



Advocacy

- *Dear Child Advocate Letter from Kris Bell and Nancy Van Milligen*

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*For the website version of this document, we could include a section for downloading artwork that we use for publications – it could include specific instructions (see NC website)



Dear Child Advocate...

Thank you so much for joining the effort to improve the lives of young children in Iowa. With the support of individuals like you, we are sure that our state will continue to make children's issues a top priority.

The following organizations shared a wealth of information in order to create this toolkit. For that resource sharing, we'd like to thank the Iowa Head Start Association and Day on the Hill planning committee, Prevent Child Abuse America, and North Carolina's Smart Start initiative.

Every day in Iowa thousands of young children and their families are touched by a program or initiative providing services in a community. Because of many efforts to build a structure for early childhood in Iowa, Iowa is becoming a model for early childhood programs. Your involvement as an advocate and a Champion for Children will ensure that communities continue to put children first!

With this toolkit, we hope to identify new advocates, educate key audiences about early childhood issues and activate communities to support Community Empowerment and other early childhood initiatives. As an advocate, we ask you to get to know your legislators and Iowa's legislative process; tell others about the importance of supporting initiatives that support early childhood development; and stay on top of current early childhood issues.

Together, we can help build brighter futures and make the real difference in the lives of young children and families. Remember...Our Children. Our Chance. Our Future.

Sincerely,

Nancy Van Milligen
Iowa Empowerment Board Chair

Kris Bell
Community Empowerment,
Facilitator