



IOWA ALLIANCE
FOR DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN

Help. Hope. Support.

2026 Iowa Alliance for Drug Endangered Children Conference

Call for Conference Proposals

OVERVIEW

Drug Endangered Children (DEC) are part of a very large and growing population of children whose lives have been seriously and negatively impacted by parental or caregiver drug abuse. Hundreds of children across Iowa go unnoticed and do not receive the necessary intervention and care to heal from these environments. The purpose of this Conference is to provide best practices in identifying and caring for drug endangered children.

The 2026 Iowa Alliance for Drug Endangered Children Conference will be held April 20, 2026, at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa. The conference is held in partnership with the Polk County Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. Please visit [Drug Endangered Children Program | Iowa Department of Public Safety](#) for more information.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

This conference is intended for professionals who work with drug endangered children and their families including those from law enforcement, human services, prosecution, healthcare, mental health, substance abuse treatment and prevention, child development, and education.

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals are sought that highlight promising practices to help drug endangered children and their families or explore new concepts and enhance knowledge about children, youth, and families who are affected by substance use disorders and who may be involved in the child welfare and/or criminal justice systems. Workshops can also highlight broader social issues (e.g., poverty), that could impact how professionals work with these children and their families. Workshop content should focus on sharing knowledge that improves strategies, collaborative responses, or policy and program development. Proposals should clearly state the session goals and objectives.

There are typically 60 to 90-minute plenary and breakout presentations. The Planning Committee has the discretion to change the conference agenda without notice.

Reviewers will identify whether the topic addresses a current and immediate priority or promising practice, the topic has wide appeal and interest to the target audience, the information can easily be implemented or transferred into practice, and the presentation discusses or addresses cultural differences.