



**iowacollaboration  
for youth development**

## Mark your Calendar

### Mar. 10—ICYD Council Meeting

An ongoing date has been set for ICYD Council Meetings. Meetings will now take place the second Wednesday of every month from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. The meeting will take place in the Starkweather room in the Jesse Parker Building.

### March 23-25 — Safety Workshops

Iowa Workforce Development is hosting a free safety workshop at the Des Moines Botanical Center. Each session will be unique, with some focused on youth in the workplace and employers who hire youth. To register, [Click Here](#).

### Iowa Town Hall Meetings Regarding Underage Drinking

The Department of Public Health will be hosting town hall meetings with a presentation on the effects of underage drinking and how this relates to DPH. Dates and locations are yet to be solidified, but please check back for more information next month!

## Youth Development News

### Best Practices for Out-Of-School Time Programs

ChildTrends has provided a report identifying 10 practices that can help foster positive outcomes for participants in Out-Of-School Time Programs. To read the report, [Click Here](#).

### How Engaged Are Our Students?

America's Promise Alliance put together a Gallup Student Poll Report on the engagement of students nationwide. To read more, [Click Here](#).

### Strategies for Job Creation Amid Economic Recovery

The Center for American Progress presents an article about national service and youth unemployment and how to go about creating jobs during these tough economic times. To read more, [Click Here](#).

### Understanding Youth Culture

The ULCA Center provides an insight to youth subcultures and why it is important for adults to understand the positives and negatives of all subgroups. To read the report, [Click Here](#).

## A Note From Our Chair...

*Preston Daniels is the director of the Department of Human Rights and is Chair of ICYD.*

The ICYD Council is committed to moving forward on the goal of increasing the graduation rate to 95% by 2020. In the ICYD Annual Report that was submitted to the Governor and the Legislature there are five recommendations:

- Focus on underperforming schools and communities.
- Assess current state initiatives and maximize existing resources.
- Investigate research-based approaches and effective strategies.
- Coordinate across systems to identify and support vulnerable students.
- Engage additional stakeholders.

In the coming months the Council will develop action plans for each of the recommendations. As work starts, we will keep you updated on our activities and we may ask you to help in completing the tasks. We look forward to working with stakeholders across Iowa as progress is being made.

We welcome any comments and suggestions to help us work toward achieving ICYD's purpose,

Preston Daniels

## SIYAC Update

*A word from our SIYAC Coordinator, Annelise Plooster:*

As SIYAC approaches its 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter term, members prepare and plan for a day of youth advocacy on the Hill scheduled for March 15th. For the morning session, SIYAC will team with Iowa's Jobs for America's Graduates' (iJAG) students and specialists to learn about effective advocacy; thereafter, they will meet with legislators to discuss plans of action, including ICYD's annual report, to achieve better graduation rates in Iowa. SIYAC will conduct official meeting business in the afternoon for committee small group discussion.

SIYAC's current projects include: the development of a youth-led service group manual known as the KWAKER Toolkit, participation at regional Healthy Kids Symposiums, involvement in service events and youth conferences, the development of policy position statements-including HF 497, and frequent dialogue with local and state officials.