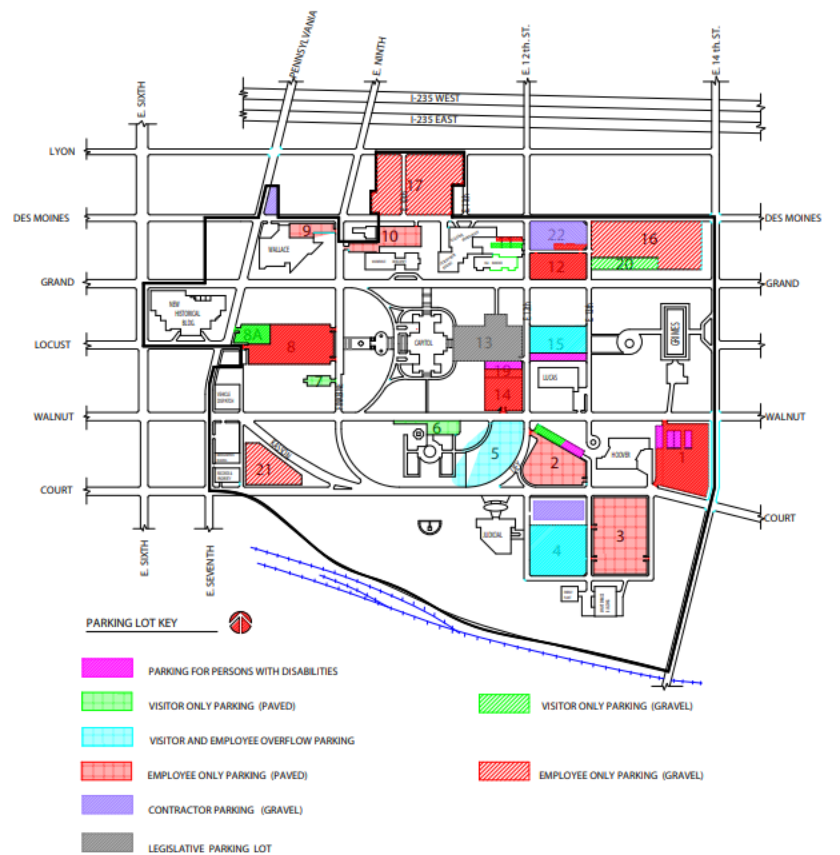




ACEs Policy Coalition
Lobby Day
January 23, 2020

- Personally connect with key legislators
- Educate legislators on Adverse Childhood Experiences and fostering resiliency in Iowa

- Parking: ([map](#))



- Public entrances are located on the ground floor on the south and west sides of the building
- Upon entrance into the building, you will walk through a security scan
- Capitol floor maps may be found [here](#)
- Dress: business casual

- 7:30-7:45
 - Meet in room 116 of the Capitol
 - Prep for meetings, review materials
- 8:00-9:00
 - Large group meetings with key legislators
- 9:30
 - Meeting with Governor's staff
- 10:00-12:00
 - Targeted meetings with individual legislators, schedule in advance, or policy coalition members can help you locate (<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/find>)
 - Committee Meetings
 - Participants are welcome to attend any relevant committee meetings (e.g. Health and Human Service appropriations subcommittee), schedule TBD

The Senate

Date: _____ Time: _____

To: _____

Seat No: _____

Message: _____

Name: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

_____ is at the rear of the chamber and requests to see you:

at the main door

House of Representatives

Seat No: _____

Representative: _____

or clerk: _____

(Name)

of: _____

(Town, Company or Organization)

1. Is waiting to see you 2. Has left literature

3. Has left the following message:

Date: _____ Time: _____

FRONT DOOR

- Process to “Call Out” legislators
 - Circle “waiting to see you”
 - Indicate name and where you are from
 - Include your cell number so they can reach you before you leave the building if they cannot see you immediately
 - Hand the slip to the doorkeeper and wait for a response. Sometimes it may take 10-15 minutes to come out.
 - If your legislator is not available or not in their seat, a page or doorkeeper will come back out and call your name (Listen carefully– it can be loud)
 - Sometimes a staff person will come out to speak to you if the legislator is occupied. Be polite and treat this staff person as you would the legislator– a lot of times the staff person is a friend, relative of the legislator.
 - Be prepared and be patient.

- After the Meeting... send a follow-up thank you note
 - This provides an opportunity for the following:
 - Briefly recap your position/issue and request
 - Make any additional points you had no time for or forgot to say at the meeting
 - Provide answers to questions that needed follow-up
 - Include additional fact sheets, stats, etc.

- Our 2020 Legislative Agenda focuses on key policy items that will build a Resilient Iowa:
 - Support the development of a **comprehensive children’s mental health system**
 - Improve the **health and well-being of Iowa’s kids**
 - Increase **prenatal and maternal health community support**
 - Advance a **trauma-informed child welfare system**

SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM

Legislative Asks:

- **Provide adequate funding** to address the current patchwork of children's behavioral health services

Legislative Asks:

- **Expand programs that support prevention, early identification and early intervention for children's social-emotional development** (e.g. extend the 1st Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative statewide)

Legislative Asks:

- **Promote recommended universal social, emotional and cognitive developmental screening** as recommended by the Universal Screening Panel convened by the Children's Behavioral Health System State Board

Legislative Asks:

- **Address workforce shortages within children's behavioral health** through workforce incentives such as Future Ready Iowa, tuition reimbursement programs, tax credits for behavioral health professionals, and student loan forgiveness programs. Such incentives should include a focus on increasing providers of color.

INCREASE PRENATAL AND MATERNAL HEALTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Legislative Asks:

- **Increase access to prenatal and maternal health home-visitation services** as a primary prevention and early intervention strategy for childhood trauma and family stress.
 - Home-visiting programs reduce the risk of child abuse or neglect, substance abuse, and interpersonal violence and increase community and social supports for families.
 - Iowa has strong and effective home-visitation programs, with 88% of families having improved or maintained family functioning.

Legislative Asks:

- **Invest funding into local community providers** to reimburse community support services that reduce maternal stressors, reduce cultural and economic barriers to prenatal care, and enhance community connection.
 - Sixty-seven percent of Iowa mothers reported at least one stressor in the 12 months before giving birth.
 - Twenty-seven percent of Iowa mothers reported sometimes, often or always feeling depressed since the giving birth.
 - Local providers have local partnerships to support families.

Legislative Asks:

- **Pilot strategies to increase maternal depression and mental health screenings** during well-child checks for mothers and families on public insurance.

Legislative Asks:

- **Require a study across state departments to review and identify opportunities to improve state policies and programs that impact social determinants of health for infants and women of child-bearing age (including transportation, housing, education, employment, intergenerational trauma). Reference: Ohio legislative study**

IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF IOWA'S KIDS

- Legislative Asks:
- **Protect Medicaid from harmful changes and funding cuts** that would take away health care from eligible children and families
 - Value of Work/Importance of Health Insurance
 - Work Reporting Requirements Don't Work
 - Cost of Work Reporting Requirements
 - Coverage Losses

- Legislative Asks:
- **Initiate a children’s quality improvement focus in Medicaid** by publicly reporting all Child Core Set quality measures, disaggregating by child demographics (e.g. race/ethnicity) and service location (e.g. region, plan, and provider).
 - The Core Sets are important tools states can use to monitor and improve the quality of health care provided to Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries.
 - Data from the Core Set indicate that more can be done to meet the health needs of Iowa’s kids on Medicaid.
 - The state will be required to report all Child Core Set measures in FY2024

- Legislative Asks:
- **Increase data collection on racial and economic disparities in children's health** in order to promote health equity and reduce disparities in health care access and outcomes
 - “If you can't measure it, you can't improve it.”
 - Without that data, there is simply no way to know if we are equitably serving every Iowa child.
 - This is important, because across indicators, children of color in Iowa fare worse than white peers, and the gaps in outcomes are worse than in many other states

ADVANCE A TRAUMA-INFORMED CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

- Legislative Asks:
- **Reduce the caseloads** of Iowa DHS Social Workers to meet the recommended Child Welfare League of America standards of no more than 12 cases per social worker for ongoing in-home cases
 - 32% of social workers handling child abuse investigations have caseloads of 15 or more.
 - 59% of case workers with ongoing visits to the home had caseloads of 30 or more.

- Legislative Asks:
- **Support a quality workforce** in order to transform and enhance a trauma-informed, culturally competent, and family-centered child welfare system to build and sustain healthy communities.

- Legislative Asks:
- **Address workforce shortages within child welfare** through workforce incentives such as Future Ready Iowa, tuition reimbursement programs, and student loan forgiveness programs. Such incentives should include a focus on recruiting and retaining workers of color.

- Legislative Asks:
- **Expand or increase support and resources for kinship/relative caregivers** to keep children and youth connected to family.

Questions?

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