

## ICEARY Advocacy Update

A Voice for At-Risk Youth August 2019

Tuesday August 27, 2019 ROE #4, serving the Boone and Winnebago County area, held an "It's All About Our Kids" meeting where truancy interventionists, homeless liaisons, children in care liaisons, child welfare agency workers, juvenile courts, CASA, and community agencies met together for the purposes of increasing communication between or agencies to better serve our students. 81 individuals attended, and the we were delighted to have Molly Uhe-Edmonds, Deputy Director of DCFS; Vicki Hodges, ISBE Homeless Education Coordinator; and Mike Stier, ISBE Transportation in attendance.

Evaluations, from those in attendance, were very positive and many comments about the need for this meeting, and follow-up meetings, were made. Since the meeting, we have experienced increased communication between agencies and the schools.