



FY24

Annual

Report



ISU-CSS

Contract Team

The Iowa State University Child Welfare Research and Training Project conducted this work through a contract with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (BOC-24-003, Carl Weems, PI),

A message from the contract manager



FY24 focused on collaboration, engagement, and seeking new approaches. By doing this, our team set a higher standard for the training, outreach, and research that was produced. Our partnership with Iowa Child Support Services is distinctive and continues to be an exemplary model of joint effort between higher education and state government.



Kate Goudy

The FY24 team visiting Reiman Gardens



EY24 HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights

Rhonda Evans received the runner up award for 2024 Student Employee Supervisor of the Year.



PIAL participated in the ISU lecture series and ran an ADMYRE program in the Memorial Union.

Kate Goudy received the Professional & Scientific Excellence Award.



The team visited the Brunnier Art Museum at ISU for creative re-energization.

Instructional Design

“The designers tackled their projects with the goal of striking the right balance between learning and engagement.”

-Angela Braggs, instructional design manager

14 TOTAL TRAINING PROJECTS

4,300 TRAINING COMPLETIONS

40 ATTORNEYS TRAINED

514 IOWA CHILD SUPPORT STAFF TRAINED



Ginger Monroe, Martha Stewart, and Holly Wengert at the Brunnier Art Museum

Research

>25 SURVEYS
CREATED

>3,500 RESPONSES
COLLECTED

>25 REPORTS/
POSTERS
CREATED



Bethany McCurdy,
Postdoc Research
Associate, presenting her
PIAL research

Legal

46

SUMMARIZED IOWA
COURT OF APPEALS/
IOWA SUPREME COURT
DECISIONS

61

COMPLETED SPECIAL
RESEARCH PROJECT
MEMOS/RESPONSES

4

REVISED AND PUBLISHED
GUIDEBOOK CHAPTERS

“Outreach programs such as PIAL, along with the youth they serve, benefit greatly from carefully conducted, rigorous research. By analyzing the data PIAL collects through its program delivery, we gain a deeper understanding of how PIAL influences youth’s knowledge and intended behaviors, as well as the ways in which friends, family, teachers, schools, and communities contribute to youth development.”

-Bethany McCurdy, postdoc research
associate



Parenting: It's a Life (PIAL) is a multi-component life skills program designed to introduce middle and high school youth and emerging adults to the emotional, social, and financial realities of parenting and provide resources to them before they reach parenthood.

The PIAL team tries on a new swag item at Research Park.



939 EMAIL CONTACTS

38 ADMYRE PRESENTATIONS

50 PIAL PRESENTATIONS

655 STUDENTS REACHED WITH MODULES

527 STUDENTS REACHED WITH ADMYRE

“PIAL partnered with Iowa State University to raise awareness about dating violence through the Advocating for My Relationships (ADMYRE) program aimed at college students. For the first time, PIAL sponsored an event as part of the ISU lecture series, which featured a powerful personal account of dating violence experienced by an ISU student. This was followed by a diverse speaker panel that answered audience questions and shared available campus resources.”

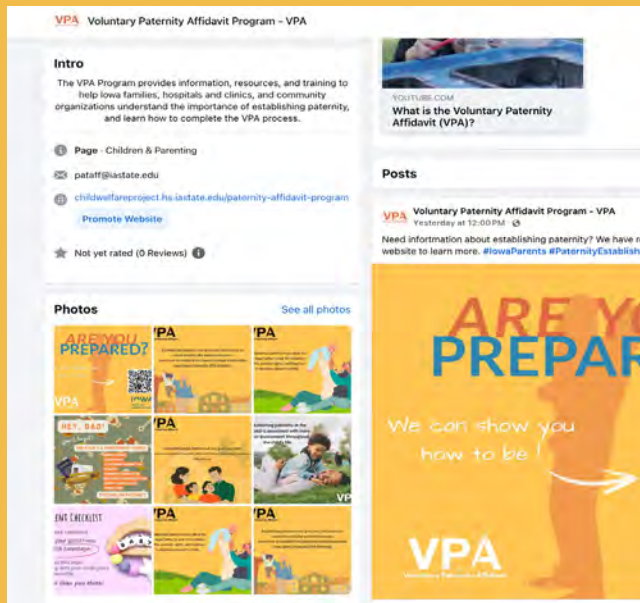


-Rhonda Evans, program specialist



The Voluntary Paternity Affidavit (VPA) Program provides information, resources, and training to help Iowa families, hospitals and clinics, and community organizations understand the importance of establishing paternity, and learn how to complete the VPA process.

The VPA program made a push to grow its social media presence.



19,854
RESOURCE MATERIALS
DISTRIBUTED

18
VPA ONLINE TRAINING
COMPLETIONS

358
EMAIL CONTACTS

A new approach to outreach included VPA advertisement on buses and shelters in the Des Moines area.



“Through the Paternity Prep Packet Intervention Study, we expanded our outreach to over 250 prenatal providers across the state, helping expecting parents to be better prepared to successfully complete the VPA process in the hospital at the time of birth.”

-Amy Peters, program specialist

CSTP

The Child Support Training Partnership's (CSTP) mission is to advance the current and future state of child support training through networking, communication, and collaboration.

703

NATIONAL MEMBERS

166

LINKEDIN GROUP MEMBERS

18

EMAIL CAMPAIGNS SENT

11

NATIONAL WEB CALLS

"The most exciting thing for CSTP in the last year has been adding Networking calls twice quarterly. It has been great to hear from so many different states and tribes and have a space for folks to get to know one another a little better."

-Jenny Parker, instructional designer

Child Support Training Partnership

2024

Fall Newsletter 2023

Winter Newsletter 2024

Spring Newsletter 2024

Summer Newsletter 2024

2023

Spring Newsletter 2023

Summer Newsletter 2023

Spring Newsletter 2022

Summer Newsletter 2022

Spring Newsletter 2021

Summer Newsletter 2021

Spring Newsletter 2020

Summer Newsletter 2020

Child Support Training Partnership

Volume 6, Issue 3, Summer 2024

What We Get Right and Wrong About Leading with Empathy

By: Maureen Leif, J.D. and Liz Bullard
Grays Peak Strategies

In recent years, leaders and managers in the programs we work with have shared with us how hard it's become to recruit, hire, and retain employees. Since COVID, potential employees are taking a closer look at organizations and quickly moving on if their job no longer feels like a good fit. In human services, recruiting and onboarding new staff is often time-consuming, frustrating and expensive, especially when turnover is constant. Much of this is not in our control.

So what can we control and influence? While there are a variety of approaches to recruiting and retaining staff, we think that all of them start with the tone and culture created by every level of organizational leadership.

[Read More](#)

Get Involved With CSTP!

CSTP archives all newsletters and calls for members to reference.

Communications

“Through videos, social media, advertisements, and more, we have greatly increased our presence online and in local communities, which means our information is easier to find and is reaching a wider audience.”

-Miles Tritle, marketing specialist

7

VIDEOS
CREATED

26

DIGITAL
MARKETING
PROJECTS

29

TOTAL
NEWSLETTERS
SENT

23,325

VIDEO
IMPRESSIONS

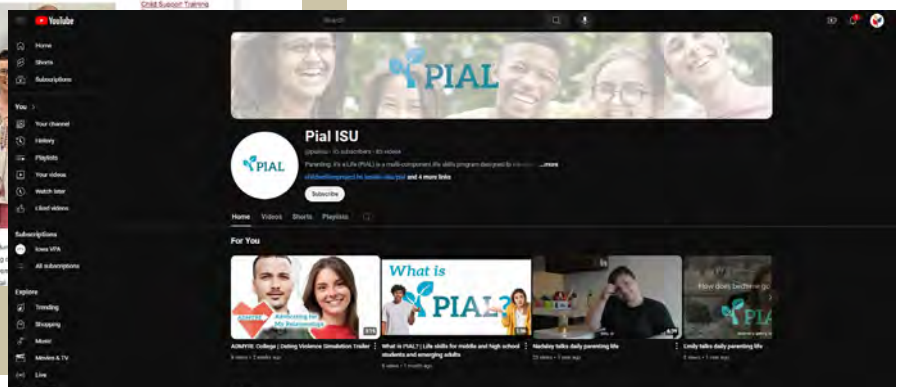
22

PRINT
MATERIALS
CREATED OR
UPLOADED

22

VOICEOVER
PROJECTS

We have continued to make improvements to the new website rolled out at the beginning of FY24 and added many videos to YouTube.



Professional Development

“Professional development helps me define my personal vision and life/work goals more clearly.”

-Ginger Monroe, instructional designer

UHR Leadership Skills Certificate



14
Oct 11, 2023

This certificate program provides a professional development opportunity to build and enhance leadership skills applicable across various roles at ISU. Learners will attend instructor-led (some of which are in-person) and virtual courses (self-directed) totaling over 14 hours that cover business and management principles, fostering morale and collaboration and boosting team productivity. Learners will be able to reflect on their own leadership behavior, identify strengths and areas for growth, and learn...

Program Length: 14 Items
Delivery Mode: Self-Directed

Multiple team members completed a new leadership certificate offered by University HR.

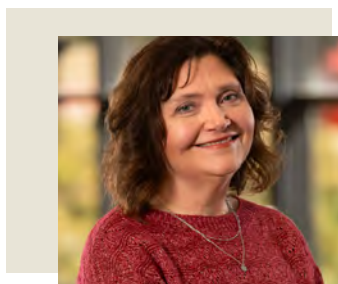
A presenter speaking at the 2024 Attorney Conference hosted by the ISU-CSS contract



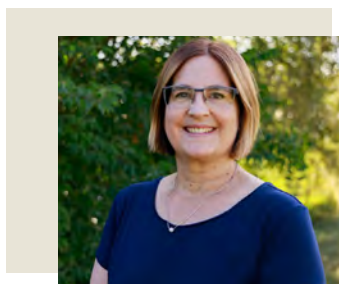
FY24 Staff



Jalyynn Almond



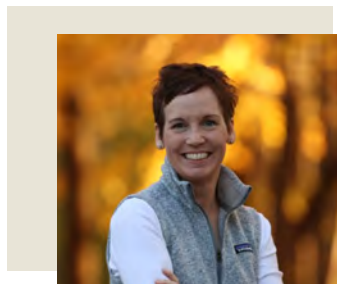
Angela Braggs



Rhonda Evans



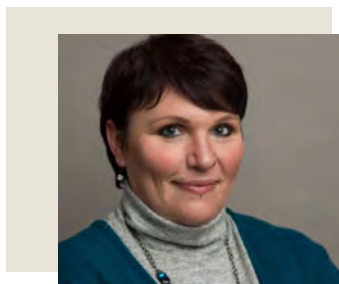
Matthew Femrite



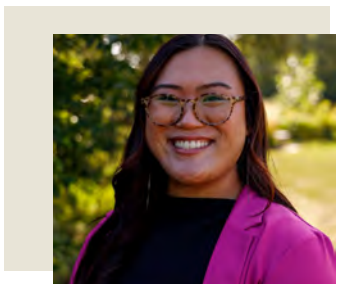
Kate Goudy



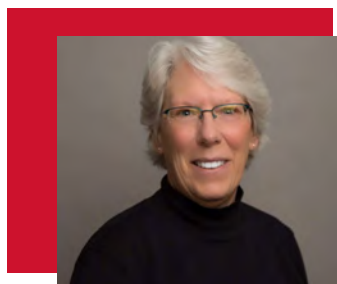
Jay Grey



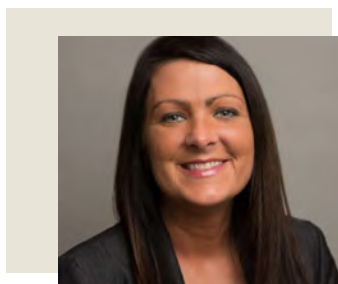
Jo Ann Lee



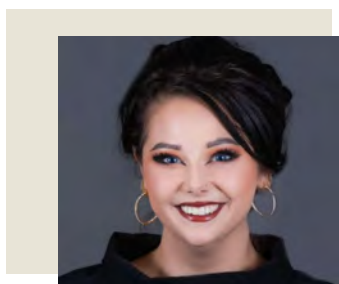
KayLinh Luong



Ginger Monroe



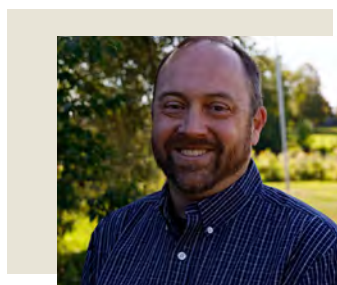
Rachel Ogden



Jenny Parker



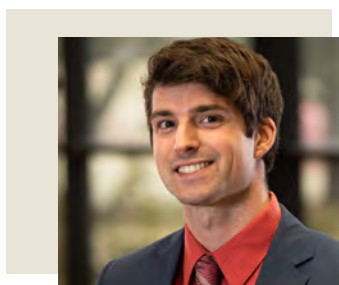
Amy Peters



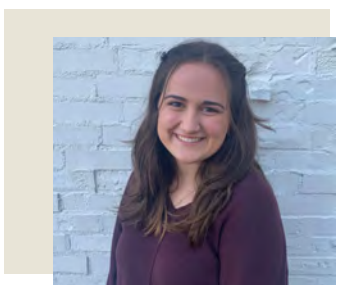
Marc Shoemaker



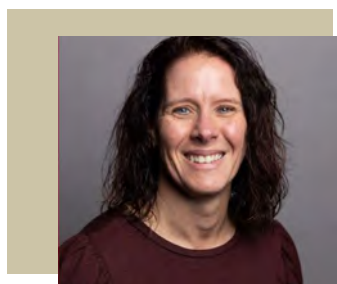
Martha Stewart



Miles Tritle



Hannah Uhrich



Holly Wengert

3

Graduate Research
Assistants/Postdoc

17

Undergraduate
Student Workers



Research Park 6
2325 N. Loop Drive, Suite 6125
Ames, IA 50010
Website: <https://childwelfareproject.hs.iastate.edu/child-support>