Time* parenting newsletters through eXtension. Share with appropriate families/professionals/agencies.
- ✦ Web site: [http://www.extension.org/pages/Subscribe\\_and\\_Receive\\_Parenting\\_Newsletters\\_by\\_Email](http://www.extension.org/pages/Subscribe_and_Receive_Parenting_Newsletters_by_Email)

## Partnering with Parents

- ✦ *PWP* helps professionals who provide parent education strengthen core competencies in designing, delivering and evaluating parenting education.
- ✦ The course is offered completely online January 19 – June 18, 2010.

- ✦ Individuals can earn a Parenting Education Certificate of Completion, Social Worker Hours, Iowa teacher renewal credits, ISU CEUs, and undergraduate or graduate credit.
- ✦ It is appropriate to share with family professionals (e.g., community action agencies, Head Start, public health nurses, FCS teachers, social workers, etc.) via listservs/email lists you have access to.
- ✦ Register: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pwp/registration.html>
- ✦ Contact: Kimberly Greder, ISU Extension families program specialist [kgreder@iastate.edu](mailto:kgreder@iastate.edu).

### Family Development Certification Training

- ✦ *FDCT* helps professionals who work with families strengthen core competencies in providing family support/family development.
- ✦ The course is offered completely online February 8 – May 28, 2010.
- ✦ Individuals can earn a Family Development Certificate, Social Worker Hours, Iowa teacher renewal credits, ISU CEUs, and undergraduate or graduate credit.
- ✦ Register: <http://www.uccs.iastate.edu/mnet/fdct/home.html>
- ✦ Contact: Kimberly Greder, ISU Extension families program specialist [kgreder@iastate.edu](mailto:kgreder@iastate.edu).

### Journeys

- ✦ *Journeys – Steps to Healthy Couples, Healthy Marriages, Healthy Families* is a totally online program for professionals and nonprofessionals who provide relationship education and counseling for couples.
- ✦ The first class began on September 14 and it will end in December.
- ✦ The winter class starts in February and will be marketed nationwide. Watch for publicity right after the holidays.
- ✦ Web site: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/families/journeys/>